Mainstreaming millets into Nutritional Programmes

Dr. Kiran Sakkhari WASSAN









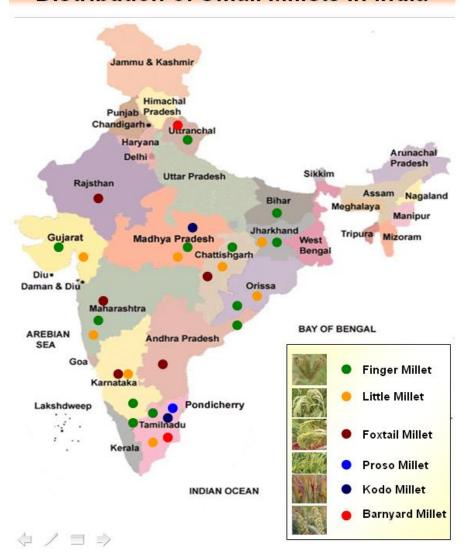


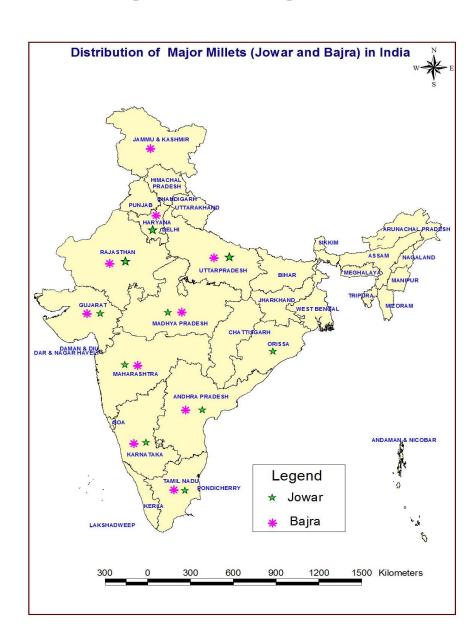




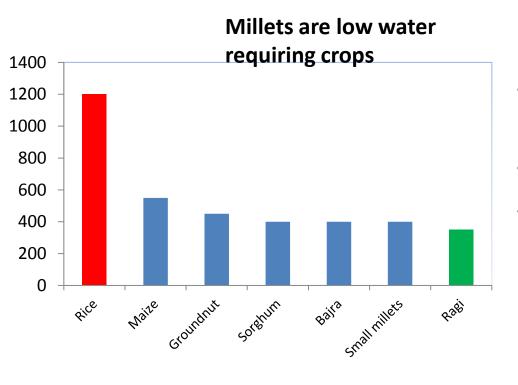
Quick over view of Millet growing areas

Distribution of Small Millets in India





Some agronomic & dietary benefits of millets



- Can be produced and procured from rainfed locations,
- Climate resilient crops
- Savings on water & power consumption in agriculture

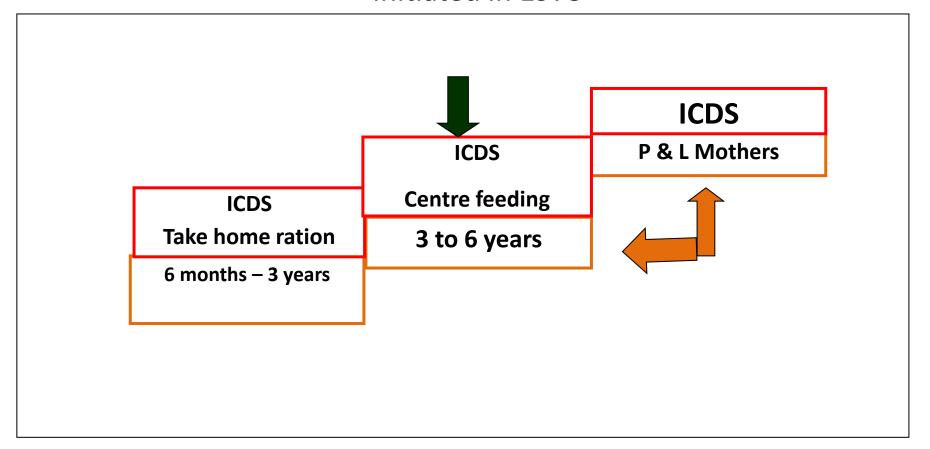
- Millets are nutritionally superior over rice
- Low Glycemic index, fibre rich foods
- Contains high dozes of nutrients as well as micronutrients

Some of the Supplementary Nutrition Programmes (SNP):

S no	Target group	Existing SNP
1	Children 0 to 6 Years	Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), National Rural Health Mission (MRHM)
2	Children 6 to 14 Years	Mid Day Meals (MDM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA),
3	Adolescent Girls (11 to 18)	Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)
4	Pregnant & Lactating mothers	Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), National Rural Health Mission (MRHM)

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

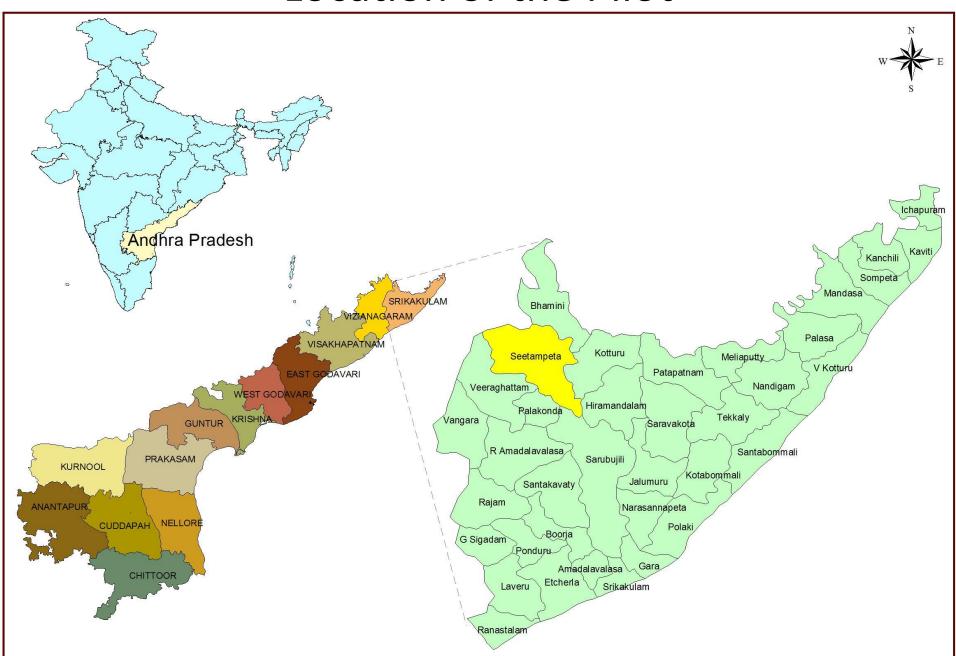
Initiated in 1975



Despite this initiative,

- almost 48% of children are malnourished and
- about 50 percent of all childhood deaths are attributable to malnutrition

Location of the Pilot



Why this Pilot with millets?

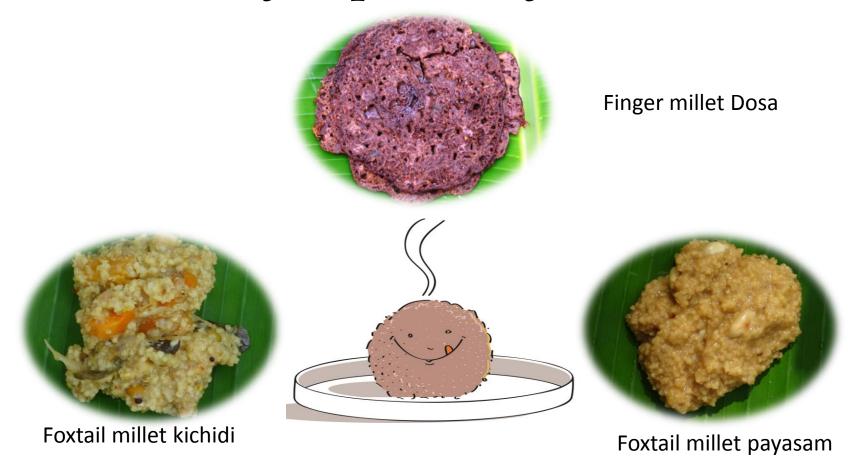
- To broad base food basket through millets
- Ensure supply of more nutritious local food
- Develop a decentralized food model by including millets in PDS
- Need to reorient our focus from Food Security
 - → Nutritional food Security

Integrating key components.....



systems

Tasty recipes made of millets



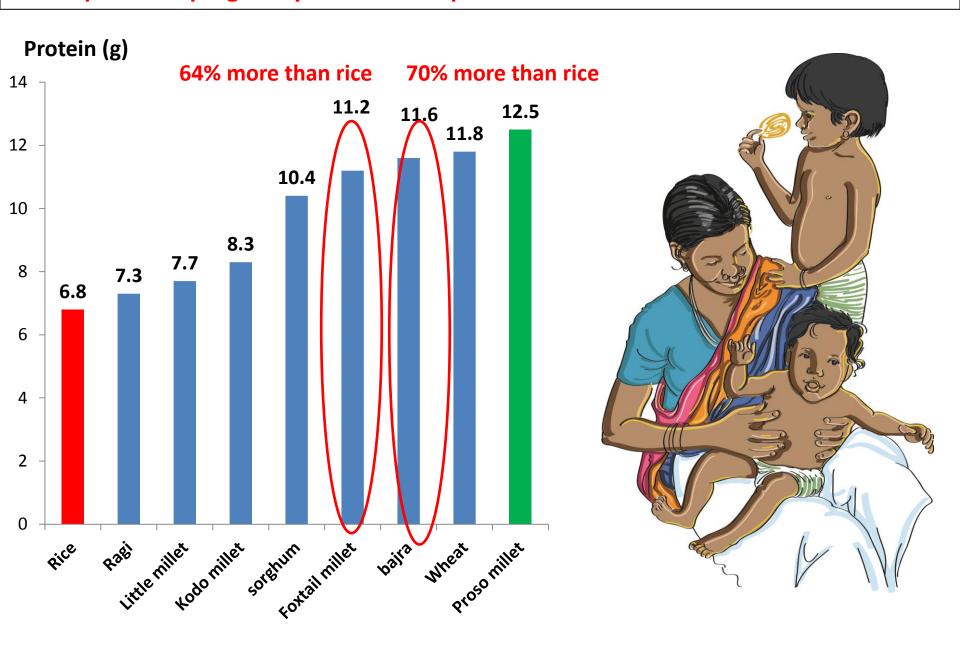
Recipe trainings helped us to gain confidence that children relish millet based menu- contrary to the popular notion that "they do not prefer millets"

Modalities of Pilot

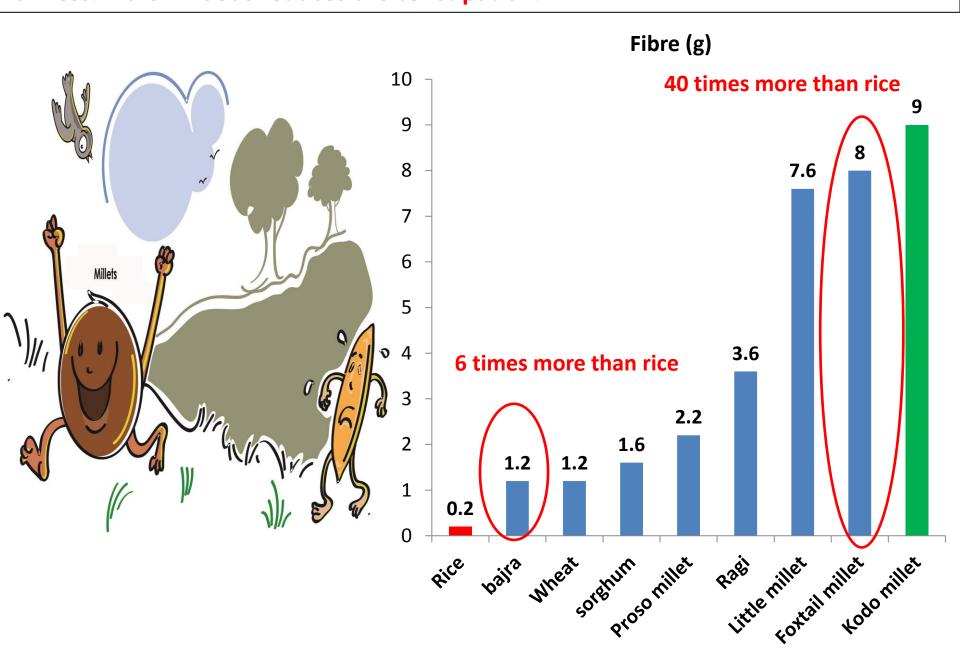


- Nutritional campaigns to sensitize school children, women, mothers committee members on the nutritional benefits of millet consumption
- Pilot with 160 children from 12 centres and a control group of same size with mothers' consent
- Existing model provides paddy rice based menu for 25 days in a month
- Pilot provides 8 days of Bajra menu, 8 days Foxtail rice menu & remaining 9 days Rice menu
- Cost sharing (millets menu provided by CIFSRF project & Rice menu provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh, India) in 80:20 ratio
- Recipes were standardised based on local knowledge & acceptance
- Established Millet processing unit under INSIMP

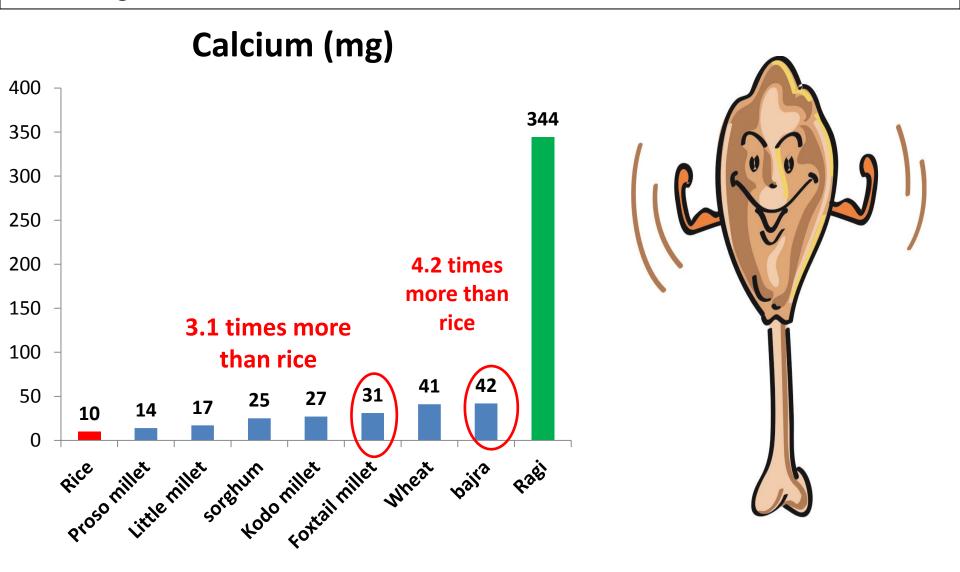
Proteins are required for maintenance in adults, for growth in infants, for foetal development in pregnancy and milk output in lactation.



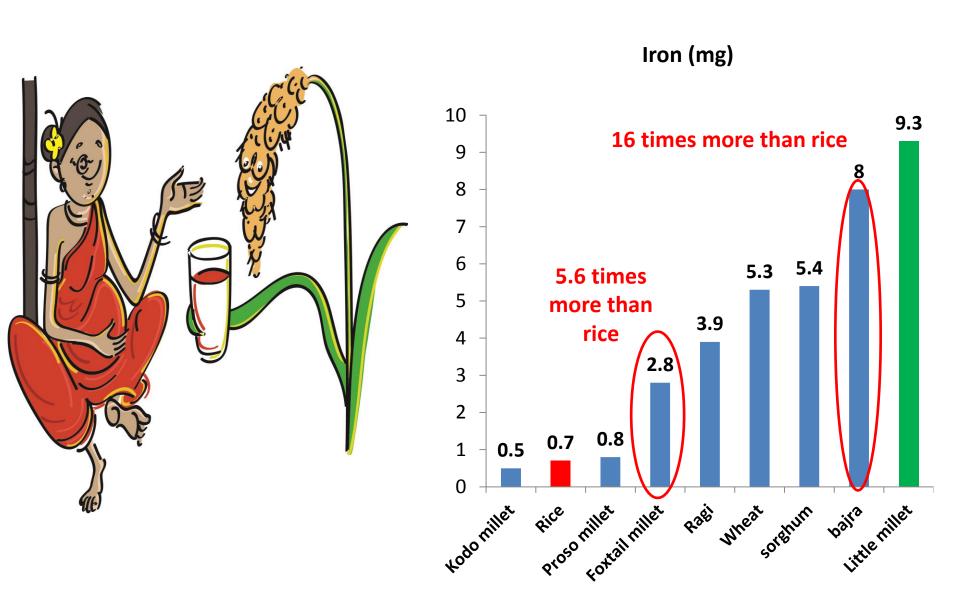
Fibre: Higher the fibre in food, slower the digestion time, thus we have a feeling of fullness. Fibre in foods reduces the constipation.



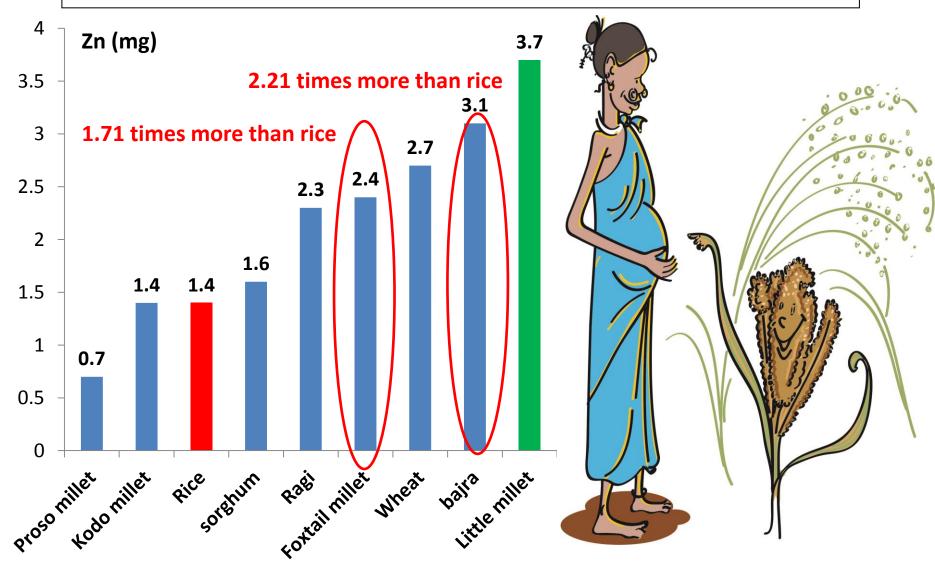
Calcium: Is required for formation and maintenance of skeleton and teeth. Children need relatively more calcium than adults to meet requirement of growing bones. It is also required in higher quantities during pregnancy to meet growing needs of foetus and during lactation.



Women often suffer from anaemia due to iron deficiency more so in tribal areas. Millets being rich source of Iron, can help address this issue at low cost



Zinc helps in healthy development of foetus, healthy skin and for quick healing of wounds,



Source: Nutritive value of Indian Foods, NIN Hyderabad

Key lessons learnt

- Knowledge disconnect between earlier generations and current generation parents on nutritional benefits
- Convenience takes precedence over the quality processing of millets is a drudgery
- Taste matters- New recipes / trainings required
- Promotion is the Key / Nutritional education
- Local procurement backed by price farmers willing to grow millets
- Children's acceptability of millet based recipes is impressive

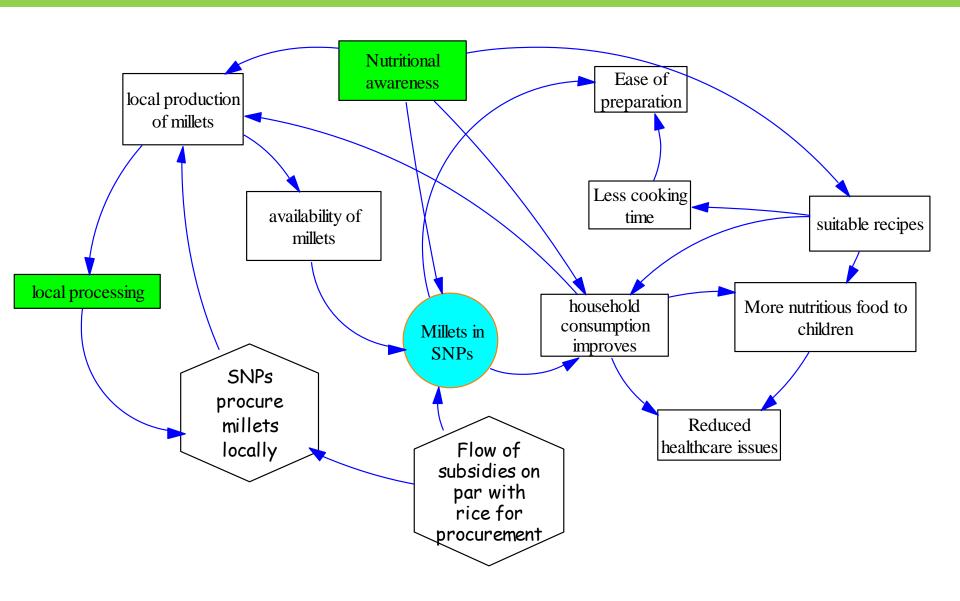
Economics.... matter.....

Existi ng model	Cost/ child/ day	Pilot	Cost/ child/ day	Implications
Rice based meal	₹ 2.63	Millet based meal	₹ 5.6	 Additional cost of ₹2.97 per child/ day
Cost of 1 Kg of rice	₹4/(on subsidy, however the market price is > ₹40)	Cost of 1 Kg of millet	₹ 40 / (Local market price). No subsidy for millets	 Level playing field for millets – brings down cost to ₹2.9 / serve So the Net increase would be just 27 paise

Proposed decentralized finger millet production & procurement plan to State Civil Supplies Corporation

Details	With Existing productivity	With Good productivity	With Best productivity
Total households	25000	25000	25000
Qty / hh/ month (kg)	5	5	5
Total requirement (tonnes) / month	125	125	125
Total requirement (tonnes) / year	1500	1500	1500
Avg productivity / acre (Kg/acre)	400	700	800
Total land required to meet annual requirement (Ac)	3750	2143	1875
No of families supported by 1 acre with the respective productivities	6.67	11.67	13.33
1 Acre can caters to ? Children in ICDS (to provide millet recipe for 10days/ month)	40	70	80

Mainstreaming millets into Nutritional Programmes



End result (Millets in SNPs) = f (policy + local) triggers

Thank You