

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2757
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2025

PMGKAY IN TAMIL NADU

2757 **SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:**

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

- (a) the total number of beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu who have received food grains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) since its inception, district-wise;
- (b) whether any additional assistance has been provided to vulnerable groups such as migrant workers, homeless individuals, and daily wage earners under PMGKAY in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) if so, the details of the distribution mechanism followed to reach these vulnerable groups in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Union Government to enhance the reach and efficiency of PMGKAY in Tamil Nadu, especially in remote and underserved areas?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): The District wise beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) is at **Annexure**.

(b) to (d): Under PMGKAY, free foodgrains are provided to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Household (PHH). As per the guidelines issued by the GoI the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households consists of following categories:

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- i. Landless agriculture labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/craftsmen and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector in both rural and urban areas.
- ii. Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons/persons aged above 60 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support.
- iii. Widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons/persons aged above 60 years or more or single women or single men with no family or societal support or assured means of subsistence.
- iv. All primitive tribal households
- v. All eligible Below Poverty line (BPL) families of HIV positive persons.

Thus, all the vulnerable groups have already been covered under AAY category in PMGKAY. The ceiling of AAY ration cards in Tamil Nadu as per TPDS Control order, 2015 is 18.65 lakh and as on date total 18.64 lakh AAY cards (65.78 lakh beneficiaries) have already been issued which are receiving free food grains (35 KGs per Ration Card) under PMGKAY every month.

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) governed under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries & families, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries, supervision and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/ UT Governments.

It is the prerogative of the Tamil Nadu state as per Clause 10 of NFSA, 2013 to identify and update the list of eligible beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY).

Union Government has laid down a robust mechanism to seamlessly distribute the food grains under PMGKAY through Fair Price Shops in the state. At present, Tamil Nadu has 34,805 FPS across the state of which 100% of those are equipped with ePoS devices for authenticated distribution. Also, the Government has also taken up the matter with Department of Telecommunication (DoT) for ensuring network connectivity at all FPS across the nation to ensure efficiency and transparency in the PDS system enabling authenticated transactions and establishing that the food grains reach the intended beneficiaries.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2757 FOR ANSWER ON 25.03.2025 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

District wise PMGKAY Beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu (As on date)

S. No.	State Name	District Name	Total Beneficiaries
1	TAMIL NADU	ARIYALUR	5,32,695
2	TAMIL NADU	CHENGALPATTU	4,81,845
3	TAMIL NADU	CHENNAI	24,89,117
4	TAMIL NADU	COIMBATORE	11,77,529
5	TAMIL NADU	CUDDALORE	16,04,342
6	TAMIL NADU	DHARMAPURI	9,75,396
7	TAMIL NADU	DINDIGUL	10,59,228
8	TAMIL NADU	ERODE	9,04,160
9	TAMIL NADU	KALLAKURICHI	7,68,797
10	TAMIL NADU	KANCHIPURAM	7,84,615
11	TAMIL NADU	KANNIYAKUMARI	9,91,368
12	TAMIL NADU	KARUR	5,12,326
13	TAMIL NADU	KRISHNAGIRI	10,09,772
14	TAMIL NADU	MADURAI	13,53,527
15	TAMIL NADU	MAYILADUTHURAI	3,50,873
16	TAMIL NADU	NAGAPATTINAM	6,63,798
17	TAMIL NADU	NAMAKKAL	7,74,292
18	TAMIL NADU	PERAMBALUR	3,50,263
19	TAMIL NADU	PUDUKKOTTAI	11,20,794
20	TAMIL NADU	RAMANATHAPURAM	7,78,397
21	TAMIL NADU	RANIPET	3,82,720
22	TAMIL NADU	SALEM	17,33,833
23	TAMIL NADU	SIVAGANGA	7,71,778
24	TAMIL NADU	TENKASI	4,96,331
25	TAMIL NADU	THANJAVUR	13,01,656
26	TAMIL NADU	THENI	6,33,546
27	TAMIL NADU	THE NILGIRIS	4,21,869
28	TAMIL NADU	THIRUVALLUR	8,88,338
29	TAMIL NADU	THIRUVARUR	7,55,932
30	TAMIL NADU	TIRUCHIRAPPALLI	12,93,854
31	TAMIL NADU	TIRUNELVELI	9,70,488
32	TAMIL NADU	TIRUPATHUR	4,52,406
33	TAMIL NADU	TIRUPPUR	8,10,130
34	TAMIL NADU	TIRUVANNAMALAI	16,16,518
35	TAMIL NADU	TUTICORIN	9,22,759
36	TAMIL NADU	VELLORE	9,47,655
37	TAMIL NADU	VILLUPURAM	15,77,072
38	TAMIL NADU	VIRUDHUNAGAR	9,18,512
Total			3,55,78,531
