

2. Multiple interventions from the government and public support are required to create a millet revolution in the country. Discuss

Food & Agriculture Organisation declared 2023 as International year of millets. Millets possess nutritional, agroeconomical characteristics, besides being climate resilient.

Importance of millets

National Family Health Survey-5 data shows increase in anaemic conditions (67%) among under 5 children

Present challenges with Millets

current production - (as of 2019-20) - 47mn tonnes, but mere 4mn tonnes are procured in central pool, compared to Rice 35mn & wheat 33mn tonnes.

Reason → Low area of cultivation and Low productivity
To increase the share - production has to be increased by 50%.
Case Study - Kolli hills by MS Swamithan
Research foundation

Kolli hills - despite being suitable geographical & agro. ecological region for millet cultivation - there was rapid decline in minor millet production

Reasons 1. High processing required, time consuming, and little gain.

2. yield is also less & productivity is on decline.

The Foundation → Intervention in '3' areas

i) Small processing machinery → to reduce processing time

ii) Address yield → through community seed bank preserve seed varieties

iii) Training & value addition through Agriculture board.

[Result] → yield has risen, income from Millet cultivation grown, reduced processing time, increased value addition

This case study is just an example of how intervention in millet production could impact wider population in positive manner.

[Multiple intervention] ^{from} eg: scientific community, financial incentives, in-kind support etc, is required. States like Karnataka, Odisha started millet mission. Such kind of Intervention.

is required to increase millet production and reap the costly benefits [malnutrition]