

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2579
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH DECEMBER, 2025

PROMOTION OF MILLETS

2579. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI TAPIR GAO:
SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:
SHRI PRAVEEN PATEL:
DR. MANNA LAL RAWAT:
SHRI DAMODAR AGRAWAL:
SHRI CHINTAMANI MAHARAJ:
DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI NABA CHARAN MAJHI:
SHRI ALOK SHARMA:
SMT. MAHIMA KUMARI MEWAR:
SHRI AVIMANYU SETHI:
SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:
DR. BHOLA SINGH:
SHRI GODAM NAGESH:
SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI CHAVDA VINOD LAKHAMSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to promote the cultivation, processing and consumption of millets in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of quality seed production for Millets, certified seed distribution, research and extension activities undertaken by ICAR and State Agricultural Universities during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government maintains district-wise data on millet area, productivity and seed availability, including in Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) the programmes being implemented to support farmers adopting climate-resilient millet varieties;
- (e) the steps taken to expand value-addition, FPO support and market linkages for millet growers to enhance farm incomes nationwide; and
- (f) the details of the research and extension activities carried out by the Government for promotion of Millets in the country, State-wise including Rajasthan?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (f): To promote millet cultivation, processing and consumption across the country, and to incentivize food processing units, start-ups, and exporters engaged in millet-based products, the Government of India has undertaken a series of targeted interventions across the value chain.

Following a proposal by India, backed by more than 70 countries, the United Nations General Assembly, at its 75th session in March 2021, declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets. The year-long celebration successfully raised awareness about the nutritional and health benefits of millet consumption, the suitability of millets for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions, and the benefits of creating sustainable market opportunities for producers and consumers.

India organised the two-day Global Millets Conference in March 2023 in New Delhi bringing together participants from more than 102 countries. The global conference, dedicated to the IYM 2023, facilitated discourse on important issues related to millets which included its production and consumption, nutritional benefits, value chain development, market linkages, and research and development.

To increase the cultivation and productivity of millets (Shree Anna), the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing a Sub Mission on Nutri-Cereals under the National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) in the 28 States including Uttar Pradesh & Rajasthan and 2 Union Territories (UTs).

Under NFSNM, assistance is being provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, for demonstration on crop production & protection technologies, for distribution of certified seeds, for production of certified seeds (nutri-cereals), for Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management measures, for capacity building of farmers through cropping system-based trainings etc.; and seed minikits of newly released varieties/hybrids (nutri-cereals), are also distributed through the states by agencies. The mission also provides support to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) & State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for technology back stopping and transfer of technology to the farmer under supervision of Subject Matter Specialists/Scientists.

Latest climate-resilient varieties or hybrids that are resistant to insects, pests, and diseases, as well as short and medium duration that outperform existing prominent varieties are promoted under NFSNM.

Flexibility has been given to States/UTs to identify districts for implementation of different components of the Mission, subject to inter alia conditions that prioritize districts with low productivity but high potential.

The area, production and productivity of nutri-cereals (millets) of the districts of Uttar Pradesh, including in Bulandshahr is Annexed. The allocation (central and state share) under NFSNM–Shree Anna for the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh during 2025-26 is Rs. 11729.80 lakhs and Rs. 5499.50 lakhs, respectively.

In recent years, 110 Millets varieties have been released by Central Variety Release Committee (CVRC) comprising 34 of Sorghum, 24 of Pearl Millet; 10 of Little Millet, 6 of Proso Millet, 5 of Barnyard Millet, 4 of Kodo Millet, 8 of Foxtail Millet, 17 of Finger Millet and 2 of Brown Top Millet for cultivation in different agro-ecologies of country. Besides, a total of 2588 Qtl. of Breeder seeds of various millets have been produced during last 3 year (2022-25) against the indent of 1290 quintals for further seed multiplication. A total of 40 millet varieties comprising 9 of Sorghum, 13 of Pearl Millet, 3 of Little Millet, 5 of Kodo Millet, 1 of Barnyard Millet, 1 of Foxtail Millet and 8 of Finger Millet have been developed and released during 2014-25 for cultivation on farmers field under drought/moisture stress tolerant/water stress/ low rainfall areas.

The Government of India has recognized the ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad as “Global Centre of Excellence on Millets”. To strengthen the research collaboration and public awareness of millets globally, a new initiative viz., “Millets And otHer Ancient GRains International ReSearch Initiative (MAHARISHI) has been adopted since the G20 Presidency.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has launched the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Millet-Based Products (PLISMBP), for the period from 2022-23 to 2026-27 with a financial outlay of ₹800 crore. The scheme aims to promote the use of millets in food products and encourage value addition by providing incentives for the manufacturing of selected millet based products and supporting their sale in both domestic and export markets.

To facilitate the export of millets and millet-based products, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has undertaken several initiatives, including capacity-building programmes, virtual buyer-seller meets, global

marketing campaigns, and the development of a dedicated millet web portal and ecatalogues. It has also established an Export Promotion Forum (EPF) and is actively collaborating with start-ups, research institutions, and international agencies to strengthen the export ecosystem for millets.

In addition, assistance is being extended to start-ups engaged in the development of value-added millet products, particularly in the Ready-to-Cook (RTC) and Ready-to-Eat (RTE) segments. Start-ups in the food sector are being mobilized to drive innovation and commercialisation in this area. To further facilitate trade and traceability, separate Harmonized System (HS) codes have been introduced for millets and their value-added products. Under the “Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development” programme, financial support upto Rs. 5 lakhs are provided at the idea/pre seed stage and upto Rs. 25 lakhs at the seed stage to entrepreneurs/ startups in agriculture & allied sector based on the recommendation given by the Selection and Investment Committee (SIC). Trainings, Technical and financial assistance is provided to startups to launch their products, services, business platforms, etc. in the market and facilitate them to scale up their products and operations to attain business viability.

Millets have also been integrated in major national nutrition and welfare programmes. Under the Poshan Abhiyan of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, millets are being promoted for their nutritional benefits. Furthermore, the Ministry of Food and Public Distribution has revised its procurement guidelines to ensure greater inclusion of millets under schemes such as the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), and the Mid-Day Meal scheme, thereby increasing millet consumption among vulnerable populations.

Annexure

**Area, production and productivity of nutri-cereals (millets) of the districts of
Uttar Pradesh, including in Bulandshahr.**

S.No.	Districts	Area (ha)	Production (tonnes)	Yield (kg/ha)
		2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
1.	Agra	124830.42	322879.98	2587
2.	Aligarh	85439.10	223374.99	2614
3.	Ambedkar Nagar	1380.15	2206.68	1599
4.	Amethi	7679.00	12498.71	1628
5.	Amroha	3624.51	4446.32	1227
6.	Auraiya	36539.42	89315.32	2444
7.	Ayodhya	3231.23	5151.55	1594
8.	Azamgarh	174.91	351.42	2009
9.	Baghpat	658.07	1419.50	2157
10.	Bahraich	81.88	144.16	1761
11.	Ballia	3932.23	7422.31	1888
12.	Balrampur	4.99	7.98	1600
13.	Banda	46463.28	77317.92	1664
14.	Barabanki	3186.58	5423.17	1702
15.	Bareilly	14183.68	26772.57	1888
16.	Basti	26.79	23.74	886
17.	Bhadohi	12368.47	18346.46	1483
18.	Budaun	108235.32	187098.46	1729
19.	Bulandshahr	13737.65	30897.08	2249
20.	Chandauli	8771.16	10709.91	1221
21.	Chitrakoot	46329.86	62168.99	1342
22.	Deoria	298.51	540.14	1809
23.	Etah	49416.96	123106.23	2491
24.	Etawah	42223.55	124988.36	2960
25.	Farrukhabad	10185.60	16846.57	1654
26.	Fatehpur	25651.46	32217.28	1256
27.	Firozabad	80704.19	221200.61	2741
28.	Gautam Buddha Nagar	3170.45	5658.03	1785
29.	Ghaziabad	277.04	600.21	2167
30.	Ghazipur	20542.98	23314.70	1135
31.	Gorakhpur	70.61	85.54	1211
32.	Hamirpur	11368.97	21303.56	1874
33.	Hapur	3.00	6.50	2167
34.	Hardoi	10457.37	17946.83	1716
35.	Hathras	49513.99	132017.85	2666
36.	Jalaun	42559.75	72031.46	1692
37.	Jaunpur	11526.08	13257.61	1150
38.	Jhansi	2332.12	4406.60	1890
39.	Kannauj	5372.20	10753.37	2002
40.	Kanpur Dehat	42031.58	86752.77	2064
41.	Kanpur Nagar	27122.90	48002.14	1770
42.	Kasganj	43267.01	101530.94	2347

S.No.	Districts	Area (ha)	Production (tonnes)	Yield (kg/ha)
		2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
43.	Kaushambi	21984.40	23575.70	1072
44.	Kheri	641.77	1141.76	1779
45.	Kushi Nagar	112.02	243.36	2173
46.	Lucknow	2973.66	4458.00	1499
47.	Mahoba	8960.47	14671.80	1637
48.	Mainpuri	19956.75	53765.36	2694
49.	Mathura	45049.21	111449.57	2474
50.	Mau	1928.23	4177.13	2166
51.	Meerut	29.00	62.84	2167
52.	Mirzapur	21321.63	35834.00	1681
53.	Moradabad	3618.32	4781.23	1321
54.	Pilibhit	1.00	1.72	1725
55.	Pratapgarh	17430.20	12869.20	738
56.	Prayagraj	38996.33	29255.63	750
57.	Rae Bareli	9408.32	17352.85	1844
58.	Rampur	4250.51	6237.89	1468
59.	Saharanpur	2.00	4.35	2173
60.	Sambhal	77818.26	136566.12	1755
61.	Sant Kabeer Nagar	99.90	197.88	1981
62.	Shahjahanpur	5442.83	6958.29	1278
63.	Shravasti	40.01	86.91	2173
64.	Siddharth Nagar	19.96	31.93	1600
65.	Sitapur	8867.35	13612.76	1535
66.	Sonbhadra	10214.35	12117.15	1186
67.	Sultanpur	10621.85	16998.95	1600
68.	Unnao	5894.83	9267.08	1572
69.	Varanasi	11341.81	20788.03	1833

Source: UPAg
