

# Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference

March 21, 2023

**In news**– The Prime Minister of India has recently inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference at Subramaniam Hall, NASC Complex, IARI Campus, PUSA New Delhi.

## About the conference-

- The two-day global conference had sessions on all important issues related to millets (Shree Anna) like promotion and awareness of millets among producers, consumers and other stakeholders; millets' value chain development; health and nutritional aspects of millets; market linkages; research and development etc.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated and visited the Exhibition cum Buyer Seller Meet Pavilion.
- He also unveiled a Commemorative Stamp and Commemorative Coin. This was followed by the Prime Minister digitally launching a compendium of Indian Millet (Shri Anna) startups and a book of millet (Shri Anna) standards.
- PM also declared the Indian Institute of Millets Research of ICAR as a Global Centre of Excellence.
- International leaders conveyed their messages on the occasion.
- Underlining the consistent efforts of the government to turn Shree Anna into a global movement, the Prime Minister informed that **millets were declared nutri-cereals in 2018** where work was carried out on all levels from making the farmers aware of its benefits to generating interest in the market.
- He said that millets have also been selected in 19 districts of the country under the 'One District, One Product' scheme.
- Informing that about 2.5 crore small farmers are

- directly involved in the production of millets in India, the Prime Minister noted that they faced the challenges of climate change even though they own very little land.
- He said that India's Millet Mission – The campaign for Shree Anna will prove to be a boon for 2.5 crore farmers of the country.
  - He also suggested including Shree Anna in the mid-day meal so that children can get proper nutrition while also adding a new taste and variety to the food.
  - The two-day global conference will have sessions on all important issues related to millets (Shree Anna) like promotion and awareness of millets among producers, consumers and other stakeholders; millets' value chain development; health and nutritional aspects of millets; market linkages; research and development etc.
  - The conference was attended by Agriculture Ministers of various countries, international scientists, nutritionists, health experts, start-up leaders and other stakeholders.
  - The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has organized the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference.

### **Background-**

- Based on India's proposal, the year **2023 was declared the International Year of Millets (IYM) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**
- In line with the Prime Minister's vision to make the celebrations of IYM 2023 a 'people's movement' and position India as the 'global hub for millets', all central government ministries/departments, states/UTs, farmers, start-ups, exporters, retail businesses and other stakeholders are being engaged to promote and spread awareness about the benefits of millets (Shree Anna) for the cultivator, consumer and climate.

- The organization of the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference in India is an important programme in this context.

**Further reading:**  
**[https://journalsofindia.com/international-year-of-millets-2023](https://journalsofindia.com/international-year-of-millets-2023/)**

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