

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1281
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2021**

IMPLEMENTATION OF PMGKAY

1281. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

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

- (a) the measures introduced by the Ministry to address the food security and nutritional challenges during the lockdown period;**
- (b) the challenges faced by Government in ensuring food security during lockdown;**
- (c) the changes in the current status of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) schemes in 2020;**
- (d) the foodgrains allotted under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) since inception so far, State-wise; and**
- (e) whether the Ministry has increased the scope of the schemes to tackle increasing food insecurity during the pandemic, if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

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

(a): In pursuance of the pro-poor measures under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package as part of the Economic Response to COVID -19, Govt of India had launched scheme i.e Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana(PMGKAY) for additional allocation of food-grains from the Central Pool @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/National Food Security Act(NFSA) (Antyodaya Anna Yojana(AAY) & Priority Households(PHH)) including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for a period of 8 months i.e April-November, 2020. During the period of 8 months, about 322 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) of food-grains had been allocated to approx. 80 crore beneficiaries.

.....2/-

The above PMGKAY scheme has also been implemented during the year 2021 for the period of 7 months i.e May-November, 2021. Accordingly, about 278 LMT foodgrains have been allocated free of cost to approximately 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries.

In addition to foodgrains, during the year 2020, under PMGKAY-pulses have also been provided @ 1kg per household per month for 8 months i.e April to November, 2020 free of cost to all beneficiaries under NFSA covering 19.4 crore households. During the period April-June, 2020 an adjusted allocation of about 5.65 LMT pulses have been made in comparison to 5.82 LMT pulses allotted originally for 3 months and during the period July-November, 2020 an adjusted allocation of about 8.82 LMT whole chana have been made in comparison to 9.38 LMT of whole chana allotted originally for 5 months.

Also, under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package (ANBP), allocation of free foodgrain(wheat and rice) for migrants/stranded migrants, who are not covered under NFSA or state ration card, @ 5 kg per person per month for two months i.e May and June, 2020 was made.

Under ANBP, whole Chana was also provided @ 1kg per household per month for two months, May and June, free of cost to migrants, who were not covered under NFSA, 2013 or were without ration card in the States/UTs in which they were stranded. Accordingly, a quantity of 27,001.19 MT whole Chana was allotted for two months (May-June, 2020).

The allocation of foodgrains/pulses/chana under PMGKAY and ANBP is in addition to normal allocation done under the NFSA.

(b): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments, wherein the operational responsibilities pertain with the State/UT. No specific challenges were reported by the States/UTs. Distribution of free of cost foodgrains under PMGKAY was monitored constantly through virtual meetings with States/UTs. In addition, Monitoring institutions engaged by the Govt. have conducted evaluation studies and reported a very high level of satisfaction with implementation of food security measures during COVID-19. The distribution of foodgrains under NFSA and PMGKAY was found to be on the average of nearly 93-94%. Foodgrains have been distributed to nearly 75 crore beneficiaries every month during the lockdown.