

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3488
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH AUGUST, 2021**

IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTYODAYA SCHEME

**†3488. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:**

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

- (a) the fund sanctioned, allocated and utilised in Maharashtra and Rajasthan under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana during the last three years;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries covered in the country including in the districts of Washim-Yavatmal and Ramtek of Maharashtra under the scheme during the last three years till now together with the quantity of foodgrains lifted in it by States, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has recently made or proposes to make any amendments in the aforesaid scheme, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;
- (e) the details of the prescribed criteria to identify the households for providing benefit under the aforesaid scheme; and
- (f) whether any study has been conducted or proposed to be conducted to find out that earmarked food grains are actually reaching the targeted groups of people or not, if so, the details thereof and 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): This Department allocates only subsidized foodgrains to States/UTs for monthly distribution to all National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 ration card holders, including families covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), instead of allocation of funds. Details of foodgrains distributed by States/UTs under NFSA are shared with this Department for settlement etc. Further, it is stated that Rajasthan has not submitted any subsidy claims during the last three years. However, details of subsidy released to Maharashtra during the last three years under AAY scheme is as under:

Year	Amount (in Rs. crore)
2018-19	299.06
2019-20	405.21
2020-21	416.74

(b): NFSA is operated in the joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments, where inter-alia, the operational responsibilities for identification of eligible households/ beneficiaries under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH) categories of the Act and issuance or ration cards to them, etc. rests with the respective States/UTs. Further, the addition and deletion of ration cards under AAY is a continuous process and new ration cards are issued to the genuine eligible persons/households under AAY by all States/UTs (including Maharashtra) as per the eligibility criteria.

Presently, against the ceiling of 2.5 crore AAY families under NFSA, about 2.38 crore AAY families i.e. about 9.00 crore persons are covered by the States/UTs in the country. A statement showing State/UT wise number of AAY households and beneficiaries is at Annexure-I.

Furthermore, statements indicating State/UT wise offtake of foodgrains for the years 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and upto July, 2021 in current year are at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): The scheme has not been amended recently and there is no proposal under consideration to amend the same.

(e): As per the guidelines issued by the Government for AAY scheme, the State/UT Governments identify eligible households for inclusion under AAY as per the following identification guidelines:

(i) Landless agriculture labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans /craftsmen, such as potters, tanners, weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, slum dwellers and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector like porters, coolies, rickshaw pullers, hand cart pullers, fruit and flower sellers, snake charmers, rag pickers, cobblers, destitute and other similar categories in both rural and urban areas;

(ii) Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons/ persons aged 60 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support;

(iii) Widows or terminally ill persons or disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or more or single women or single men with no family or societal support or assured means of subsistence;

(iv) All primitive tribal households;

(v) All eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families of HIV positive persons.

(f) The Department had engaged 26 esteemed institutions/universities as Monitoring Institutions (MIs) for conducting the 'Concurrent Evaluation of the implementation of NFSA' in States/UTs during 2018-20. The quarterly reports were shared with the respective States/UTs for remedial action, if any highlighted by MIs in the key areas of beneficiary management, FPS automation, supply chain management, portability of ration cards, cash transfers, etc. Taking a step forward, for the period 2020-23, the Department has engaged 12 MIs for concurrent evaluation exercise in States/UTs on implementation of NFSA and some thematic areas of PDS.