

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.253  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023

**DISCONTINUATION OF PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN  
ANNA YOJANA**

253 SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:  
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have discontinued the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana(PMGKAY) launched in 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has decided to provide free foodgrains like rice, wheat and coarse grains to eligible households under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 for a period of one year beginning 1st January,2023; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the amount earmarked for distribution of free food grains to eligible households?

**A N S W E R**  
**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

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(a) & (b): Phase VII of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was in operation upto December, 2022. However, 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 AAY households and PHH beneficiaries under NFSA, 2013, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st Jan 2023.

(c) & (d): The Central Government has decided to provide foodgrains free of cost to about 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries i.e. AAY Families and PHH persons. The decision is taken to strengthen the provisions of NFSA in terms of accessibility, affordability and availability of entitled foodgrains for the poor and ensure effective and uniform implementation of National Food Security Act 2013. The additional cost of making foodgrains free of cost to the NFSA beneficiaries will be borne by Government of India. The decision of providing free foodgrains to AAY and PHH beneficiaries shall be effective for one year, from 1st January 2023.

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