

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 418  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

**DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD TO POOR PEOPLE**

†418. **SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:**  
**SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:**  
**SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA:**  
**PROF. SAUGATA RAY:**  
**SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:**

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 has worked out any scheme for free distribution of food items to around 80 crore poor, if so, the details thereof regarding number of beneficiaries and amount spent in the country including in Bundelkhand;
- (b) whether the Government has distributed pulses in addition to wheat, rice under the said scheme expenditure incurred on the same, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Kalahandi and Nuapada districts of Odisha including additional ;
- (c) whether the Government is providing 5 kg of wheat at the rate of Rs.2 per kg and rice at the rate of Rs.3 per kg per head per month to around 80 crore people for the first time under the National Food Security Act; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to provide its benefit to the last person in need in the country through Food and Public Distribution System under this scheme?

**A N S W E R**

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

(a): Yes Sir, Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, it was decided by the Govt. to provide additional allocation of food-grain @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under Targetted Public Distribution System (Antyodaya Anna Yojna & Priority Households) including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for a period of 3 months i.e April-June, 2020 (PMGKAY-Phase-I). In this package, about 121 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) of food-grains were allotted to approximately 80.96 Crore NFSA beneficiaries entailing maximum financial implications of approximately Rs. 46061 Crore.

.....2/-

Later on, extension of PMGKAY was done for a further period of 5 months i.e. up to November 2020 (PMGKAY-Phase-II). Accordingly, additional allocation of food-grain of approx. 201 LMT for these five months (i.e. July 2020 to November 2020) was made for distribution to approx. 80.43 Crore NFSA beneficiaries. Maximum financial implication for these five months was estimated to be approximately Rs. 76062.11 Crore.

In view of the 2nd wave of Covid-19 Pandemic, Govt. of India decided to provide additional foodgrains, free of cost @ 5 Kg per person per month to all the beneficiaries covered under NFSA, over and above the normal allocation of foodgrains under NFSA for two months i.e. May and June 2021 (PMGKAY-Phase-III). Accordingly, additional allocation of food-grain of approx. 79.39 LMT was made for distribution to around 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries. Maximum total financial implication was estimated to be approx. Rs. 26602.52 Crore.

Further, the Govt of India has decided to continue the PMGKAY Scheme till November, 2021 (PMGKAY-Phase-IV). Accordingly, additional allocation of food-grain of approx. 198.78 LMT has been made for free of cost distribution to approx. 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries. Maximum total financial implication for these five months i.e. July, 2021 to November, 2021 is estimated to be of approx. Rs. 67266.44 Crore. The quantity of foodgrains, number of beneficiaries etc. may vary as per actual identification of beneficiaries done by States/UTs from time to time.

In respect of Uttar Pradesh (including for Bundelkhand), a quantity of approx. 110.67 LMT of foodgrains have been allocated under PMGKAY (Phase I-IV).

(b): Yes Sir, Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package as part of Economic Response to COVID-19, Government of India also allocated pulses for distribution @1kg per household per month, free of cost, to 19.4 crore beneficiary Households as per the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). The pulses were distributed under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), for a period of three months- April to June, 2020. The Government of India maintains central buffer of pulses for price stabilization. The State-wise details of allocation and Distribution is placed at Annexure-I.

The Government of India further announced extension of PMGKAY beyond the initial period of April-June, 2020 until the end of November, 2020. During the five months' period (July to November, 2020) 1 kg whole chana was provided free of cost to each NFSA households. A quantity of 9.70 LMT milled cleaned whole Chana was supplied to States/UTs for distribution to all 19.4 crore beneficiary households under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). The State-wise details of allocation and Distribution is placed at Annexure-II.