

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2013  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026**

**WHITE RATION CARDS**

†2013. **SHRI ANIL YESHWANT DESAI:**

**SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAVAN RAJENIMBALKAR:**

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

- (a): whether the issuance of white ration cards has been discontinued in many States;
- (b): whether white ration cards go a longway in identification, authentication and access to various Government services/benefits to several citizens;
- (c): if so, the reasons to discontinue the issuance of white ration cards;
- (d): whether the Government proposes to resume the issuance of white ration cards or implementing any alternative arrangement for the same; and
- (e): if so, the proposed policy, guidelines and time frame in this regard?

**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) to (e): The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 provides for food security by ensuring access to foodgrains to eligible households through the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Under the NFSA, beneficiaries are broadly categorized into two types of ration cards — Priority Households (PHH) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). Priority Household (PHH) ration cards are issued to eligible families identified by State Governments based on prescribed criteria, entitling them to receive foodgrains at 5 Kg per person per month. The Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category covers the poorest of the poor households, who are provided a higher level of foodgrain entitlement of 35 Kg per Ration card to ensure enhanced food security for the most vulnerable sections of society. The NFSA is operational in a uniform manner in all States/UTs, and there is no Above Poverty Line (APL)/ Below Poverty Line (BPL)/White Ration Cards category under the Act.

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