



ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକ ସଂପର୍କ ବିଭାଗ  
Information & Public Relations Department  
Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001  
Phone : (91-674) 2536736 /2390818 (Fax)  
e-mail : iprsec.or@nic.in



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### International Convention on Millets Songs Reverberated Goodness of Millets

**Bhubaneswar, 10/11/2023:**

An exuberant rendition of songs dedicated to the super food millet was organised as part of the International Convention on Millets here. Millet themed tribal songs and poems belonging to different parts of the nation were recited. These have always been instrumental in preserving and promoting millet cultivation.

On the eve of celebrating International Year of Millets and Mandia Dibasa (Millets Day)-2023, six Farmer troupes from Meghalaya, Karnataka, Gujarat and Odisha performed millet songs donning their local traditional costumes. The session was moderated by Revitalising Rainfed Area (RRA) Network. Smt. Priyanka Priyadarshini, Assistant Director, Agriculture welcomed the guests and participants while Dr Sabyasachi Das, Director of RRA Network gave introductory remarks. Mr. Vinay Mahajan & Ms. Charul Bharwada of Gujrat performed on the millet song. Padmashree Haldhar Nag was the guest at the session. The performers were felicitated by the Department of Agriculture. In this non-technical session, farmers, NGO representatives, SHG members and the audience enjoyed performances and renditions.

The troupe from Karnataka, comprising three custodian millet farmers, performed an act on the song “Arnadata”. Gujarat and Meghalaya teams presented their local traditional songs on crops. Four millet farmers performed millet songs with accompanying music and dedicated the songs for their brethren farmers. Gajapati team from Odisha performed millet song along with their musical instruments. Mr. Vinay & Ms. Charul, both professional song writers and social activists performed their own songs. One millet oath was taken by all the performers, participants and guests who were present at the session.

Exchange of cultural and traditional values of performing millet songs was one of the attractive events of the International Convention. As the farmers hailed from the four major corners of the country, their songs reverberated the goodness of Millets.

Swati Snigdha Suar  
Information Officer