

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 45**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7TH DECEMBER, 2022/ AGRAHAYANA 16, 1944
(SAKA)**

ASSISTANCE TO KIN OF PEOPLE DIED DUE FOR COVID-19

45. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has any plans to provide financial assistance from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to the kith and kin of the people who died because of COVID-19;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the various effective measures taken by Government to provide adequate relief and rehabilitation to family members of the people who lost the bread winner of the family or children who lost their parents due to COVID-19?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) and (b): In pursuance of the Judgment dated 30th June 2021 of Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the Writ Petitions (Civil) No. 554/2021 and No.539/2021, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), under section 12 (iii) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, had issued guidelines on the 11th September, 2021, for grant of ex-gratia assistance of ₹ 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) to kin of the deceased person, including those involved

in the relief operations or associated in the preparedness activities, from State Disaster Response Fund, subject to cause of death being certified as COVID-19, as per the 'Guidelines for Official Document for COVID-19 Death' jointly issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Indian Council of Medical Research, on the 3rd September, 2021.

(c): To ameliorate the hardships faced by the poor persons due to economic disruption caused by COVID-19 Pandemic and to minimize the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security, Central Government in March, 2020 had announced the distribution of additional free-of-cost food grains (Rice/Wheat) to about 80 Crore National Food Security Act (NFSA) {Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) & Priority Households (PHH)} beneficiaries at the scale of 5 Kg per person per month under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY). So far, under the scheme the Department of Food & Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution had allocated a total of about 1118 Lakh Metric Tonne (LMT) food grains to the States/UTs. This scheme has been extended from time to time and currently Phase VII (October-December, 2022) of PMGKAY is operational in all States/UTs.

Department of Food & Public Distribution under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package (ANBP), 2020, had made allocation of about total 8 LMT of additional food-grain covering all the States/UTs for migrants/stranded migrants, who are neither covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) nor State Scheme PDS Cards, @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for a period of two months (May & June, 2020). As against the States/UTs combined estimate of about 2.8 Crore migrants/stranded migrants, distribution of nearly 2.74 LMT to nearly 2.74 Crore migrants/stranded migrants were done for the two months of May & June, 2020.

PM CARES for Children Scheme has been launched and benefits have been extended to the children who have lost both parents or surviving parent or legal guardian or adoptive parents due to COVID-19 pandemic. The objective of the Scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of Children in a sustained manner, and enable their well being through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support till 23 years of age. The scheme is accessible through an online portal i.e. pmcaresforchildren.in.

In addition, under 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP): Insurance Scheme for Health Care Workers Fighting Covid-19', life insurance benefits of Rs. 50 lakhs were provided to Health Workers, who were drafted by Government for COVID-19 related responsibilities. Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) in order to provide help and succor to the families of Insured persons who died due to COVID-19, had also on 03.06.2021 launched ESIC COVID-19 Relief Scheme for a period of two years w.e.f. 24.03.2020.
