

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS,  
FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2023-2024)**

**35**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD  
AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)**

{Action Taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Thirty First Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Coarse grains Production and Distribution" pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution)}

**THIRTY FIFTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**December, 2023/Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

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(DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)**

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*Presented to Lok Sabha on 13 December, 2023  
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 14 December, 2023*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**December, 2023/ Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

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**Composition of the Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (2023-24)**

Smt. Locket Chatterjee - Chairperson

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Dr. Farooq Abdullah
3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
5. Shri Rajendra Dhedyia Gavit
6. Shri Sanganna Amarappa Karadi
7. Shri Faizal P.P. Mohammed
5. Km. Debasree Chaudhuri
6. Dr. Amar Singh
7. Shri Anil Firojiya
8. Shri Ganesan Selvam
9. Shri Khagen Murmu
10. Shri Mitesh Rameshbhai Patel
11. Shri Subrat Pathak
12. Smt. Himadri Singh
13. Smt. Kavita Singh
17. Shri Nandigam Suresh
18. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
19. Shri Rajmohan Unnithan
20. Shri Vaithilingam Ve.
21. Vacant

**Rajya Sabha**

22. Shri Satish Chandra Dubey
23. Dr. Fauzia Khan
24. Shri Rajmani Patel
25. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar
26. Dr. Ashok Bajpai
27. Shri Baburam Nishad
28. Shri C. Ve Shanmugam
29. Shri Prakash Chik Baraik
30. Vacant
31. Vacant

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

1. Dr. Ram Raj Rai - Joint Secretary
2. Dr. Vatsala Joshi - Director
3. Sh. Dong Lianthang Tonding - Deputy Secretary

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (2023-2024) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty First Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject “Coarse grains Production and Distribution” of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

2. The Thirty First Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 07.08.2023. The Government has furnished its replies indicating Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Report on 24.11.2023.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report is given in **Appendix II**.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the text of the Report.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**7 December, 2023**  
**16 Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

**LOCKET CHATTERJEE,**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**

# REPORT

## CHAPTER - I

This Report of the Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution deals with the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Thirty First Report of the Committee (17th Lok Sabha) on "Coarse grains Production and Distribution", pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

1.2 The Thirty First Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table in Rajya Sabha on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. It contained 9 recommendations/observations. Action taken replies in respect of all the 9 recommendations/observations contained in the Report have been received and these have been categorized as follows:-

(i) Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government :

Para Nos.: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

(Chapter – II)

(ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies :

Para Nos.: NIL

(Chapter – III)

(iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee :

Para No.: NIL

(Chapter – IV)

(iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which interim replies of Government have been received :

Para No. : 3 and 9

(Chapter –V)

1.3 The Committee trust that importance will be given to the implementation of the recommendations accepted by the Government. The observations/recommendations contained in Chapter-I of this Report should be furnished to the Committee within three months of the presentation of this Report.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of the recommendations/ observations.

### **Recommendation (SI No. 3)**

#### **A. Allocation and Distribution**

1.5 The Committee in their original report observed/recommended as follows:-

“The total allocation of Coarse grains to various states for distribution under TPDS/ OWS which stood at 73,000 tonnes in 2014-15 has increased to 5,85,500 tonnes in 2022-23, a growth of eight times over a period of 9 years. This is likely to go up further to 9,20,000 tonnes in 2023-24. Total quantity of coarse grains distributed during the last three years i.e 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 is 4,37,338 Metric Tonnes (MTs), 8,36,592, and 6,43,615 MTs respectively. The Committee strongly believe that without the Dept of Food & Public Distribution's careful planning, strategy, and its meticulous implementation such a growth could not have been possible. They, therefore appreciate the department for huge increase in allocation and distribution over the last few years. The Committee hope the Dept will continue to make efforts to cover more states in the coming years.”

1.6 The Ministry in its action taken reply has stated as under:-

“Department of Food & PD is allocating Coarse grains (Millets) also called as Nutri-Cereals under the Public Distribution System to States /UTs as per request made by them. Nutri- Cereals are allocated in terms of National Food Security Act, 2013. From 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 the aforesaid allocation is being made at free of cost. The allocation of approved quantity of Nutri- Cereals for distribution under PDS is made by this Department in lieu of equal quantity of wheat /rice while ensuring that the overall quantity of rice, wheat and Nutri-Cereals has to be within the upper ceiling fixed in respect of each State/ UTs under NFSA. The Department will continue its efforts to include more States. In KMS 2023-24, coarse grains/millets are expected to be procured/distributed under the TPDS in 14 States.”

**1.7 The Committee had expressed their hope that the Government will continue to make efforts to cover more states for coarse grains allocation and distribution in the coming years. The Committee are happy to note that in KMS (2023-24) coarse grains/millets are expected to be procured/distributed under the TPDS in 14 States and the Department has assured to continue its efforts to include more States in it. The Committee appreciate the commitment of the Department to expand the number of States where the commodity is being**

**distributed and desire to be apprised on regular basis about the outcome of the efforts made in this regard.**

### **Recommendation (Serial No.-9)**

#### **B. Setting up of shops for selling millets exclusively in every district.**

1.8 The Committee in their original report observed/recommended as follows:-

“With a view to give impetus to the consumption of Coarse grains and millet based food products, the Committee suggest the Govt. to consider setting up of at least one shop initially selling exclusively Millets and Millet based products preferably by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Tribes India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) especially run by women, etc in every district of the country. The Committee believe this initiative will introduce the variety of Coarse grains to the people at one place and will give them liberty to choose Coarse grains as per their taste and choice. Further, it will extend support to made in India products by exporting coarse grains thereby giving meaning to 'local for vocal' in general and self Help Groups and women in particular as the country is progressing with the idea of Atam Nirbhar Bharat. The efforts made by the Govt. to promote extensive use of the Millets (Shree Anna) will aid to the campaign of the Govt. local for Vocal.”

1.9 The Ministry in its action taken reply has stated as under:-

“At present, Khadi and Village Industries commission (KVIC) does not have any specific scheme for Millets. However, Agro Based Food Processing Industry (ABFPI), one of the components of Gramodyog Vikas Yojana (GVY), being implemented by KVIC, have the provision for setting up of pilot plant/Common Facility Centres (CFCs) on millets with the help of Centre of Excellence (CoEs) based on commercial viability, innovativeness, ease of adaptation, high return on investment and employment potential. A project proposal has been received by KVIC from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, one of the CoEs of ABFPI, for setting up of a pilot plant on millet processing, which is under consideration. Besides, KVIC is also planning to work in the field of Millets in coordination with Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR), Hyderabad.”

**1.10 The Committee had in their original Report suggested the Government to consider setting up of at least one shop initially selling exclusively Millets and Millet based products preferably by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Tribes India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) especially run by women, etc in**



every district of the country. In its reply, the Department has only stated that a project proposal has been received by KVIC from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, one of the Centres of Excellence (CoEs) of Agro Based Food Processing Industry (ABFPI), for setting up of a pilot plant on millet processing, which is under consideration. It has also informed the Committee that KVIC is also planning to work in the field of Millets in coordination with Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR), Hyderabad. The Committee, while appreciating the plans for setting up of pilot plant on millet processing and plans to work in coordination with research bodies like IIMR, Hyderabad, like to be apprised about the actual efforts made by the Government in the direction of setting up of shops selling exclusively Millets and Millet based products in each district of the country and promise extensive use of Millets.

## CHAPTER – II

### RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

#### Recommendation (Serial No.-1)

##### Production of coarse grains

2.1 The committee are pleased to note that production of coarse grains has gone up from 430.59 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMTs) in 2018-19 to 587.25 LMTs in 2022-23 , an increase of 22.5 % growth during the afore mentioned five year period. The average production of coarse grains during the last five years stood at 492 LMTs of which production of Maize accounts for substantial part. Out of average production of 480.40 LMTs for five years (2017-18 to 2021-2022) of six major coarse grains -Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millets, Small Millets, Maize and Barley, maize production stood at 301.22 i.e. 63% .

The Committee learn that several initiatives taken by the Govt. such as awareness campaigns about the health benefits of consuming coarse grains especially millets, constitution of six Task Forces in 2021, engaging with various farmers producers organizations (FPOs), chefs, etc to promote Millets carried out during the last few years have contributed enormously to the increase in production of coarse grains. The Committee believe that such efforts by Govt. will continue in future and will help in increasing production and consumption of coarse grains in the country.

#### Reply of the Government

2.2 Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare mentioned that as per the last data available, production of coarse grains has gone up from 430.59 Lakh Metric Tonne(LMT) in 2018-19 to 573.19 LMT in 2022-23, with an increase of 33.1 % growth during the aforementioned five-year period. The average production of coarse grains during the last five years stood at 501.10 LMT of which production of Maize accounts for substantial part. Out of average production of 501.10 LMTs for five years (2018-19 to 2022-23 of six major coarse grains -Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millets, Small Millets, Maize and Barley), maize production stood at 319.89 LMT i.e. 63.84%. The various initiatives are ongoing which will lead to an increase in production and consumption of millets.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

## **Recommendation (Serial No.-2)**

### **Procurement of coarse Grains under TPDS /OWS**

2.3 It could be seen that procurement of coarse grains is regulated by guidelines for allocation, distribution, and disposal of coarse grains (Jowar, Bajra, Maize & Ragi etc.). These guidelines entitle states to procure the said coarse grains in Decentralized Procurement mode from farmers at Minimum support price (MSP) for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution system (TPDS)/Other welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and PM Poshan under the central pool subject to the prior approval of Government of India (GoI) on the detailed procurement plan prepared by the state Government in consultation with Food Corporation of India (FCI).

In regard to the procurement of coarse grains for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) / Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) namely Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and PM Poshan, the Committee observe that there is substantial increase in procurement of coarse grains (Jowar, Bajra, Maize and Ragi) during the last six years as mentioned in Annexure-II. The procurement of coarse grains by states which stood at 70,462 Metric Tonnes (MTs) in 2017-18 has witnessed nine fold increase to 6,36,686 Metric Tonnes in 2022-23. The off take of coarse grains for distribution under TPDS/OWS which was confined to two states -Haryana and Maharashtra in 2017-18 has now increased to nine states- viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Tamil Nadu in 2022-23. The data given at Annexure-II further shows that depending on the local preferences states are lifting the stocks of either combination of various millets. The Committee also note that states are allowed to procure under Decentralised Procurement (DCP) mode at Minimum Support Price (MSP) for distribution under TPDS/ OWS subject to approval of the Govt. of India and this arrangement, the Committee believe, will result in cost optimisation for states as well. The Committee note with satisfaction that increased production and subsequent off take by more states indicates their acceptability of coarse grains for distribution under TPDS/ OWS schemes and this is a sign of success of the of the Govt's policy. The Committee hope that the remaining states also start procuring coarse grains for distribution under TPDS OWS schemes. The Committee are satisfied to note that the revision in the guidelines of 2014 for procurement, allocation, distribution and disposal in 2021/22 to (i) address the difficulties being faced by the State Government, (ii) to increase the procurement of coarse grains, distribution periods enhanced to 6-10 months from earlier period 3 months, and (iii) provide for inter-state transportation of surplus millets through FCI also played a major role in increasing number of states opting for procurement of millets.

## Reply of the Government

2.4 In order to further widen scope of procurement of coarse grains/millet, it has been decided to allow the procurement of following minor/pseudo millets for 3 years (from 2023) at cost based on the MSP of Ragi:

**Minor Millet-** Foxtail Millet (Kangani/Kakun), Proso Millet (Cheena), Kodo Millet (Kodo) ,little millet (Kutki)

**Pseudo Millets-**(Buck-wheat (kuttu) and Ameranthus(Chaulai).

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

### **Recommendation (Serial No.-4)**

#### **Minimum Support Price (MSP)**

2.5 The data furnished by the Department shows that MSP for five coarse grains viz. Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, Maize and Barley have increased by 108%, 100 %, 148%, 59 %and 50% respectively during a period of 10 years. The Committee further note that MSP of coarse grains/millets has been increased by the Govt. more than 20% from Rs.2,897 per quintal in 2018-19 to Rs. 3,578 per quintal in 2022-23, i.e., a period of five years. The Committee are of the view that the decision of the Govt. announced in union budget for 2018-19 to keep MSP at a level of one and half times of the cost of production has increased the MSP of Jowar, Bajra, Ragi , Maize and Barley from Rs.2430, Rs.1950, Rs.2897, Rs.1700 and Rs. 1440 per quintal in 2018-19 to Rs. 2970, Rs.2350, Rs.3578, Rs.1962 and Rs,1735 respectively in 2022-23. The Committee commend the efforts of the Gvt w.r.t increasing the MSP for Coarse grains and acknowledge that the remunerative prices for Coarse grains have played a key role in attracting the farmers to cultivate coarse grains resulting in higher production. The committee believe that there will be spur in investment in cultivating Shree Anna and the resultant increase in production of Millets (Shree Anna) will aid the government initiatives for 'Local for vocal' and also Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

## Reply of the Government

2.6 Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare mentioned that Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agriculture crops including five coarse grains i.e. Jowar, bajra ,ragi , maize, and barely, on the basis of the recommendation of the commission for agriculture cost & prices (CACP), after considering the view of State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments

concerned .while recommending MSPs , CACP considers Important factors like cost of production overall demand-supply condition, domestic and international prices, inter – crop prices parity, terms of trade between agriculture and non- agriculture sectors ,the likely effect on the rest of the economy, besides ensuring rational utilization of land, water and other production resource and a minimum of 50 percent as the margin over cost of production. The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre- determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of one and half time of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government had increased MSPs for all mandated Kharif , Ragi, and other commercial crops with a minimum margin of 50 percent over all India weighted average cost of production from year 2018-19 on words.

## **Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

### **Recommendation (Serial No.-5)**

#### **Initiatives for promoting Coarse grains especially Millets**

2.7 Apart from incentivizing farmers through remunerative prices in the form of MSP, the Govt. of India has taken many steps to create awareness of the health benefits and to popularise consumption of coarse grains specially millets. The proposal of the Govt. of India to United Nations Organisation (UN0) to declare 2023 as International Year of Millets (IYOM) was approved by UN General assembly (UNGA) in 2021. The Committee believe that it is a diplomatic victory and is a sign of growing soft power of India a international level apart from achieving the objective of making millets consumption as a people movement. The Committee suggest that coarse grains grown exclusively in India may be considered for export. As part of celebration of IYOM 23, the Committee observe that Gol has (i) organised awareness campaigns such as Global Millets Conference (Shree Anna conference) at Delhi where in delegates from '102 countries , Chefs , reps of international research institutions, diplomats, etc have participated (ii) carried out promotional campaigns with stake holders such as Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs), Chefs, display of Millets at trade fairs, organising special luncheon with foreign ambassadors of different countries, & 'Millet Luncheon for M.Ps in Parliament House Complex, etc., (iv) roped in State Govts to do activities to popularise millet consumption, (v) nurtured '185 Millet Start-ups at IIMRs business incubator - Nutrihub, etc. Further activities are planned to be carried out in the rest of the year 2023. The Committee are happy to note that promotional campaigns are slated to be carried out during G-20 and SCO presidency in India through Millets exhibition during all working group meetings of G20 and SCO, arranging millet based lunch and curated millet gift hampers for all the dignitaries. The Committee strongly believe that these campaigns will create ever lasting impact about the millets across the world. The Committee while appreciating the huge success of Govt. of India at UN for getting its proposal for declaring 2023 as IYOM approved by UNGA, earnestly hope that their

efforts to increase the consumption of millets will reap rich dividends in the years to come which will go a long way in changing the food habits of the people in favour of consumption of millets.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 The committee appreciated the huge success of Govt. of India at UN for getting its proposal for declaring 2023 as IYOM approved by UNGA. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has noted the recommendation of the committee.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

### **Recommendation (Serial No.-6)**

#### **National Food Security Mission**

2.9 It is heartening to note that Govt. under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), is focusing on low productivity and high potential districts including cultivation of coarse grain and millets in rain fed areas, fallow lands and waste lands. The Committee also note that Govt. is implementing cropping system centric interventions in a mission mode approach through active engagement of all stake holders at various levels, agro-climatic zone-wise planning and cluster approach for productivity enhancement, promotion and extension of improved technologies etc. Under this programme, 3 National centres of excellence have been established i.e. CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar for pearl millet, Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad for Sorghum and University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru for small millets. The Committee are pleased to note that the efforts of Govt. to increase the production resulted into encouraging the ten states namely Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Assam, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh to launch their own millet missions. The Committee commend the steps taken by the Govt. in popularizing coarse grains especially Millets (Shree Anna), which has been staple food in many parts of the country because of its nutritious value, during this Amrit kaal.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.10 The Committee commend the steps taken by the Govt. in popularizing coarse grains especially Millets (Shree Anna) and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has noted the recommendation of the committee.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No.-7)**

##### **Primary processing facilities - Extension of financial support**

2.11 The Committee are apprised that in order to address primary processing facility for millets, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare are supporting rural farmers through the Farmers Producers organizations to purchase primary Processing Equipment with the financial support of NABARD, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), Small Farmers Agri-business consortium (SFAC) and other state government agencies.

Further, The Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad till date has assisted 15 FPOs (out of 31 IIMR supported FPOs) to procure primary processing Units, located at Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya states. The Committee appreciate the efforts of the Govt. in providing primary processing facilities to farmers by arranging financial support from NABARD, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), Small Farmers Agri-business consortium(SFAC) and other state government agencies to purchase equipment for setting up of Primary processing facility for millets. The Committee are of the view that this policy intervention will strengthen the existing supply chain of millets by engaging farmers into groups as FPOs and will further boost the millets consumption in the country.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.12 Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare mentioned that the Government is implementing a scheme for formation and promotion of FPOs including millets. This will further strengthen the supply chain of millets and boost the millets consumption in the country.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**

## **Recommendation (Serial No.-8)**

### **Millet's distribution under TPDS in addition to Rice and wheat**

2.13 The Committee in their earlier report No. 24 on the Demands for Grants (2023-24) pertaining to the Department of Food and Public Distribution suggested the Ministry that the beneficiaries of different schemes should be given option to bundle millets along with wheat and rice within their entitled quantity. Further, considering the fact that more and more states are opting for millets, with a view to encourage remaining states to opt for nutritious and healthy millets in combination with rice and wheat, the Committee suggest the Govt. of India to explore the possibility of distributing millets in addition to rice / wheat under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes (ICDS & PM Poshan).

### **Reply of the Government**

2.14 The Targeted Public Distribution System (TDPS) is now governed as per provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). Under the Act, the term "Food grains" is defined as rice, wheat or coarse grains or any combination thereof conforming to such quality norms as may be determined, by order, by the Central Government from time to time. In order to improve the level of nutrition among the beneficiaries covered under the NFSA, all the States /UTs have been advised to procure millets and distribute to NFSA beneficiaries as per local consumption preference and as per guideline issued by the Central Government from time to time.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133)**



**CHAPTER – III**

RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT  
DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

**- NIL -**

**CHAPTER – IV**

RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF  
GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

**- NIL -**

## **CHAPTER – V**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH INTERIM REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No.-3)**

##### **Allocation and Distribution**

5.1 The total allocation of Coarse grains to various states for distribution under TPDS/ OWS which stood at 73,000 tonnes in 2014-15 has increased to 5,85,500 tonnes in 2022-23, a growth of eight times over a period of 9 years. This is likely to go up further to 9,20,000 tonnes in 2023-24. Total quantity of coarse grains distributed during the last three years i.e 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 is 4,37,338 Metric Tonnes (MTs), 8,36,592, and 6,43,615 MTs respectively. The Committee strongly believe that without the Dept of Food & Public Distribution's careful planning, strategy, and its meticulous implementation such a growth could not have been possible. They, therefore appreciate the department for huge increase in allocation and distribution over the last few years. The Committee hope the Dept will continue to make efforts to cover more states in the coming years.

##### **Reply of the Government**

5.2 Department of Food & PD is allocating Coarse grains (Millets) also called as Nutri-Cereals under the Public Distribution System to States /UTs as per request made by them. Nutri- Cereals are allocated in terms of National Food Security Act, 2013. From 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 the aforesaid allocation is being made at free of cost. The allocation of approved quantity of Nutri- Cereals for distribution under PDS is made by this Department in lieu of equal quantity of wheat /rice while ensuring that the overall quantity of rice, wheat and Nutri-Cereals has to be within the upper ceiling fixed in respect of each State/ UTs under NFSA. The Department will continue its efforts to include more States. In KMS 2023-24, coarse grains/millets are expected to be procured/distributed under the TPDS in 14 States.

**Department of Food & Public Distribution**

**O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III (361133)**

##### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see in Para No. 1.7 if Chapter-I of the Report)

## **Recommendation (Serial No.-9)**

### **Setting up of shops for selling millets exclusively in every district.**

5.3 With a view to give impetus to the consumption of Coarse grains and millet based food products, the Committee suggest the Govt. to consider setting up of at least one shop initially selling exclusively Millets and Millet based products preferably by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Tribes India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) especially run by women, etc in every district of the country. The Committee believe this initiative will introduce the variety of Coarse grains to the people at one place and will give them liberty to choose Coarse grains as per their taste and choice. Further, it will extend support to made in India products by exporting coarse grains thereby giving meaning to 'local for vocal' in general and self Help Groups and women in particular as the country is progressing with the idea of Atam Nirbhar Bharat. The efforts made by the Govt. to promote extensive use of the Millets (Shree Anna) will aid to the campaign of the Govt. local for Vocal.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.4 At present, Khadi and Village Industries commission (KVIC) does not have any specific scheme for Millets. However, Agro Based Food Processing Industry (ABFPI), one of the components of Gramodyog Vikas Yojana (GVY), being implemented by KVIC, have the provision for setting up of pilot plant/Common Facility Centres (CFCs) on millets with the help of Centre of Excellence (CoEs) based on commercial viability, innovativeness, ease of adaptation, high return on investment and employment potential. A project proposal has been received by KVIC from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, one of the CoEs of ABFPI, for setting up of a pilot plant on millet processing, which is under consideration. Besides, KVIC is also planning to work in the field of Millets in coordination with Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR), Hyderabad.

[Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food & Public Distribution O.M. No-14-14/2018-Py-III(361133) dated 24.11.2023]

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see in Para No. 1.10 if Chapter-I of the Report)

**NEW DELHI;  
7 December, 2023  
16 Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)**

**LOCKET CHATTERJEE,  
Chairperson,  
Standing Committee on  
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2023-2024) HELD ON THURSDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Committee Room No. 4, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Smt.Locket Chatterjee - Chairperson

**Members**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Dr. Farooq Abdullah
3. Shri Shafiqur Rahman Barq
4. Shri Anil Firojiya
5. Shri Rajendra Dhedy Gavitt
6. Shri Khagen Murmu
7. Shri Ganesan Selvam
8. Dr. Amar Singh
9. Smt. Kavita Singh
10. Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka
11. Shri Vaithilingam Ve.

**Rajya Sabha**

12. Shri C.Ve Shanmugam

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Dr. Ram Raj Rai - Joint Secretary
2. Dr. Vatsala Joshi - Director
3. Dr. Mohit Rajan - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Dong Lianthang Tonsing - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for consideration and adoption of the following Draft Reports of the Committee:

(i) Xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

(ii) Xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

(iii) Thirty Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Thirty First Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Coarse Grains Production and Distribution' of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution);and

(iv) Xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the above mentioned Draft Reports of the Committee.

4. After deliberations, the Committee adopted the above mentioned Draft Reports without any amendments/modifications.

5. The Committee then authorized Hon'ble Chairperson to finalize and present the aforesaid Reports.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

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xxxx Matter does not pertain to Report

## APPENDIX II

(Vide Para No. 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE  
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE  
THIRTY-FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2023-24)  
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

- (i) Total number of Recommendations: 9
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:  
Para Nos.1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8  
(Chapter – II, Total - 7)  
Percentage: 77.7 %
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view  
of the replies received from the Government  
Para No. Nil  
(Chapter – III, Total - 0)  
Percentage: 0 %
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have  
not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:  
Para No. Nil  
(Chapter – IV, Total - 0)  
Percentage: 0%
- (v) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the interim replies of the  
Government have been received.  
Para No. 3 and 9  
(Chapter – V, Total - 2)  
Percentage: 22.2 %