

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.159  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER  
NFSS IN RAJASTHAN

†159. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent a proposal to the Union Government regarding increasing the number of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Scheme (NFSS);
- (b) if so, the details of the progress made on such proposal;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to take positive action in this direction to again review the number of beneficiaries to be covered under the NFSS according to the size of the population in the State of Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (d): The exercise of State-wise coverage within the overall national coverage under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) was done by the erstwhile Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog) using the 68th round of National Sample Survey Organization Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (2011-12). A State-wise cut off level of monthly expenditure was arrived at separately for rural and urban areas and population below this cut off monthly expenditure was eligible for coverage under the Act. The methodology of Planning Commission was such that the percentage coverage under NFSA was not uniform across all States/Union Territories. Coverage was higher for those States/Union Territories, where the size of the population below the cut off level of expenditure was relatively large in proportion to their total population vis-à-vis those states where the proportion was smaller. Therefore, the coverage of some States like Rajasthan was lower vis-à-vis those States that had a higher poverty ratio as compared to Rajasthan.

Representations have been received from various States/UTs including Rajasthan regarding enhancement of beneficiary coverage under the NFSA. As the criteria for determination of coverage under the Act as arrived at by the erstwhile Planning Commission is uniformly applicable for all the States/UTs, no request of any of the State Government has been considered by the Central Government.

At present, no proposal for revision of beneficiary coverage of Rajasthan under NFSA is under active consideration of the Central Government.