

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3906**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025

**FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION**

3906. SHRI NEERAJ MAURYA:  
SHRI DEVESH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that while India's total foodgrains production is projected to reach a record level of about 354 million tonnes (comprising 117.5 million tonnes of wheat and 149 million tonnes of rice) in 2025, on the other hand, India has been ranked 105<sup>th</sup> out of 127 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2024, which falls in the "Serious Category" (Score 27.3);

(b) whether this situation indicates that despite increase in foodgrain production its equitable distribution, malnutrition elimination and access to proper nutrition are not being ensured; and

(c) if so, the concrete and effective steps being taken by the Government to remove this anomaly?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): As per the Third Advance Estimates for 2024-25, India has achieved record production of foodgrains at 353.96 million tonnes which includes production of wheat and rice, estimated at 117.51 million tonnes and 149.07 million tonnes, respectively.

There are many international organisations who come out with various indices from time to time. However, the Household Consumption Expenditure Surveys conducted by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, indicate that there has been a positive shift of the food basket to include more of pulses, milk and milk products, fruits (dry) and other protein-based fooditems as per the latest surveys conducted during the years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Moreover, the distribution of foodgrains across various income categories have ensured that, at present about 80.56 crore beneficiaries get free foodgrains across the country.

(b) & (c): To ensure equitable distribution, malnutrition elimination and access to proper nutrition, the Government has taken several concrete and effective steps.

The National Food Security Act, 2013, is being implemented in all the States/UTs with the aim to supplement the food requirements of up to 75% of the rural and up to 50% of the urban population, which, according to the 2011 census, comes to around 81.35 crore persons. While Antyodaya Anna Yojana(AAY) households, which constitute the 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.

The Central Government, in order to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of the programme for support to the poor, had decided to provide food grains free of cost to AAY households and PHH beneficiaries, beginning from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 under the NFSA. The period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for five years from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024, with an estimated financial outlay of Rs. 11.80 lakh crore totally to be borne by the Central Government.

The Department of Food and Public Distribution has formulated and issued a Quality Control Manual, to uniformly maintain the quality standards of foodgrains from procurement to its distribution to the eligible beneficiaries. Only foodgrains conforming to Food Safety Standards are issued through the various food security programs under the NFSA. The coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

To address the challenges of malnutrition among children and women, the Government is implementing Mission Poshan 2.0, an integrated nutrition support programme that seeks to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity from malnutrition. This Mission is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented across all States/UTs.

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