

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2870  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2022

DECREASE IN BENEFICIARIES OF FREE RATION

†2870. DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:  
SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

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

- (a) whether the number of people availing free ration facility particularly in rural areas has reduced because of increase in their income; and
- (b) if so, the details of the number of people availing free ration during the last three years, State-wise?

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): The Government's free ration scheme Pradhan Mantri Gramin Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) is provided to the beneficiaries of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) which inter-alia provides coverage for up to 75% of rural population and up to 50% of urban population across the country. NFSA provides maximum coverage for about 81.35 Crore persons as per Census 2011, and currently around 79.73 crore persons are covered under free ration scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Gramin Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).

Further, as per the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Control Order 2015, the review of ration cards/beneficiaries list, identification of bogus/ineligible/ duplicate ration cards and inclusion of genuine eligible beneficiaries/households is the responsibility of concerned State/UT Government. States/UTs have been advised to undertake proper verification (including field verification) of each identified case to ensure that ration cards of genuine beneficiaries are not deleted/ suspended. Further, States/UTs issue new ration cards to the genuinely eligible households/beneficiaries in place of cancelled ration cards under ceiling limit of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

(b): State-wise list of eligible NFSA beneficiaries to get benefits of free ration is attached as Annexure.

**Annexure**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2870 FOR ANSWER ON 03.08.2022 IN THE LOK SABHA.

**Statement showing State/UT wise coverage of beneficiaries under NFSA**

*(figures in Lakhs)*

Sl.	States/ UTs	Current Coverage of persons under NFSA (as identified by States/UTs)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.61
2	Andhra Pradesh	268.22
3	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40
4	Assam	251.17
5	Bihar	871.16
6	Chandigarh	2.76
7	Chhattisgarh	200.77
8	Dadra &NH and Daman & Diu	3.02
9	Delhi	72.78
10	Goa	5.32
11	Gujarat	345.15
12	Haryana	126.49
13	Himachal Pradesh	28.64
14	Jammu & Kashmir	72.41
15	Jharkhand	264.12
16	Karnataka	401.93
17	Kerala	154.80
18	Ladakh	1.44
19	Lakshadweep	0.22
20	Madhya Pradesh	482.58
21	Maharashtra	700.17
22	Manipur	20.08
23	Meghalaya	21.46
24	Mizoram	6.68
25	Nagaland	14.05
26	Odisha	325.03
27	Puducherry	6.34
28	Punjab	141.51
29	Rajasthan	440.01
30	Sikkim	3.79
31	Tamil Nadu	364.69
32	Telangana	191.62
33	Tripura	24.83
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,487.44
35	Uttarakhand	61.94
36	West Bengal	601.84
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,973.47</b>

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