

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 602  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2025**

**FOODGRAINS FOR BPL FAMILIES**

**602. SHRI ADHIKARI DEEPAK DEV:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data on the BPL family in the country as on 30 June 2025;
- (b) if so, the details of the last five years; and
- (c) if not, the mechanisms followed by the Government for the distribution of Government foodgrain schemes to the BPL families?

**ANSWER**  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,  
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
**(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)**

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(a) to (c) In 2021, the Government has developed a comprehensive index known as Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) to measure poverty by capturing overlapping deviations in dimensions such as health, education and standard of living, covering 12 indicators. It measures both the share of people in poverty and the degree to which they are deprived. The second edition of the index was released in 2023. As per the National MPI Report, 2023 released by NITI Aayog, the proportion of population in multidimensional poverty declined from 24.85% to 14.96% between 2015-16 and 2019-21, indicating that about 135.5 million persons have escaped poverty during the period.

The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), being implemented in all the States/UTs on an all-India basis, aims to supplement the food requirements of up to 75% of the rural and up to 50% of the urban population, which, as per Census 2011, comes to 81.35 crore persons. There are two categories of beneficiaries under the Act: (1) Antyodaya Anna Yojana and (2) Priority Households. There is no BPL category under the Act. Under the Act, while Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute the poorest of the poor, are entitled to 35 kg of foodgrains per family per month, Priority Households (PHH) are entitled to 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month free of cost. At present, against the intended coverage of 81.35 crore, 80.56 crore beneficiaries are receiving foodgrains 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.

The NFSA is operated under the joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments, wherein the operational responsibilities, including the identification of eligible beneficiaries/families and distribution, rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

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