

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2921
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH AUGUST, 2025

BENEFICIARIES UNDER PMGKAY

2921 **SMT. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:**
SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:
SHRI MANAN KUMAR MISHRA:

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

- (a) the details of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY);
- (b) the objectives of this scheme;
- (c) the number of beneficiaries/families that are currently covered under this scheme; and
- (d) the quantity of foodgrains distributed by the States/UTs in the current year?

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

(a & b): 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. A total quantity of approx. 1118 LMT foodgrains was allocated under PMGKAY (Phase I-VII) for the period of 28 months with a total planned financial outlay was about Rs. 3.91 lakh crore.

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 had decided to provide food grains free of cost to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and Priority Households (PHH) beneficiaries, beginning from 1st January 2023 under the PMGKAY. The period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for five years from 1st January, 2024.

(c): At present, against the intended coverage of 81.35 crore, the States/UTs have identified 80.56 crore person. Still, there is a scope of identification of 0.79 crore more beneficiaries under the NFSA.

(d): During the current financial year (Till 31.07.2025), 303.42 Lakh MT of foodgrains has been distributed by all the States/UTs.
