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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2394 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2023

DISCONTINUATION OF PMGKAY

2394. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

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

- (a) the rationale behind discontinuation of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);
- (b) whether any stakeholder consultations were held before discontinuation of PMGKAY;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any studies have been conducted to assess the impact of discontinuation of PMGKAY on food security of the poor beneficiaries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) the details of expenditure incurred by the Government on PMGKAY, phase-wise; and
- (g) the details of decrease in expenditure burden of the Government due to the closure of PMGKAY?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) had been 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. The allocation of free foodgrains, under PMGKAY was in addition to normal allocation done under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. Phase VII of PMGKAY was in operation upto 31.12.2022. A total quantity of approx. 1118 LMT foodgrains had been allocated under PMGKAY (Phase I-VII) during the period April, 2020 to December, 2022.

The Central Government, to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of NFSA, has decided to provide food grains free of cost to the beneficiaries under AAY households and PHH beneficiaries covered under NFSA, 2013, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st Jan 2023.

(f) & (g): Under the PMGKAY (Phase I to VII), the entire expenditure towards food subsidy, intra-State movement & handling of foodgrains and fair price shop dealers' margin were borne by the Central Government without any sharing from States/UTs. Allocation under various phases of PMGKAY and Maximum financial Implications are as under:-

Phases	Allocation of foodgrains	Maximum Financial implications
	(in Lakh MTs)	(In Rs crores)
PMGKAY-I (April-June, 2020)	120	44834
PMGKAY-II (July-November, 2020)	201	68351
PMGKAY-III (May & June, 2021)	80	26602
PMGKAY-IV (July-November, 2021)	199	67266
PMGKAY-V (December, 2021- March, 2022	159	53344
PMGKAY-VI (April-September, 2022)	239	85838
PMGKAY-VII (October-December, 2022)	120	44762
Total	1118	390997

Phase VII of PMGKAY got over on 31.12.2022.Details of yearwise fund released under PMGKAY are as under:

(In Rs Crore)

Year	Fund released	
2020-21	1,02,025.09	
2021-22	1,19,096.01	
2022-23	90,265.54	
Total	3,11,386.64	
