

**Indian Mission to ASEAN
Jakarta

**Subject: ASEAN-India Millets Festival, 22-26 November, 2023: Media Coverage
(International Media)**

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1	ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 Kicks Off In South Jakarta, Indonesia	Adda 247 Current Affairs	https://currentaffairs.adda247.com/asean-india-millet-festival-2023-kicks-off-in-south-jakarta-indonesia/
2	MILLET FESTIVAL: ASEAN-INDIA MILLET FESTIVAL BEGINS IN INDONESIA, RAISES AWARENESS ABOUT MILLET – INDIA LAUNCHES FIVE-DAY MILLET FESTIVAL IN INDONESIA RAISES AWARENESS MILLET-BASED PRODUCTS IN ASEAN – PRO IQRA	Pro IQRA	https://proiqra.com/world/millet-festival-asean-india-millet-festival-begins-in-indonesia-raises-awareness-about-millet-india-launches-five-day-millet-festival-in-indonesia-raises-awareness-millet-based-products-in-asean/23/
3	India Inaugurates Five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to Enhance Food Security with ASEAN	Diplomacy & Beyond	https://diplomacybeyond.com/india-inaugurates-five-day-millets-festival-in-indonesia-to-enhance-food-security-with-asean/
4	India launches five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN	The Pioneer	https://www.dailypioneer.com/2023/india-abroad/india-launches-five-day-millets-festival-in-indonesia-to-raise-awareness-and-create-markets-for-millets-based-products-in-asean.html
5	India Organized the ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 in Indonesia	Oliveboard	https://www.oliveboard.in/blog/india-organized-the-asean-india-millet-festival-2023-in-indonesia/

6	India launches five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN	PSU Watch	https://psuwatch.com/newsupdates/pti/india-asean-ld-millets-2
7	ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023	IAS Exam	https://www.iasexam.com/category/current-affairs/daily-current-affairs/
8	India, ASEAN launch five-day Millets Festival to raise awareness and create a market for millets-based products	Money Control	https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/politics/india-asean-launch-five-day-millets-festival-to-raise-awareness-and-create-a-market-for-millets-based-products-11794021.html
9	ASEAN-India Inaugurate Millets Festival to Boost Food Security	BNN Network	https://bnn.network/lifestyle/food/asean-india-inaugurate-millets-festival-to-boost-food-security/
10	ASEAN – India Millets Festival opens in Jakarta	Vietnam Plus	https://en.vietnamplus.vn/asean-india-millets-festival-opens-in-jakarta/271728.vnp

ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 Kicks Off In South Jakarta, Indonesia

23 November 2023

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 is currently taking place in Indonesia from November 22 to 26, serving as a platform to raise awareness about millets and foster sustainable agriculture.

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, a collaborative effort between the Indian Mission to ASEAN and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, has taken center stage in Indonesia from November 22 to 26. This festival serves as a platform to raise awareness about millets, promote culinary diversity, and foster sustainable agriculture.

Inaugural Session at Kota Kasablanka Mall

- The festival commenced with a grand inaugural session at the Kota Kasablanka Mall in South Jakarta.
- The session featured a Millet-centric exhibition that saw active participation from Millet-based Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), start-ups, and Indian chefs.

Aligning with the International Year of Millets (IYM)

- The festival aligns seamlessly with the International Year of Millets (IYM) celebrations, seeking to create a market for millets and millet-based products among ASEAN Member states.
- The participating countries include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Diverse Indian Delegation

- The Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare spearheads a diverse delegation from India, comprising professionals deeply engaged in the Indian millet ecosystem. This includes chefs, start-ups, FPO representatives, industry leaders, and state officials.

Insights from Experts

- During the inaugural session, Dr. Maninder Kaur Dwivedi, Additional Secretary at DA&FW and Head of the Indian Delegation, shared valuable insights into millet cultivation, processing, and the business potential of these ancient grains.
- Ms. Shubha Thakur, Joint Secretary (Crops) at DA&FW, showcased India's leading role in celebrating the International Year of Millets 2023.

Exhibitors and Participants

- The festival boasts the participation of five Indian FPOs and two start-ups, showcasing unique millet-added products such as cookies, namkeen, khakhra, cakes, and more.

Live Cooking Workshop

- A highlight of the event is the live cooking workshop from November 23 to 26, featuring celebrity chefs from India and Indonesia presenting dishes like Foxtail Millet Tabouleh, Mixed Millet Mathri Canopies, Millet Risotto, Millet Curd Rice, Ragi brownie, and cookies each day.

Festival's Contribution to Awareness

- The five-day festival aims to contribute to raising awareness about millets and represents a step towards implementing the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises.

Ambassador's Perspective

- Ambassador of India to ASEAN, Mr. Jayant Khobragade, highlighted the crucial role of millets in addressing global hunger and nutrient deficiencies in his welcome remarks.
- Mr. Arief Prasetyo Adi, Head of the National Food Agency (Badan Pangan Nasional), Indonesia, underscored millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice for the future in the face of climate change.

Panel Discussions

- The festival includes insightful panel discussions, such as 'ASEAN-India Collaboration in Millets,' moderated by Mr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Additional Chief Secretary & Agriculture Production Commissioner, Govt. of Assam.
- Another engaging panel, moderated by Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, highlighted the inherent climate-resilient qualities of millets and initiatives combating climate change through millet cultivation.

Source: <https://currentaffairs.adda247.com/asean-india-millet-festival-2023-kicks-off-in-south-jakarta-indonesia/>

MILLET FESTIVAL: ASEAN-INDIA MILLET FESTIVAL BEGINS IN INDONESIA, RAISES AWARENESS ABOUT MILLET – INDIA LAUNCHES FIVE-DAY MILLET FESTIVAL IN INDONESIA RAISES AWARENESS MILLET-BASED PRODUCTS IN ASEAN – PRO IQRA

23 November 2023

The Indian Mission to ASEAN, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, launched a five-day Millets festival in the Indonesian capital Jakarta on Wednesday. The move is aimed at raising awareness and creating markets for millets and millet-based products among the 10-member group.

India's ambassador to ASEAN, Jayant Khobragade, said: 'Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and the East Asia Summit on September 7. The ASEAN-India Summit was held on food security.

Very well in the overall framework of ASEAN-India relations

He said: 'In two months we will be celebrating the Millets festival, which also includes food security. How effective is our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Describing millet as one of the important elements for ensuring food security, he said it fits very well in the overall framework of ASEAN-India relations.

Source: <https://proiqra.com/world/millet-festival-asean-india-millet-festival-begins-in-indonesia-raises-awareness-about-millet-india-launches-five-day-millet-festival-in-indonesia-raises-awareness-millet-based-products-in-asean/23/>

India Inaugurates Five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to Enhance Food Security with ASEAN

24 November 2023

The Indian Mission to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, is set to organize the ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 from November 22–26, 2023. The festival would take place in Indonesia; the inauguration for the same has already been conducted in Kota Kasablanka Mall, a popular shopping destination in South Jakarta, Indonesia. Millet-based Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), start-ups, and Indian chefs would be participating in the festival, and a millet-centric exhibition would also be held.

This festival is aligned with the International Year of Millets (IYMs). Apart from that, the aim of the festival is to raise awareness about and create a market for millets and millet-based products in the ASEAN member countries, which are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare would be leading a delegation at the festival consisting of start-ups, chefs, representatives from FPOs, state officials, industry leaders, etc. This diverse group of representatives are all professionals and experts in the millet ecosystem in India.

Millets for a Sustainable Future:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and the East Asia Summit on September 7 this year. One of the joint statements adopted during the ASEAN-India summit had to do with enhancing food security. Ambassador of India to ASEAN, Mr. Jayant Khobragade, in his inaugural address, reminded the audience about the above statement, saying that in “two months we are having the Millet festival, which also covers food security. That is how effectively our comprehensive strategic partnership is working.” He also highlighted the important role played by millets in tackling issues of global hunger and nutrient deficiencies. Mr. Khobragade also informed the audience that “there is a lot of interest. For this millet festival, we have representation not only from Indian farmers and industrialists but also from ASEAN member states.” Adding to him, Head of the National Food Agency, Badan Pangan Nasional (BPN), Indonesia, Mr. Arief Prasetyo Adi, also pointed out how millets can be a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice for the future in the face of the ongoing climate crisis. Furthermore, he highlighted how raising awareness about millets can benefit the global population not only due to the nutritional value millets contain but also their potential for environmental sustainability and economic development.

Highlights of Event:

There were several panel discussions during the inaugural event, led by Indian delegates. The discussions focused on how India has been at the forefront of enhancing the business potential of grain. It was followed by insightful discussions and exchanges. The exhibition is aimed at fostering collaboration between India and ASEAN by celebrating the cultural and culinary practices of the

participants, making way for a healthier future. The highlight of the event will be a live cooking demonstration by popular chefs from India and Indonesia who will be preparing dishes made out of millets.

Millets can grow in the most impossible of climates and are the most suitable for countries affected by the climate crisis. Its cultivation will reduce reliance on cereal-based grains, which are expensive for many economies. In this regard, an active collaboration between India and ASEAN will surely pave the way for a healthier and more sustainable future.

Source: <https://diplomacybeyond.com/india-inaugurates-five-day-millets-festival-in-indonesia-to-enhance-food-security-with-asean/>

India launches five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN

23 November 2023

India has launched a five-day Millets Festival here in the Indonesian capital to raise awareness for millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice and create a market for millets-based products among the 10-member ASEAN bloc.

The Indian Mission to ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare have jointly organised the 'ASEAN-India Millets Festival' starting November 22 during which a Millet-centric exhibition is being held featuring participation from Millet-based FPOs, start-ups and Indian chefs. "The Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and East Asia Summit on September 7. During the ASEAN-India summit, one of the joint statements adopted was about food security," India's Ambassador to ASEAN Jayant Khobragade said.

"In two months, we are having the Millet Festival which also covers food security. That is how effectively our comprehensive strategic partnership is working," he said. Describing millets as one of the important elements for ensuring food security, he said this was very well in the overall framework of the ASEAN-India relationship.

Source: <https://www.dailypioneer.com/2023/india-abroad/india-launches-five-day-millets-festival-in-indonesia-to-raise-awareness-and-create-markets-for-millets-based-products-in-asean.html>

India Organized the ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 in Indonesia

26 November 2023

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, organized by the Indian Mission to ASEAN in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, is currently underway in Indonesia from November 22nd to November 26th, 2023.

The festival commenced with an inaugural session at the Kota Kasablanka Mall, a prominent shopping destination in South Jakarta. As part of the festival, a millet-centric exhibition is being held, featuring participation from millet-based Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), start-ups, and Indian chefs.

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, aligning with the International Year of Millets (IYM) celebrations, aims to promote awareness and establish a market for millets and millet-based products among the ASEAN Member States, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. A delegation from India, led by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, is actively participating in the festival, showcasing a diverse group of professionals involved in the Indian millet ecosystem, such as chefs, start-ups, representatives from Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), industry leaders, and state officials.

Schedule

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, scheduled from November 22nd to 26th, aims to promote collaboration between ASEAN countries, celebrate cultural and culinary diversity, and encourage sustainable millet practices for a healthier future.

The exhibition will feature five Indian Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and two startups showcasing unique millet-added products such as cookies, namkeen, khakhra, cakes, and more. This initiative seeks to raise awareness and create a market for millets and millet-based products among ASEAN member states.

Major Highlight

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 will feature a live cooking workshop from November 23rd to 26th. Celebrity chefs from India and Indonesia will showcase the culinary potential of millets, presenting dishes like Foxtail Millet Tabouleh, Mixed Millet Mathri Canopies, Millet Risotto, Millet Curd Rice, Ragi brownie, and cookies each day. Chefs Vinesh Johny, Risma Widyastuti, Anahita Dhondy, Sabyasachi Gorai, and Ambika Johar will engage the audience with a new dish daily during this period.

Significance of the ASEAN-India Millet Festival

The ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023, taking place in Indonesia from November 22nd to 26th, is a significant step towards raising awareness about millet. This initiative aligns with the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises adopted at the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia, on September 7, 2023. The five-day festival aims to foster collaboration, celebrate cultural and culinary diversity, and promote sustainable millet practices for a healthier future.

Inaugural Session

India actively contributed valuable insights into millet cultivation, processing, and the business potential of these ancient grains during the ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023. The country highlighted its leading role in celebrating the International Year of Millets 2023 and showcased government initiatives encouraging millet adoption through engaging videos and panel discussions. The discussions emphasized the significant prospects of millet cultivation and its role in diversifying the South Asian food basket. Ambassador of India to ASEAN, Mr. Jayant Khobragade, and Head of the National Food Agency (Badan Pangan Nasional (BPN)) Indonesia, Mr. Arief Prasetyo Adi, emphasized millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice to address global hunger and nutrient deficiencies in the context of climate change. The day concluded with a millet-based luncheon, demonstrating the versatility and nutritional value of millets in Asian cuisine.

International Year of Millets 2023 (IYM 2023)

In celebration of the International Year of Millets 2023, a grand installation consisting of 50,000 tetra-pack containers of millet beverages will be crafted and distributed to underprivileged children. Additionally, the expected 75,000 visitors over the course of three days will have the opportunity to enjoy cultural programs, featuring dance and musical performances.

The triumph of World Food India 2023 is poised to establish a Global Food Event in the country, positioning it alongside similar prestigious events held worldwide. This event not only showcases India's culinary and cultural diversity but also its commitment to food sustainability and innovation.

Background

- India proposed observing an International Year of Millets in 2023, which was approved by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in 2018.
- The UN General Assembly has declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets, following the adoption of a UN Resolution.
- India led the proposal, which was supported by over 70 nations.

Objectives

The objectives of the International Year of Millets are –

- To increase awareness of the contribution of millet to food security and nutrition.
- Inspire stakeholders to improve sustainable production and quality of millet.
- Focus on enhanced investment in research and development and extension services to achieve the other two aims.

Source: <https://www.oliveboard.in/blog/india-organized-the-asean-india-millet-festival-2023-in-indonesia/>

India launches five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN

23 November 2023

India launches five-day Millets Festival in Indonesia to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN

Jakarta, Nov 22 (PTI) The Indian Mission to ASEAN along with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Wednesday launched a five-day Millets Festival here in the Indonesian capital, a move aimed at raising awareness and creating a market for millets and millets-based products among the 10-member bloc.

"The Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and East Asia Summit on September 7. During the ASEAN-India summit, one of the joint statements adopted was about food security,' India's Ambassador to ASEAN Jayant Khobragade said.

'In two months we are having the Millet festival which also covers food security. That is how effectively our comprehensive strategic partnership is working," he said.

Describing Millets as one of the important elements for ensuring food security, he said this was very well in the overall framework of the ASEAN-India relationship.

"There is a lot of interest. For this millet festival, we have representation not only from Indian farmers and industrialists but also from ASEAN member states," he added.

Khobragade also highlighted the crucial role of millet in addressing global hunger and nutrient deficiencies.

The Indian Mission to ASEAN and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare have jointly organised the 'ASEAN-India Millets Festival' starting November 22 during which a Millet-centric exhibition is being held featuring participation from Millet-based FPOs, start-ups and Indian chefs.

Arief Prasetyo Adi, Head of the National Food Agency (Badan Pangan Nasional (BPN)) Indonesia, underscored millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice for the future in the face of climate change.

He said that the ASEAN -India Millet Festival has an opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits of millet, from nutritional status and environmental sustainability to economic development.

The 'ASEAN-India Millets Festival', at the Kota Kasablanka Mall, a prominent shopping destination in south Jakarta, aims to create a market for millets and millets-based products among the ASEAN Member states.

Millets can grow on arid lands with minimal inputs and are resilient to changes in climate. They are, therefore, an ideal solution for countries to increase self-sufficiency and reduce reliance on imported cereal grains.

India spearheaded the UN General Assembly Resolution for declaring the year 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets', a move aimed at addressing food security challenges.

The Year will also promote the sustainable production of millets while highlighting their potential to provide new sustainable market opportunities for producers and consumers.

India's Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is leading a delegation at the event, representing a diverse set of professionals from Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), industry leaders and more.

A Millet-centric exhibition is being held as part of the festival featuring participation from Millet-based FPOs, start-ups and Indian chefs.

The exhibition also aims to foster collaboration between ASEAN countries, celebrate cultural and culinary diversity and promote sustainable millet practices for a healthier future.

The exhibition features five Indian FPOs, namely Citi Block FPC, Jewargi Taluka Millets FPC, Bhumitrajalapur, Vaam Agro, and Lambasingi Tribal Products FPC, and two start-ups namely Taru Naturals and Sattva Millets and Food Products (Mibbles) exhibiting unique millet-added products such as millet cookies, namkeen, khakhra, cakes, and more.

Ankit Patel, who represented Ahmedabad-based Vaam Agro company that deals in spices, said that he started manufacturing the millets-based products just four months ago and till now the company has sold products worth Rs 50 lakhs.

'We have started with six Millets products, including Dhokla and Khakhra. Our products have got a great response,' Patel said.

Indonesia-based Rizal Satria said that he started manufacturing millet-based products three years ago when very few people in his country knew about such products.

'Now more people know about it and we expect a steady growth in our Millets business of Millets,' he said.

A major highlight of the festival is the live cooking workshop, where celebrity chefs from India and Indonesia will showcase the culinary potential of millets.

The 10 member countries of ASEAN are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia. PTI ZH AMS AMS

Source: <https://psuwatch.com/newsupdates/pti/india-asean-ld-millets-2>

ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023

24 November 2023

Context- India started a ASEAN-India Millet Festival 2023 in Indonesia to raise awareness about millet.

About

- The aim of the exhibition is to promote cooperation between ASEAN countries, celebrate cultural and culinary diversity and promote sustainable millet practices for a healthier future.
- It is also a step towards the ASEAN-India Leaders' Joint Declaration on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Emergency Response, adopted at the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2023.

What is millet?

- Millets are a group of small grains commonly known as Nutri grains.
- Varieties: These include Jowar, bajra, ragi/mandua, small millets – kangani/kakun, cheena, kodo, sawa/sanwa/jhangora and kutki – and two pseudo-millets, buckwheat (kuttu) and amaranth (chaulai).

Cultivation of millets (Shree Anna)

- Climate: Millet is cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions at an altitude of up to 2100 meters. An average growing temperature of 26-29°C is best for proper development and good yields.
- Soil: Millet adapts to a wide variety of soils, from very poor to very fertile, and tolerates a certain level of alkalinity. The best soils are alluvial, clay and sandy soils with good drainage

Benefits of millet

- Ecological crops: Millets can grow on dry land with minimal input and are resilient to climate change.
- Highly nutritious: Millet contains 7-12% protein, 2-5% fat, 65-75% carbohydrates and 15-20% fiber.
- Health benefits: Millet is gluten and allergy free. The consumption of millet reduces triglycerides and C-reactive protein, which prevents cardiovascular diseases.
- Reduce import dependence: They are an ideal solution for countries to increase self-sufficiency and reduce dependence on imported grains.

India is stepping up to promote mill manufacturing

- International Year of the Millet: India spearheaded the UN General Assembly resolution declaring 2023 as the International Year of the Millet.

- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund: The government has popularized the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund scheme to invite farmers/FPOs/entrepreneurs to avail loan interest subsidies of up to 2 crores for setting up millet primary processing units.
- Higher Minimum Support Prices (MSP): To encourage farmers to grow millets, higher MSP has been announced for Jowar, Bajra and Ragi.
- Production Incentive Scheme: The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (TMFPI) has approved a PLI scheme for millet products in the food industry to be implemented from 2022-23 to 2026-27.

Source: <https://www.iasexam.com/asean-india-millet-festival-2023/?print=pdf>

India, ASEAN launch five-day Millets Festival to raise awareness and create a market for millets-based products

22 November 2023

India and ASEAN on November 22 launched a five-day Millets Festival here in the Indonesian capital, a move aimed at raising awareness and creating a market for millets and millets-based products among the 10-member bloc.

The Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and East Asia Summit on September 7. During the ASEAN-India summit, one of the joint statements adopted was about food security," India's Ambassador to ASEAN Jayant Khobragade said. "In two months we are having the Millet festival which also covers food security. That is how effectively our comprehensive strategic partnership is working, he said.

Describing Millets as one of the important elements for ensuring food security, he said this was very well in the overall framework of the ASEAN-India relationship. There is a lot of interest. For this millet festival, we have representation not only from Indian farmers and industrialists but also from ASEAN member states, he added.

Khobragade also highlighted the crucial role of millet in addressing global hunger and nutrient deficiencies. The Indian Mission to ASEAN and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare have jointly organised the ASEAN-India Millets Festival' starting November 22 during which a Millet-centric exhibition is being held featuring participation from Millet-based FPOs, start-ups and Indian chefs.

Arief Prasetyo Adi, Head of the National Food Agency (Badan Pangan Nasional (BPN)) Indonesia, underscored millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice for the future in the face of climate change. He said that the ASEAN -India Millet Festival has an opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits of millet, from nutritional status and environmental sustainability to economic development.

Source: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/politics/india-asean-launch-five-day-millets-festival-to-raise-awareness-and-create-a-market-for-millets-based-products-11794021.html>

ASEAN-India Inaugurate Millets Festival to Boost Food Security

23 November 2023

ASEAN and India have jointly launched a five-day Millets Festival in Jakarta, a significant initiative aimed at promoting millets and millet-based products across ASEAN member countries. Indian Ambassador to ASEAN, Jayant Khobragade, stressed the importance of the festival as an extension of the joint declaration on food security adopted at the ASEAN-India Summit and East Asia Summit.

Nurturing a Millet Market

Organized by the Indian Mission to ASEAN and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the event featured an extensive millet-centric exhibition with participation from Millet-based Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), start-ups, and Indian chefs. The exhibition sought to underscore the nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits of millets, framing them as a sustainable food choice for the future.

Leading in Food Security

The festival also served as a platform for India to spearhead efforts in addressing food security challenges. India's push for the UN General Assembly Resolution to declare 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets' falls in line with its commitment to promote millets as a crucial part of food security and foster collaboration among ASEAN countries.

Exploring Culinary Possibilities

The millet-added products on display ranged from cookies, namkeen, khakhra, to cakes, indicating the culinary versatility of millets. The live cooking workshop, featuring celebrity chefs from India and Indonesia, added a flavorful dimension to the festival, celebrating the cultural diversity and culinary potential of millets. Stories shared by representatives from Indian FPOs and start-ups demonstrated the growing market demand for millet-based products, reinforcing the festival's role in fostering a market for these goods among ASEAN member states.

The ASEAN-India Millets Festival not only promotes sustainable millet practices but also encourages collaboration and cultural exchange among the 10 ASEAN member countries. It is a testament to the shared commitment of India and ASEAN in promoting millets as a sustainable and farmer-friendly food choice, addressing food security challenges, and fostering collaboration among member states. This collaborative effort underlines the cultural and culinary diversity of millets and their potential to contribute to a healthier and more sustainable future for the ASEAN region.

Source: <https://bnn.network/lifestyle/food/asean-india-inaugurate-millets-festival-to-boost-food-security/>

ASEAN – India Millets Festival opens in Jakarta

23 November 2023

ASEAN and India on November 22 launched a five-day Millets Festival in Jakarta, a move aimed at raising awareness and creating a market for millets and millets-based products among the 10-member bloc.

New Delhi (VNA) – ASEAN and India on November 22 launched a five-day Millets Festival in Jakarta, a move aimed at raising awareness and creating a market for millets and millets-based products among the 10-member bloc.

India's ambassador to ASEAN Jayant Khobragade said that the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the ASEAN-India Summit and East Asia Summit on September 7, and one of the joint statements adopted at there was about food security.

Describing millets as one of the important elements for ensuring food security, he said this was very well in the overall framework of the ASEAN-India relationship. Khobragade also highlighted the crucial role of millets in addressing global hunger and nutrient deficiencies.

Arief Prasetyo Adi, head of the National Food Agency Badan Pangan Nasional (BPN)) Indonesia, underscored millets as a farmer-friendly and sustainable food choice for the future in the face of climate change.

He said that the festival has an opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits of millets, from nutritional status and environmental sustainability to economic development.

India spearheaded the UN General Assembly Resolution for declaring the year 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets', a move aimed at addressing food security challenges./.

Source: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/asean-india-millets-festival-opens-in-jakarta/271728.vnp>