

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.967
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH FEBRUARY, 2023**

HALVING THE RATION ENTITLEMENT IN PMGKAY

967. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:

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 the Government has decided to discontinue the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) introduced during the pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that as a consequence of this decision the ration entitlement of 81 crore people will be halved as they will be entitled to only 5 kg of ration per person instead of 10 kg; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

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 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. Total food grains allocation under PMGKAY-I to VII was about 1118 LMT & financial outlay planned was about Rs 3.91 lakh crore.

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 around 80 crore NFSA beneficiaries i.e. AAY Families (@35 Kg of food grains per family per month) and PHH beneficiaries (@5Kg of food grains per person per month) under NFSA, 2013, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st Jan 2023.
