

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5062
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND APRIL, 2025

INCLUSION OF MORE ITEMS IN PDS

5062. SHRI TANUJ PUNIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the food items presently available through the Public Distribution System (PDS) for the ration cardholders along with the rates of these items;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to include/increase the items like cereals apart from foodgrains through PDS; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) to (c): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is now governed as per the provisions of the National Food Security Act 2013. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of rural population and upto 50% of urban population for receiving foodgrains free of cost covering about two-thirds of the total population which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore. While Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute poorest of the poor are entitled to 35 kg of foodgrains, per household per month, Priority Households (PHH) are entitled to 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month free of cost.

Under the Act, the term “foodgrains” is defined as rice, wheat or coarse grains or any combination thereof conforming to such quality norms as may be determined, by order, by the Central Government from time to time. At present, no proposal to include more commodities under the Act is under consideration of the Government.
