

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1294  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

FREE FOOD DURING LOCKDOWN

†1294. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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 is likely to continue the arrangement of providing free foodgrains to needy people as done during the lockdown in view of the lack of economic and commercial activities; and
- (b) 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)

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(a) & (b): Yes Sir, to ameliorate the hardships faced by poor and vulnerable section of society due to economic disruption caused by Corona pandemic, the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) has been extended upto 30.11.2021. Under the scheme, foodgrains (Rice, Wheat or combination of both) have been allocated to all the States/UTs for free of cost distribution to all the beneficiaries covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) [Antodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) & Priority Households (PHH)] including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), @ 5 kg per person per month. The number of identified beneficiaries under the scheme is around 80 Crore, however it varies depending on the identification of beneficiaries done by States/UTs from time to time.