

REPORT ON

WORLD FOOD DAY WEBINAR - MILLETS - THE NUTRI-CEREALS



AUTHOR

Ms Anuja Padte,
Food Scientist,
PFNDAI

On the occasion of World Food Day, the Protein Foods & Nutrition Development Association of India (PFNDAI) in collaboration with the Institute of Chemical Technology, Marathwada Campus, Jalna Organized a Webinar on Millets-The Nutri-Cereals on the 15th of October via Zoom Platform at 11 am. The total participation of students was about 300.

The Webinar started with the Welcome Address by **Dr J S Pai**, Executive Director, PFNDAI. The inaugural speech was given by Prof Uday Annapure- Director at the Institute of Chemical Technology-Marathwada Campus, Jalna. **Ms Dolly**

Soni, Manager of Marketing & Projects, Seminar Convenor, PFNDAI then introduced PFNDAI and its activities to the participants as well as the audience and introduced all the speakers.

In the inaugural speech, **Dr Uday Annapure** mentioned the courses carried out at ICT Marathwada Campus and how students of different departments such as Food Technology, and Polymer Technology have come together and worked on various technologies which will be helpful to the industry and farmers. He also mentioned

that millets are generally uncultivated basically nowadays we are cultivating them for better yield



Ms Dolly Soni

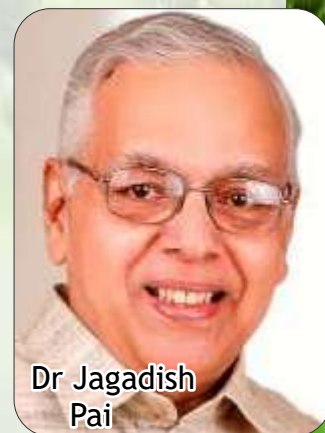
and to serve the purpose and to serve requirements as they grow in less fertile soil and need less moisture. He also mentioned that India has ability and infrastructure to create knowledge necessary for greater production and consumption of millets.



Dr Uday Annapure

Dr Jagadish Pai gave a presentation on the Health Benefits of Millet where he briefed the audience on the background of Millet and how important it is. He also mentioned the initiative of "International Year of Millets (IYOM)-

2023" proposed by the Government of India to the United Nations, which is to be celebrated across the world.



Dr Jagadish Pai

He briefed on the Production of millet & India produces 35 to 40% of the world's production of millet & Most millets are grown in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Madhya Pradesh among others. He also showed study of the Consumption rate of Millet & what are the importance of Millets & their health benefits in which he mentioned Millets are rich in phenolic compounds like ferulic acid & catechins, the antioxidants that help in healing, skin protection and with anti-inflammatory properties. Dr Pai also highlighted on how millets consumption can be increased.

The 2nd Speaker for the day was

Mr Arun Om Lal, President-Corporate Affairs & Communications, Hexagon Nutrition Ltd presented on Fortification of

Millets. Mr Lal gave a brief about the upcoming year 2023 which will be celebrated as International Year of Millets -2023. He mentioned that Millets are collective group of small seeded annual grasses that are grown as grain crops, primarily on marginal land in dry areas of temperate, sub-tropical and tropical regions. Millets are nutritionally superior as their grains contain high number of proteins, essential amino acids, minerals, and vitamins. He mentioned that Biofortification of staple crops is proved to be an



Mr Arun Om Lal

economically feasible approach to combat micronutrient malnutrition. He also informed the delegates about the various millets grown in the country and their regional names & also their health benefits. He briefed about the Nutrition and health benefits studies & informed about the government. The initiatives of Government of India in association with the States to create demand of Millets for health benefits in India at Global level for better remuneration to the farmers, protection of resources (soil and water) and creation of direct and indirect employment.

The last talk for the day was by **Dr Prabodh Halde**, Head Regulatory-R&D, Marico gave a presentation on Millets the Nutri Cereals Popularising the Consumption of Millets. Dr Prabodh in his presentation explained the audience about the ancient history of millets and how Mahabharata has mentioned the same. He further mentioned that how the Multidimensional benefits associated with millets makes it a potential Superfood, & while briefing about the Millets as a superfood he



mentioned that how the government sets to achieve its agenda of a malnutrition-free India and doubling of farmers' incomes, the promotion of the production and consumption of nutri-cereals seems to be a policy shift in the right direction. He also explained a study about Millets & Nutrients Mapping and the study included Pearl millet, Foxtail millet, Barnyard millets, Kodo millets & others.

He further mentioned about the India's Millets Mission Programme Where Currently, millets are being promoted through technology dissemination, quality seeds through millet seed hubs, awareness generation, minimum support price and inclusion in PDS.

There was a question and answer round taken after all the presentation and the programme ended with a vote of thanks which was given by Dr Yogesh Gat, Assistant Professor ICT, Jalna. Please click the link for presentations - <https://www.pfndai.org/association-news.html>



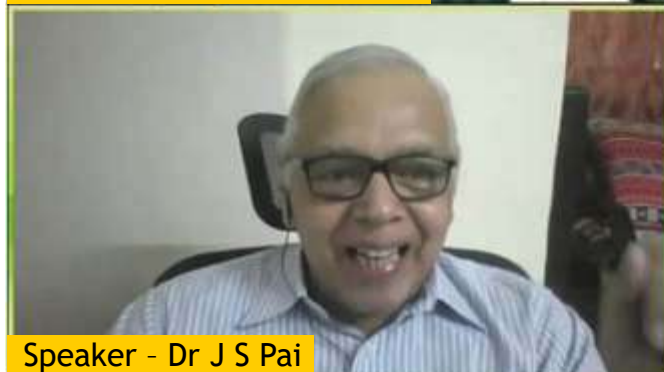
Dr Prabodh Halde



Speaker - Dr Prabodh Halde



Speaker - Dr Uday Annapure



Speaker - Dr J S Pai



Speaker - Mr Arun Om Lal.



Vote of Thanks -
Dr Yogesh Gat, Assistant
Professor ICT, Jalna



Webinar Convenor - Ms Dolly Soni

On the occasion of
World Food Day
Protein Foods & Nutrition Development Associatio
in collaboration with
Institute of Chemical Technology, Marathwada Campus, Jalna
Organizes Webinar on
Millets- The Nutri-Cereals

SPEAKERS

			
Prof Uday Annapure Director, Institute of Chemical Technology, Marathwada Campus, Jalna; Professor of Food Chemistry, Ex-Head: Dept Food Engg &	Dr Jagadish Pai Executive Director, PFNDAI	Mr Arun Om Lal President - Corporate Affairs & Communications, Hexagon Nutrition Ltd	Dr Prabodh Halde Head - Regulatory and R&D, Marico; Chairman, All India Food Processing Association; Chairman, Chamber for Advancement of Small & Medium