

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4518  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**SMART-PDS**

**4518 SHRI BALRAM NAIK PORIKA:**

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

- (a) the details of major initiatives and schemes undertaken by the Ministry over the last five years to ensure the availability, accessibility and affordability of essential commodities for consumers across the country;
- (b) the progress and impact of the Scheme for Modernisation and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART-PDS) and its nationwide rollout status including the expected timeline for full deployment;
- (c) the data on the procurement of foodgrains under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations and the number of farmers benefited during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve transparency, efficiency and grievance redressal mechanisms within the Public Distribution System (PDS) including the implementation of the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme?

**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 National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is being implemented in all the States/UTs aims to supplement the food requirements of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore persons. 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. The Coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit. At present, against the intended coverage of 81.35 crore, 80.56 crore beneficiaries are receiving foodgrains 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 of the poor, 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 NFSA. The period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for five years from 1st January, 2024, with an estimated financial outlay of Rs. 11.80 lakh crore totally to be borne by Central Government.

Government of India also sells surplus food grains (Wheat & Rice), beyond the public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) requirements, through open sale under Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) {OMSS(D)}. This helps increase the availability of foodgrains in the market, control inflation, ensure food security and make foodgrains more affordable for the general population. In addition, Bharat Atta and Bharat Rice were launched on 06.11.2023 and 06.02.2024, respectively, with a view to provide atta (wheat flour) and rice to general consumers at subsidized rates under OMSS(D) policy.

(b): The Scheme for Modernisation and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART-PDS) Scheme envisages to strengthen the technology infrastructure in Public Distribution System (PDS) to lead the technology driven reforms and transformative change in the entire PDS ecosystem covering NFSA and State schemes. Thus, SMART-PDS is launched to sustain the Information Technology-led Reforms to be brought in the functioning of PDS Operations by overcoming the state level technological limitations of PDS operations in all States/UTs in respect of IT Hardware, Software and to institutionalize an integrated Central System covering all PDS related operations across all States/UTs. Under the Scheme, four modules viz. (i) Food Grains Procurement, (ii) Supply Chain Management/ Allocation of Grains, (iii) Ration Cards Management System & Fair Price Shop Management and (iv) Biometric Based Grains Distribution Module (eKYC) are being developed and to be implemented in phases. At present, the SMART-PDS is in development phase and the application is expected to be launched in phases by December 2025.

(c): The information relating to procurement of wheat and paddy for the last three years and current year is at **Annexure-I**. A statement showing Procurement of coarse grains is **Annexure-II** and a statement showing number of farmers benefited for coarse grains in last three-years is at **Annexure-III**.

(d): Under Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, ration cards/beneficiaries database have been completely (100%) digitized in all States/UTs, transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll-free number have been implemented in all States/UTs. Further online allocation has been implemented in all States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and urban areas of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme) and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs. Presently, 99.8% ration cards are seeded with Aadhaar number at national level and almost all FPSs have been automated by installation of e-PoS devices for the distribution of food-grains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric /Aadhaar authentication of NFSA beneficiaries. Further, One Nation One Ration Card

(ONORC) for portability of Ration Cards is implemented in all 36 States/UTs, across the country, covering 100% NFSA beneficiaries.

Helpline number 1967/1800-State series number is operational in all the States/ UTs for contacting and redressal of the complaints in Public Distribution System and filing any type of complaints by the intended beneficiaries. As and when complaints, including corruption and embezzlement in the PDS, are received in this Department from any source, they are sent to State/ UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action

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**Annexure-I**

Statement showing procurement of wheat and paddy for the last three years and current year

**Paddy Procurement, MSP value and Farmers Benefitted data**

KMS	Proc. of Paddy (In LMT)	Value at MSP (Rs in crore)	Number of Farmers Benefitted
2021-22	857.30	168031.12	12679650
2022-23	808.45	166540.91	12497077
2023-24	782.25	172329.35	10658233
2024-25 (Upto 11.08.2025)	811.05	188162.89	11498413

**Wheat Procurement, MSP value and Farmers Benefitted data**

RMS	Proc. of wheat (In LMT)	Value at MSP (Rs in crore)	Number of Farmers Benefitted
2022-23	187.92	37866.13	1783192
2023-24	261.97	55668.53	2134458
2024-25	266.05	60526.80	2248725
2025-26	300.35	72834.15	2513143

**Annexure-II****STATEMENT SHOWING PROCUREMENT OF COARSEGRAINS****(Position as on- 04.08.2025)**

KMS	COMMODITY	A.P.	GUJ	HAR	KAR	M.P.	MAH.	U.P	Odisha	U.Khand	TN	TOTAL PROC (MT)	MSP (Rs./qtl)	MSP Value (in crore)
2021-22	JOWAR(Kharif)	-	-	-	103920	32393	20262	0	-	-	-	156575	2738	428.70
	JOWAR(Rabi)	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	0	2738	0.00
	BAJRA	-	7284	-	0	5400	567	0	-	-	-	13251	2250	29.81
	MAIZE(Kharif)	-	389	-	0	0	19615	2763	-	-	-	22767	1870	42.57
	MAIZE(Rabi)	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	0	1870	0.00
	RAGI	-	-	-	404784	0	253	0	32302	-	-	437339	3377	1476.89
	Total	-	<b>7673</b>	-	<b>508703</b>	<b>37793</b>	<b>40697</b>	<b>2763</b>	<b>32302</b>	-	-	<b>629931</b>		0.00
2022-23	JOWAR	-	0	-	76897	258	1378	0	-	-	-	78533	2970	233.24
	JOWAR(Rabi)	3621	685	-	0	0	2358	0	-	-	-	6664	2970	19.79
	BAJRA	-	766	81147	0	0	10	43437	-	-	-	125360	2350	294.60
	BAJRA(Rabi)	-	56645	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	56645	2350	133.12
	MAIZE	-	0	-	0	0	48	0	-	-	-	48	1962	0.10
	MAIZE(Rabi)	-	197	-	0	0	12877	0	-	-	-	13074	1962	25.65
	RAGI	4	0	-	454404	0	636	0	-	1186	515	456745	3578	1634.23
	Total	<b>3625</b>	<b>58293</b>	<b>81147</b>	<b>531301</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>17308</b>	<b>43437</b>	-	<b>1186</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>737069</b>		0.00
2023-24	JOWAR	24466			85402		462	13340				123670	3180	393.27
	JOWAR(Rabi)	4903	2946		105019		86624.9					199493	3180	634.39
	BAJRA		33359	231334				355038				619731	2500	1549.33
	BAJRA(Rabi)		76726.45									76726	2500	191.82
	MAIZE						25	4451				4476	2090	9.35
	MAIZE(Rabi)						56					56	2090	0.12
	RAGI	376	0.75		226576		189	0.7		1889	1889	230920	3846	888.12
	Total	<b>29745</b>	<b>113032.2</b>	<b>231334</b>	<b>416997</b>		<b>87357</b>	<b>372830</b>		<b>1889</b>	<b>1889</b>	<b>1255073</b>		0.00
2024-25*	JOWAR		27		115351	908	937	46942				164165	3371	553.40
	JOWAR(Rabi)	35402	5300		78676		59534					178912		0.00
	BAJRA		3818	156000				101311				261129	2625	685.46
	BAJRA(Rabi)		82223									82223		0.00
	MAIZE						1					1	2225	0.00
	MAIZE(Rabi)		118				51	19312				19481		0.00
	RAGI	205	5		346079		233		40000	3139	3662	393323	4290	1687.36
	Total	<b>36509</b>	<b>91491</b>	<b>156000</b>	<b>540106</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>60756</b>	<b>167565</b>	<b>40000</b>	<b>3139</b>	<b>3662</b>	<b>1100136</b>		<b>0.00</b>

\*2024-25 procurement is still going on (procurement till 04.08.2025)



Annexure-III

## Statement showing number of farmers benefited for coarse grains in last three-years

Number of Farmers benefited for coarse grains (as on 30.06.2025)

KMS	Commodity	Gujarat	Karnatak a	M.P.	Maharashtra	Odisha	U.P	Tamil nadu	Haryana	Uttrakhan d	Andhra Pradesh
2021-22	Jowar		23,331	7,870	10,161						
	Bajra	3,063		1,467	480						
	Maize	148			5,789		704				
	Ragi		2,67,076		334	41,286	-				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>2,90,407</b>	<b>9,337</b>	<b>16,764</b>	<b>41,286</b>	<b>704</b>				
2022-23	Jowar	223	16,873	72	481				-		538
	Bajra	12081			4		8532		27,919		
	Maize	31			12						
	Ragi	0	3,04,537		786			332		4,860	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12335</b>	<b>3,21,410</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,283</b>		<b>8,532</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>27,919</b>	<b>4,860</b>	<b>542</b>
2023-24	Jowar	728	10,819		233		2,787				
	Bajra	22,030			0		66,903		1,32,228		
	Maize				9		908				
	Ragi	1	1,10,808		229		-	1,055		7,457	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22759</b>	<b>1,21,627</b>		<b>471</b>		<b>70,598</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,32,228</b>	<b>7,457</b>	
2024-25**	Jowar	600	17,000		950		8,000				
	Bajra	8,630			600		70,000		90,000		
	Maize	100			700		10,000				
	Ragi	50	3,10,000		220			9,600		7,500	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24,380 *</b>	<b>3,27,000</b>		<b>2,470</b>		<b>88,000</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>7,500</b>	

Note- Information as provided by State governments in their procurement proposals.

\*The total farmers likely to be benefitted during KMS 2024-25(Kharif &amp; Rabi) is 24380 including 15000 farmers for Rabi crop for which crop-wise break up of farmers benefited data has not been provided by Gujarat.

\*\* The number of likely farmers to be benefitted during KMS 2024-25(kharif crop) and KMS 2024-25 (Rabi) as per the procurement plan submitted by the State Government.