

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2528  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022**

**ERADICATION OF HUNGER**

**2528. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI:**

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

- (a) the number of people in the country who still face insecurity for food;**
- (b) the efforts taken by the Government to ensure eradication of hunger and starvation in the country especially in Gujarat along with the progress made so far by these measures;**
- (c) the impact of the National Food Security Act in eradicating hunger and starvation, particularly in Gujarat;**
- (d) the number of beneficiaries in Gujarat who have been getting the benefits of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH); and**
- (e) whether the Government intends to survey and maintain the number of citizens, State-wise who have died of hunger or starvation and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?**

**A N S W E R**

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

---

**(a) & (b): The Government of India accords high priority to the issue of hunger and provides foodgrains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). NFSA provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) @ Rs 1/2/3 per kg for**

**coarsegrains/wheat/rice respectively. The States/UTs are responsible for identification of beneficiaries under the Act which is under two categories- households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH). Priority Households are entitled to receive 5 Kg per person per month and AAY households are entitled to receive 35 Kg of foodgrains per household per month. NFSA has been implemented in all the States/UTs (including Gujarat) and currently covers about 79.71 crore persons for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. The coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit. The scheme of End to-End Computerization of the PDS has ensured rightful targeting of the beneficiaries all over the country. Government of India has issued advisories from time to time to all States/UTs to review their lists of beneficiaries, launch special drives to identify and cover the weakest sections of the society under TPDS and issue ration cards to them.**

**(c): To monitor the implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 and to evaluate its impact among targeted beneficiaries, Government of India has engaged reputed institutes as Monitoring Institutions (MIs) for concurrent evaluation of NFSA in States/UTs, including Gujarat.**

**The findings of the reports indicate that beneficiaries continue to receive their monthly entitlements in right quantity and at right price. The evaluation reports appreciated the various reforms undertaken by the Government of India to improve the public distribution system. Government of India regularly shares the concurrent evaluation report with States/UTs for necessary action as suggested by the monitoring institutions.**

**(d): At present, the Central Government allocates foodgrains to State Government of Gujarat, for 345.15 lakh beneficiaries identified by the State Government. The number of AAY Beneficiaries is 36.19 lakh and number of PHH beneficiaries is 308.96 lakh.**

**(e): No State Government/ Union Territory Administration have reported any incident of death due to starvation in the country so far.**

**\*\*\*\*\***