

ORIGINAL IN HINDI

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2429
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2024

CANCELLATION OF FAKE RATION CARDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

2429 # **SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:**

Will the Minister of *Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people currently provided free ration by Government across the country;
- (b) the percentage of ration cards linked to Aadhaar due to digitisation of ration cards;
- (c) the details of the number of ration cards cancelled due to digitisation, State-wise;
- (d) the percentage of beneficiaries whose eKYCs have been done through the Public Distribution System till date and the number of beneficiaries remaining along with details thereof; and
- (e) the other schemes of Government related to the distribution of food to such people of lower classes who are deprived of such process?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): At present, 80.67 Crore persons are provided food grains free of cost under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).

(b): At present, 99.8% of ration cards under PMGKAY have been seeded with Aadhaar number of at least one member of the beneficiary household.

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(c): As an outcome of the use of technology in TPDS operations since 2013, i.e., digitization of ration cards/beneficiary databases, Aadhaar seeding, de-duplication process, identification of duplicates, ineligible records, deaths, permanent migration of beneficiaries, etc. all States/UTs have been able to weed-out approx. 5.87 crore ration cards between 2013 to 2024 (till date) in order to achieve rightful targeting. A statement showing State-wise deleted Ration Cards is at **Annexure.**

(d): At present, out of total 80.67 crore PMGKAY beneficiaries, eKYC of approx. 65% of PMGKAY beneficiaries have been completed across the country. This Department has requested all States/UTs to expedite the eKYC process.

(e): The National Food Security Act (NFSA) provides that pregnant women and lactating mothers and children in the age group of 6 months to 14 years are entitled to meals as per prescribed nutritional norms under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and PM-POSHAN schemes. Higher nutritional norms are prescribed for malnourished children upto 6 years of age. In order to improve the nutritional standards in targeted beneficiaries, the Government has revised the nutritional norms specified in Schedule-II of the Act, vide notification dated 25.01.2023.

In order to achieve uniform nutritional impact of fortified rice among the targeted population, the Government of India is supplying fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme, and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme and in Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) in all States and Union Territories (UTs). The initiative was scaled up in three phases - Phase I (2021-22) covering ICDS & PM-POSHAN, Phase II (2022-23) covering ICDS, PM-POSHAN and 291 Aspirational & High Burden districts under TPDS and Phase III (2023-24) covering ICDS, PM POSHAN and all districts under TPDS. Custom-milled rice has been replaced with fortified rice in every scheme of the Government and 100% coverage of distribution of fortified rice has been achieved by March, 2024. The Cabinet has approved the continuation of this Central Sector Initiative (fully funded by the Government) upto December 2028.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2429 FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2024 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

A statement showing deleted Ration Cards from 2013 to 2024 (till date)

Sl.	State/UT	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	43,68,125
2	Andaman & Nicobar	2,142
3	Arunachal Pradesh	21,040
4	Assam	4,08,011
5	Bihar	13,81,584
6	Chandigarh	3,063
7	Chhattisgarh	15,16,532
8	DNH and Daman & Diu	15,027
9	Delhi	3,27,297
10	Goa	1,74,496
11	Gujarat	8,15,734
12	Haryana	15,21,067
13	Himachal Pradesh	79,569
14	Jammu and Kashmir	1,27,872
15	Jharkhand	11,26,620
16	Karnataka	31,32,421
17	Kerala	2,46,791
18	Ladakh	702
19	Lakshadweep	1,568
20	Madhya Pradesh	25,17,627
21	Maharashtra	46,12,756
22	Manipur	95,245
23	Meghalaya	15,123
24	Mizoram	12,578
25	Nagaland	51,952
26	Odisha	7,81,573
27	Puducherry	1,09,306
28	Punjab	7,59,558
29	Rajasthan	25,58,261
30	Sikkim	29,278
31	Tamil Nadu	7,89,063
32	Telangana	22,33,749
33	Tripura	2,00,665
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,93,54,572
35	Uttarakhand	7,72,367
36	West Bengal	85,59,560
	Grand Total	5,87,22,894
