



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF WOMEN CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**REPORT OF THE MILLETS FOOD FESTIVAL ORGANISED AT 206
COBRA, BN. CRPF, CHITAPUR DISTRICT BHANDARA**
*(Promotion of Millets and benefits of consumption of millets for
healthy future)*

Background:

The United Nation (UN) declared the year 2023 as the International Year of millets by having long term objectives for increasing production of shree anna (millets) and the intake of millets will provide many health benefits. And the increasing production will



definitely impact positively on the farmers, especially the tribal, small and marginal farmers, dry and sloppy land agriculture, infertile land systems. This will also address the issue of climate change which is now it is the global Issue and will also address the issue of food and nutrition security of the society. The International Year of Millets has provided a unique opportunity to help create greater awareness of millet production, contribute to food security, nutrition, and

ensure livelihoods and incomes of farmers, poverty eradication, particularly in regions that are drought-prone or threatened by climate change. Aligning with the UN vision of millets promotion for awareness about health and nutritional benefits of health, NIWCYD organized an awareness program with the CRPF personnel of 206 COBRA, Bn. CRPF, Chitapur District Bhandara on 13th august 2023 to promote millets, regularize consumption of millets and creating awareness about nutritional benefits of millets among the CRPF.

NIWCYD organized a millets food festival at 206 COBRA, Bn. CRPF, Chitapur District Bhandara, in line with the government guidelines to increase the consumption of millets in all the government institutions and also to bring together both the millets producers and CRPF personnel and their families to create awareness about the benefits of consumption of millets and the need for increasing production of millets for the future health and generation. The Food Festival platform was used to introduce the basket of millets food varieties. The millets food festival was used as an opportunity to create awareness among

the CRPF jawans and their families about the health benefits of SHREE ANNA (millets) for good health, its nutritious values and the initiatives by the government of INDIA to use millets in daily food, thereby regularizing and popularizing consumption of millets.

About the Event:

Millets Food Festival was organized jointly by National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD) with the CRPF personnel of 206 COBRA, Bn. CRPF, Chitapur District Bhandara on 12th August 2023. More than 300 CRPF soldiers, officers and their families participated in the fest, along with Representatives of Small Farmer Producer Association from Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and Women's Federation participated in this entire program.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Ranjit Mandal, Dy. Commandant, Shri. Chandan and Dr. sankalpita. Later, Shri. Ranjit Mandal Deputy Commandant addressed the CRPF Jawans and their family members on the significance of ShreeAnna (millets) and its nutritional values. NIWCYD chief functionary Mr. Malviya briefly narrated



the history of millets, its production and the benefits of millets consumption. To appreciate the efforts of NIWCYD in Millets conservation and promotion, a memento was presented to the Vice President of NIWCYD Shri. Rajesh Malviya.

Women Self Help Groups and FPO groups participating in SHRI ANNA food festival put up different stalls to display variety of different eatables made from millets like Shev, Laddu, muruku, Cakes & Pastries, Cookies, Mathari etc and also the processed millets like Kodo, Kutki, Jawar, Bajra, Raagi. Along with that variety

of pickles like garlic pickle, fenugreek pickle prepared by women self-help groups were also displayed. More than 500 CRPF jawans inclusive of their family members visited the stalls to take a look at the display of the millet based items as well as many of them have bought the items from the stalls.

In the evening dinner session was arranged in which only millet item were served to the CRPF Jawans and their family members. An array of millets-based food dishes and snacks were cooked. Many delicious dishes like kutki Kheer, Raagi Halwa, Jawar & Bajra bhakri, Raagi idli & dosa, Kodo Rice etc. were served to the visitors.



The main focus of the millets food festival was to not only to popularize millets-based food but also to create awareness of the nutritional values of millets among the CRPF jawans and their families. The key message of this festival was “bring back millets for a healthy future for the generations to come”.

It was overwhelming to see that there was a lot of excitement and among the participants, officers, jawans and their family members in the program.

For the successfully carried out this grand event, NIWCYD and the FPO representatives along with the representatives of women self-help groups would like to thank Shri Makkhan Lal, Assist. Commandant and all ranks of 206 COBRA Btn. Organisation would also like to appreciate the efforts put in by the NIWCYD staff members, members of FPOs & Women federation for the success of the Food Festival.





Report prepared by:
Ms. Aditi Meshram
Social Media & Communication
NIWCYD, Nagpur
