

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1994
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH, 2023

REQUIREMENT OF FOOD FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN YOJANA

1994 # SHRI RAJENDRA GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the requirement of food per year under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana(PMGKY), to help the poor people, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the production of foodgrains is likely to decline due to unseasonal rains in Rajasthan, if so, whether the Public Distribution System (PDS) will be affected due to the decline, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of people who were provided assistance under PDS every year during the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government has any proposal to double the quota of foodgrains for poor people?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a): NFSA, 2013 provides for coverage of about 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population (67% of the total population of the country) for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains under TPDS, which at Census 2011 comes to about 81.35 crore. The coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit. Actual requirement of foodgrains keeps on changing based on addition/deletion of ration cards due to various reasons, as reported by States/UTs from time to time.

Section 9 of the Act provides that the percentage coverage under the TPDS in rural and urban areas for each State shall be determined by the Central Government and the total number of persons to be covered in such rural and urban areas of the State shall be calculated on the basis of the population estimates as per the census of which the relevant figures have been published. The responsibility for identification of eligible beneficiaries under NFSA lies with the respective State/UT. All States/UTs have been advised to identify the eligible beneficiaries under NFSA upto their respective coverage limit.

The Central Government, to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of NFSA, has decided to provide food grains free of cost to the beneficiaries under AAY households (@35 Kg of food grains per family per month) and PHH beneficiaries (@5Kg of food grains per person per month) covered under NFSA, 2013, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st Jan 2023.

(b): Production of foodgrains depend on several factors such as rainfall, climatic condition etc. in the area. As per Second Advance Estimates of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, total production of foodgrains in Rajasthan during 2022-23 may be 24210.79 thousand tones.

(c) & (d): The Targeted Public Distribution System is now governed as per the provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013. The number of beneficiaries covered under the Act during the last three years are as follows:

(In Crore)

2020-21 (As on 31.03.2021)	2021-22 (As on 31.03.2022)	2022-23 (As on 14.03.2023)
79.33	79.73	80.11
