

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 358  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026**

**RATION CARD FOR TRANSGENDERS**

**358 SMT. RAJATHI:**

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

- (a): whether Government is aware that most of the members of the transgender community have not been provided with ration Cards;
- (b): the measures taken by Government to ensure inclusion of members of Transgender community in various schemes undertaken by the Ministry, especially from food security point of view; and
- (c): the number of ration cards issued to transgenders year-wise since 2021 in compliance of the NALSA judgement on the inclusion of the transgender community?

**A N S W E R**

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

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(a) to (c): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of rural population and upto 50% of urban population thus covering about two-thirds of the total population of the country which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore. Coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

Identification of beneficiaries under the Act is under two categories- households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) to the extent specified by the Central Government and the remaining households as priority households to be identified by the State Governments/ Union Territories (UT) Administrations as per criteria evolved by them, within the coverage determined for the State/UT. There is no specific provision for Transgender persons under the Act.

The Central Government has issued advisories to all the States/Union Territories to ensure that partners in Queer relationship are not subjected to any discrimination in the issuance of the ration card.

At present, 217611 transgender are covered under the NFSA for getting free of cost foodgrains.

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