

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3217  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT**

**3217. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN:**

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

- (a): the details and the number of families covered under the National Food Security Act in the country, State-wise; and
- (b): whether there is an increase in the number of beneficiaries compared to the last three years and if so, the details thereof along with the cost to the exchequer during the last three financial years?

**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) & (b): The National Food Security Act, 2013, provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population, which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore persons. A statement indicating the State/UT wise number of beneficiaries presently covered under the Act is at **Annexure**.

States are undertaking cleaning up of their beneficiary database so that ineligible ration cards get deleted and better targeting of rightful beneficiaries is ensured. Thus, deletion of ineligible beneficiaries and addition of eligible beneficiaries under the Act is a continuous process and beneficiaries database is dynamic in nature.

The Central Government reimburses the expenditure incurred by States, that have opted for Decentralized Procurement (DCP) mode for distribution of food-grains to the beneficiaries of Central Schemes as per allocation made by Government of India. Further, funds are also released by Food Corporation of India (FCI) to the States for the quantum of food-grains handed over to them by States for Central Pool. The difference between Economic Cost and Central Issue Price (CIP), at which foodgrains are issued to States, is reimbursed to Food Corporation of India (FCI) and DCP States as food subsidy. The food subsidy released to DCP States & FCI is made as per budgetary allocation made by Ministry of Finance (MoF). State wise funds are not allocated by MoF.

The details of food subsidy released to FCI & DCP States during the last 3 years is as follows: -

Financial Year	FCI*	DCP States	(in Rs. Crores)
	Subsidy released	Subsidy released	Total Subsidy released
2022-23	200219.20	72282.49	<b>272501.69</b>
2023-24	139661.03	71733.36	<b>211394.39</b>
2024-25	129089.40	70410.27	<b>199499.67</b>
2025-26*	129080.90	63454.23	<b>192535.13</b>

\*-as on 05.03.2026

In addition, funds are also released to States/UTs under the centrally sponsored scheme “Assistance to state agencies for intra state movement of foodgrains & FPS Dealers margin under NFSA” for meeting the expenditure incurred by States/UTs for meeting expenditure on intra-state movement and handling of foodgrains and Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers’ margin for foodgrains distributed to beneficiaries under the Act. The details of funds released to States/UTs during the last 3 years is as follows: -

Financial Year	Fund released (in crore)
2022-23	8572.03
2023-24	8704.46
2024-25	6945.39
2025-26*	4595.68

\*-as on 05.03.2026

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**ANNEXURE**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3217 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 11.03.2026 REGARDING “NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT”.**

**State/UT wise number of beneficiaries under NFSA**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>State Name</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries identified under NFSA as on 01.03.2026</b>
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	61,334
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	2,68,20,046
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	8,71,000
4	ASSAM	2,48,94,794
5	BIHAR	8,48,63,631
6	CHANDIGARH	3,42,954
7	CHHATTISGARH	1,99,73,683
8	DADAR & NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	2,63,375
9	DELHI	72,20,350
10	GOA	4,76,303
11	GUJARAT	3,36,90,403
12	HARYANA	1,26,49,000
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	28,54,661
14	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	67,47,172
15	JHARKHAND	2,62,91,129
16	KARNATAKA	4,01,93,243
17	KERALA	1,50,65,170
18	LADAKH	1,13,803
19	LAKSHADWEEP	20,095
20	MADHYA PRADESH	5,38,07,137
21	MAHARASHTRA	6,81,42,337

22	MANIPUR	21,10,378
23	MEGHALAYA	21,36,855
24	MIZORAM	7,06,000
25	NAGALAND	11,35,570
26	ODISHA	3,23,78,964
27	PUDUCHERRY	6,34,000
28	PUNJAB	1,41,51,000
29	RAJASTHAN	4,39,80,284
30	SIKKIM	3,76,580
31	TAMIL NADU	3,64,70,000
32	TELANGANA	1,90,80,021
33	TRIPURA	23,34,864
34	UTTARAKHAND	60,23,384
35	UTTAR PRADESH	14,71,47,428
36	WEST BENGAL	5,99,75,666
	<b>Total</b>	<b>79,40,02,614</b>