

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2844  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**OBJECTIVES OF PMGKAY**

**2844. SMT. HIMADRI SINGH:**  
**SHRI CHINTAMANI MAHARAJ:**

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

- (a): the details and the objectives of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY);
- (b): the number of beneficiaries/families covered under the said scheme at present particularly in Shahdol Lok Sabha Constituency; and
- (c): the quantity of foodgrains distributed by the States/UTs in the current year?

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

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(a): The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was launched with the specific purpose of ameliorating the hardships faced by the poor and needy due to economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. In view of COVID crisis, the allocation of free foodgrains, under PMGKAY was in addition to regular allocation for around 80 crore beneficiaries. A total quantity of approx. 1118 LMT foodgrains was allocated under PMGKAY (Phase I-VII) for the period of 28 months with a total planned financial outlay was about Rs. 3.91 lakh crore.

In order to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of the programme for support of the poor, the Central Government had decided to provide food grains free of cost to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and Priority Households (PHH) beneficiaries, beginning from 1st January 2023 under the PMGKAY. The period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for five years from 1st January, 2024.

(b): At present, against the intended coverage of 81.35 crore, the States/UTs have identified 80.56 crore beneficiaries (including 8.28 lakh beneficiaries in the Shahdol Lok Sabha Constituency).

(c): During the current financial year (Till 31.07.2025), 303.42 Lakh MT of foodgrains has been distributed by all the States/UTs.

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