

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1809
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH AUGUST, 2025

FOODGRAINS SUPPLIED THROUGH PMGKAY

1809 SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

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

- (a): the foodgrains being provided under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);
- (b): the steps taken to strengthen nutritional security through this scheme;
- (c): the provisions made in this scheme for women and children; and
- (d): the remedies available in case the beneficiaries are not supplied foodgrain as per their prescribed entitlement?

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

(a): Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), free of cost foodgrains are distributed to the beneficiaries. The term “foodgrains” is defined as rice, wheat or coarse grains or any combination thereof conforming to such quality norms as may be determined, by order, by the Central Government from time to time.

(b): 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. Further, in order to improve the level of nutrition, an advisory has also been issued to all the States/UTs to procure millets and distribute them to beneficiaries as per local consumption preferences and as per guidelines issued by the Central Government from time to time.

The Government launched the Anemia Mukh Bharat (AMB) initiative in 2018, emphasizing fortified foods. A pilot program for rice fortification began in 2019, targeting the significant portion of the population that consumes rice. 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 Government of India has approved the continuation of the universal supply of fortified rice under all central government schemes in its present form until December 2028. This initiative will continue as a central sector initiative with 100% funding by the Government of India as part of PMGKAY (Food Subsidy).

(c): The National Food Security Act, 2013 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.

(d): Section 8 of NFSA provides that in case of non- supply of the entitled quantities of foodgrains to entitled persons, such persons shall be entitled to receive such food security allowance in cash from the concerned State Government, within such time and manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government. Government of India notified Food Security Allowance Rule, 2015 on 21.01.2015 in this regard.
