

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2592
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2025

**DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD GRAINS TO BENEFICIARIES IN UTTARAKHAND
UNDER PMGKAY**

2592 **DR. KALPANA SAINI:**

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

- (a): the main objective of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and the total number of beneficiaries under this scheme in the State of Uttarakhand at present;
- (b): the total amount of foodgrains (rice/wheat) distributed in the State of Uttarakhand in the last three years;
- (c): whether all the eligible beneficiaries of Uttarakhand are regularly receiving benefits under this scheme, if not, the main reasons therefor; and
- (d): whether Government is taking any technical or other initiative to monitor and ensure transparency of this scheme?

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

(a): The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was launched with the specific purpose of ameliorating the hardships faced by the poor and needy due to economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. In view of COVID crisis, the allocation of free foodgrains, under PMGKAY was in addition to regular allocation for around 80 crore beneficiaries. The scheme was operational in seven phases. Phase VII of the PMGKAY was in operation upto 31.12.2022.

In order to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of the programme for support of the poor, the Central Government decided to provide food grains free of cost to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and Priority Households (PHH) beneficiaries, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st January 2023 under the PMGKAY. The Period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for further five years w.e.f 1st January 2024.

At present, The State Government of Uttarakhand has identified beneficiaries upto the maximum permissible limit i.e. 61.94 lakh beneficiaries

(b): The amount of foodgrains distributed in State of Uttarakhand in the last three years is as follows:

FY Year	Distribution
2023-24	3,40,706 MT
2024-25	3,73,870 MT
2025-26*	2,78,660 MT

*-as on, 31.07.2025

(c): PMGKAY is being successfully implemented in all the States/UTs including state of Uttarakhand. The foodgrains are being distributed to beneficiaries as per their entitlement under the PMGKAY.

(d): As part of the technology driven Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) reforms, with the aim to improve the transparency and accountability in the TPDS, ration cards/beneficiaries database have been completely digitized (100%) in all States/UTs. The transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll-free number have been implemented in all States/UTs. Also, online allocation has been implemented in all States/UTs and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Urban area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme). Further, for better tracking of foodgrains distribution, nearly 5.41 Lakh (99.6%) out of total 5.43 Lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices for the distribution of foodgrains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries.
