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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1288 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH FEBRUARY, 2022

PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN ANNA YOJANA BENEFICIARIES

1288. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

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

(a) the details of supply of food grains under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) during the pandemic period;

(b) whether there was an increase in number of beneficiaries due to the Pandemic; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is planning to provide the increased beneficiaries further continued support by considering them as BPL; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a): A quantity of approx 759.87 LMT foodgrains has been allocated to all States/UT, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)(Phases I-V).

(b) to (e): Government of India enacted National Food Security Act, 2013 which provides for coverage of about 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population (67% of the total population of the country) for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which at Census 2011 comes to about 81.35 crore. The coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

Section 9 of the Act provides that the percentage coverage under the Targeted Public Distribution System in rural and urban areas for each State shall be determined by the Central Government and the total number of persons to be covered in such rural and urban areas of the State shall be calculated on the basis of the population estimates as per the census of which the relevant figures have been published. The responsibility of identifying the eligible beneficiaries under NFSA upto their respective coverage limit, rests with the States/UTs.