

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

**LOK SABHA**  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 371  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026

**SURVEY TO EVALUATE IMPACT OF PMGKAY AND NFSA**

†\*371. **SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:**

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

- (a): whether any data-based survey has been conducted recently to evaluate the impact of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and National Food Security Act (NFSA) in ensuring food security among OBC, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families in Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b): whether the Government maintains any data regarding the improvement in nutrition levels and awareness in regard to right to food among these underprivileged sections, district-wise;
- (c): the details of special steps being taken by the Government to ensure accessibility to Fair Price Shops (FPS) in areas dominated by the said communities and the success of the 'One Nation One Ration Card' (ONORC) therein;
- (d): whether any new technical monitoring system has been implemented to ensure timely distribution and transparent stock management; and
- (e): if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**  
MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY  
OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
**(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

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(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 371\* (11<sup>th</sup> POSITION) FOR ANSWER ON 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026 REGARDING “SURVEY TO EVALUATE IMPACT OF PMGKAY AND NFSA”**

(a): The Department of Food and Public Distribution engaged several reputed Monitoring Institutions (MIs) for conducting concurrent evaluation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 implementation on a state-wise basis during Phase-I (2018-20) and Phase-II (2020-23). This aimed to strengthen monitoring and provide in-depth, incisive and comprehensive empirical evidence on a regular basis. Currently, the Department has engaged an agency for concurrent evaluation of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) under NFSA, 2013, covering the periods 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28. However, no community-wise survey (i.e., disaggregated specifically by Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) families) has been conducted for foodgrain distribution under PMGKAY in any state, including Uttar Pradesh.

(b): The Department does not maintain district-wise data on improvements in nutrition levels or awareness regarding the right to food specifically among OBC, SC and ST sections. As no community-wise or district-wise surveys/evaluations have been undertaken targeting these groups under PMGKAY/ NFSA assessments and such disaggregated data is not available/maintained.

(c): As per sub-clause (6) of Clause 9 of the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2015, the State Government shall ensure that the number of ration card holders attached to a fair price shop are reasonable, the fair price shop is so located that the consumer or ration card holder does not have to face difficulty to reach the fair price shop and that proper coverage is ensured in hilly, desert, tribal and such other areas difficult to access. The Department does not take special steps specifically targeted at areas dominated by OBC, SC and ST communities for Fair Price Shop (FPS).

The 'One Nation One Ration Card' (ONORC) scheme has been fully implemented across all 36 States/UTs, enabling nationwide portability of ration entitlements under NFSA and PMGKAY. Beneficiaries, including those from vulnerable communities (many of whom are migrants from OBC/SC/ST Sections), can access free foodgrains from any FPS in the country via Aadhaar-based biometric authentication on ePoS devices.

(d) and (e): The Department has implemented technology-enabled monitoring mechanisms under the Smart Public Distribution System (Smart-PDS) to improve transparency, efficiency and real-time monitoring of foodgrain distribution under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana and the National Food Security Act. These systems provide end-to-end digital oversight of beneficiary authentication, stock movement, allocation and distribution of foodgrains through Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

### **Smart-PDS Functional Modules**

#### **Ration Card, FPS & Grievance Management Module:**

This module manages the lifecycle of ration cards including issuance, modification and deletion of beneficiaries. It also supports management of Fair Price Shops and provides an online platform for registration and monitoring of grievances related to PDS services.

**Supply Chain Management & Allocation Module:**

This module tracks movement of foodgrains from procurement centres to warehouses, state depots and further to Fair Price Shops, enabling real-time monitoring of stock movement and allocation to ensure timely availability and minimise diversion.

**Distribution (e-POS Based) Module:**

This module enables distribution of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops through electronic Point-of-Sale (e-POS) devices. Beneficiary authentication and digital recording of transactions ensure transparency and real-time monitoring of distribution.

**Procurement Module:**

This module manages procurement of foodgrains from farmers and procurement agencies through digital recording of procurement transactions and stock availability, improving transparency and efficiency in procurement operations.

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