

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 211
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND DECEMBER, 2025

COVERAGE OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER PDS

211 DR. VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:

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

- (a) the details of the total number of beneficiaries covered under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in last five years across the country, State-wise and district-wise for Punjab;
- (b) the measures taken by Government to ensure transparency and reduce leakages in the distribution of foodgrains under PDS, especially in Punjab;
- (c) the details of the Fair Price Shops in the country, State-wise and district-wise for Punjab; and
- (d) the details of the Fair Price Shops closed in the country in last five years including State of Punjab?

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

(a): The Public Distribution System (PDS) is now governed as per the provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013. The Act provides for coverage of 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population, which at Census, 2011 population comes out to around 81.35 crore persons. A statement indicating State/UT (including Punjab) wise number of beneficiaries covered under the Act during the last 5 years is at **Annexure I**. District wise data is not maintained by the department.

(b): In order to ensure proper functioning of the Act, reforms in the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are being undertaken in consonance with Section 12 of the Act. Some of these reforms include digitization of ration cards / beneficiaries database, seeding of unique identification numbers (Aadhaar) in digitized database, online allocation of foodgrains, computerization of Supply Chain Management, automation of Fair Price Shops, portability of ration cards, full transparency of records and putting in place of a strong Grievance redressal machinery.

In order to ensure transparency and accountability in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Act provides for periodic social audits on the functioning of fair price shops, Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes, through local authority, or any other authority or body, as may be authorized by the State Government. The Central Government may also conduct or cause to be conducted social audit through independent agencies having experience in conduct of such audits

In addition to this, the Act provides for constitution of Vigilance Committees at the State, District, Block and fair price shop levels for ensuring transparency and proper functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System and accountability of the functionaries in the system.

(c): The TPDS under the NFSA is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/ Union Territory (UT) Governments. The operational responsibility including issuance of licenses to Fair Price Shops (FPSs), supervision and monitoring of the functioning of Fair Price Shops etc., rest with the concerned State/UT Government. A statement indicating state-wise number of Fair Price Shops in the country is at **Annexure-II**. A statement indicating district-wise number of Fair Price Shops in the State of Punjab is at **Annexure-III**.

(d): The data in respect of Fair Price Shops closed in the country in last five year including State of Punjab is not maintained by this Department.

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 211 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2025 REGARDING "COVERAGE OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER PDS".

Statement indicating the State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries covered under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) during last five years in the country.

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	Actual number of beneficiaries covered (In lakh)					
		As on 31.03.2021	As on 31.03.2022	As on 31.03.2023	As on 31.3.2024	As on 31.03.2025	As on 31.10.2025
1	Andhra Pradesh	268.22	268.22	268.22	268.22	268.22	268.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.44	8.44
3	Assam	250.30	251.17	251.17	251.17	247.98	247.98
4	Bihar	871.16	871.16	871.16	871.16	871.16	871.16
5	Chhattisgarh	200.77	200.77	200.77	200.77	200.77	200.77
6	Delhi	72.78	72.78	72.78	72.78	72.78	72.78
7	Goa	5.32	5.32	5.32	5.32	5.32	5.32
8	Gujarat	341.71	345.15	344.15	351.60	365.84	365.84
9	Haryana	126.49	126.49	126.49	126.49	126.49	126.49
10	Himachal Pradesh	28.64	28.64	28.64	28.64	29.88	29.88
11	Jharkhand	263.70	264.26	264.19	264.19	264.19	264.19
12	Karnataka	401.93	401.93	401.93	401.93	401.93	401.93
13	Kerala	154.80	154.80	154.80	154.80	154.80	154.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	470.47	482.59	511.32	534.79	534.79	534.79
15	Maharashtra	700.17	700.17	700.17	700.17	700.17	700.17
16	Manipur	18.60	19.97	20.08	20.08	20.87	20.87
17	Meghalaya	21.46	21.46	21.46	21.46	21.46	21.46
18	Mizoram	6.68	6.68	6.81	6.83	7.05	7.05
19	Nagaland	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05
20	Odisha	324.33	324.15	325.03	325.98	325.17	325.17
21	Punjab	141.51	141.51	141.51	141.45	141.45	141.45
22	Rajasthan	440.01	440.01	440.01	440.01	440.01	440.01
23	Sikkim	3.79	3.79	3.81	3.81	3.81	3.81

24	Tamil Nadu	364.69	364.69	364.12	364.12	364.12	364.12
25	Telangana	191.62	191.62	191.62	191.62	191.70	191.70
26	Tripura	24.83	24.83	24.43	24.43	24.43	24.43
27	Uttar Pradesh	1465.94	1487.44	1497.77	1505.19	1498.70	1498.70
28	Uttarakhand	61.94	61.94	61.94	61.94	61.94	61.94
29	West Bengal	601.84	601.84	601.84	601.84	601.84	601.84
30	A&N	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61
31	DNH&DD	2.86	3.02	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69
32	Lakshadweep	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
33	Chandigarh (DBT)	2.80	2.76	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99
34	Puducherry (DBT)	6.30	6.23	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34
35	J&K	72.41	72.41	72.41	72.41	72.41	72.41
36	Ladakh	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44
Total		7932.80	7972.53	8010.70	8049.94	8056.05	8056.05

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 211 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2025 REGARDING “COVERAGE OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER PDS”.

Statement indicating the State-wise Fair Price Shops in the Country as of 25.11.2025.

S.No.	States/UTs	Fair Price Shop Count
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	435
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	29,804
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1,987
4	ASSAM	35,026
5	BIHAR	51,965
6	CHHATTISGARH	13,982
7	DADAR & NAGAR HAVELI and DAMAN & DIU	115
8	DELHI	1,964
9	GOA	490
10	GUJARAT	16,472
11	HARYANA	10,333
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	5,405
13	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	6,645
14	JHARKHAND	24,889
15	KARNATAKA	20,862
16	KERALA	13,805
17	LADAKH	409
18	LAKSHADWEEP	29
19	MADHYA PRADESH	26,016
20	MAHARASHTRA	59,874
21	MANIPUR	3,010
22	MEGHALAYA	4,820
23	MIZORAM	1,264
24	NAGALAND	1,857
25	ODISHA	13,926
26	PUNJAB	19,814
27	RAJASTHAN	27,263
28	SIKKIM	1,316
29	TAMIL NADU	34,849
30	TELANGANA	17,264
31	TRIPURA	2,077
32	UTTARAKHAND	9,163
33	UTTAR PRADESH	73,138
34	WEST BENGAL	21,084
	TOTAL	551,352

ANNEXURE III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 211 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2025 REGARDING “COVERAGE OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER PDS”.

Statement indicating the District-wise Fair Price Shops in the State of Punjab as of 25.11.2025.

S.No.	State Name	District name	Fair Price Shop Count
1	PUNJAB	AMRITSAR	1,957
2	PUNJAB	BARNALA	302
3	PUNJAB	BATHINDA	650
4	PUNJAB	FARIDKOT	453
5	PUNJAB	FATEHGARH SAHIB	396
6	PUNJAB	FAZILKA	729
7	PUNJAB	FIROZEPUR	897
8	PUNJAB	GURDASPUR	1,576
9	PUNJAB	HOSHIARPUR	830
10	PUNJAB	JALANDHAR	1,454
11	PUNJAB	KAPURTHALA	427
12	PUNJAB	LUDHIANA	2,288
13	PUNJAB	MALERKOTLA	350
14	PUNJAB	MANSA	583
15	PUNJAB	MOGA	698
16	PUNJAB	PATHANKOT	609
17	PUNJAB	PATIALA	1,498
18	PUNJAB	RUPNAGAR	401
19	PUNJAB	SANGRUR	1,178
20	PUNJAB	S.A.S NAGAR	442
21	PUNJAB	SHAHID BHAGAT SINGH NAGAR	308
22	PUNJAB	SRI MUKTSAR SAHIB	786
23	PUNJAB	TARN TARAN	1,002
		TOTAL	19,814
