

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2325  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**FREE FOODGRAINS UNDER PMGKAY**

**2325. SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:  
SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY:  
SHRI KOMATI REDDY VENKAT REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Government has ensured that no one goes to bed hungry, with a scheme to supply free foodgrains to over 80 crore persons for 28 months and is also continuing their commitment to ensure food and nutritional security, and are implementing, from 1st January 2023, a scheme to supply free foodgrains to all Antyodaya and priority households for the next one year, under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for which the entire expenditure of about Rs.2 lakh crore will be borne by the Central Government;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the steps being taken/implementation status in this regard, State/district-wise covered till now and funds sanctioned/spent and the number of beneficiaries identified till date; and**
- (d) 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): To ameliorate the hardship faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by Covid-19 pandemic and to minimize the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on food security, Government of India in March 2020 had announced the distribution of additional foodgrains, free of cost to about 80 crore beneficiaries (i.e. Antyodaya Anna Yojana Households and Priority Households) covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) at the scale of 5 kg per person per month under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). Under this scheme the Government of India allocated a total of about 1118 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) of foodgrains to the States/Union Territories (UTs). The scheme was operational in seven phases. Phase VII of the PMGKAY was in operation upto 31.12.2022.**

**Keeping in view welfare of the Priority Household (PHH) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) beneficiaries and to relive them from the burden to pay the Central Issue Price of the foodgrains as well as in order to maintain uniformity throughout the States, free foodgrains is being provided to these beneficiaries as per their entitlements under the NFSA, for a period of one year from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. The entire cost of free foodgrains to NFSA beneficiaries shall be borne by the Government of India.**

**The Act is being implemented in all the States/UTs and foodgrains free of cost are being provided to about 80 crore beneficiaries in the country. A statement indicating the State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 is at Annexure. District wise data is not maintained by the Central Government.**

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# ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2325 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2023 REGARDING "FREE FOODGRAINS UNDER PMGKAY".

Statement indicating the State/UT-wise number of persons covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	Total number of beneficiaries identified under NFSA (in lakh) - As on 28.02.2023
1	Andhra Pradesh	268.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40
3	Assam	251.17
4	Bihar	871.16
5	Chhattisgarh	200.77
6	Delhi	72.78
7	Goa	5.32
8	Gujarat	344.15
9	Haryana	126.49
10	Himachal Pradesh	28.64
11	Jharkhand	264.12
12	Karnataka	401.93
13	Kerala	154.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	511.32
15	Maharashtra	700.17
16	Manipur	20.08
17	Meghalaya	21.46
18	Mizoram	6.68
19	Nagaland	14.05
20	Odisha	325.03
21	Punjab	141.51
22	Rajasthan	440.01
23	Sikkim	3.81
24	Tamil Nadu	364.69
25	Telangana	191.62
26	Tripura	24.32
27	Uttar Pradesh	1497.77
28	Uttarakhand	61.94
29	West Bengal	601.84
30	A&N	0.61
31	DNH&DD	2.73
32	Lakshadweep	0.22
33	Chandigarh (DBT)	2.76
34	Puducherry (DBT)	6.34
35	J&K	72.41
36	Ladakh	1.44
<b>Total</b>		<b>8010.78</b>

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