

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4328
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH MARCH, 2026

FOOD SECURITY AND PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN ANNA YOJANA

4328. SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA:
SMT. SMITA UDAY WAGH:
SHRI MADHAVANENI RAGHUNANDAN RAO:
SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI:
SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR:
SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI:
SMT. SANJNA JATAV:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH SOLANKY:
SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:
SMT. ANITA NAGARSINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI TEJASVI SURYA:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the financial and expenditure roadmap for extending the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) till the year 2029 and if so, the details thereof, State and district-wise;
- (b) the details of allocation of foodgrains and estimated beneficiaries particularly for Maharashtra and Jalgaon district;
- (c) the concrete steps being taken by the Government to ensure universal coverage by bridging the gap between the 81.35 crore approved beneficiaries and the presently identified 80.6 crore persons in the country especially in Nabarangpur and tribal regions of Odisha and districts of Bharatpur Lok Sabha Constituency;
- (d) the specific measures being taken to update the beneficiary list in the absence of decennial census in line with recent judicial observations and including the role of States in identification in the country, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh;
- (e) whether the Government has completed the process of cent per cent Aadhaar seeding and e-KYC for all active ration cards across the country by the deadline of February, 2026;
- (f) if so, the details thereof including status especially in Maharashtra, Nabarangpur and tribal areas of Odisha, Sidhi Lok Sabha Constituency and Dewas-Shajapur district of Madhya Pradesh; and
- (g) the details of corrective steps taken where targets are pending?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): The Central Government, in order to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity had distributed food grains free of cost to beneficiaries i.e. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and Priority Households (PHH) beneficiaries, for a period of one year beginning from 1st January 2023 under the Pradhan Mantri Grib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). The period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains has been extended for further five years i.e. from 1st January, 2024, with an estimated financial outlay of Rs. 11.80 lakh crore totally to be borne by Central Government. At present, no proposal for extension of PMGKAY beyond 31 December 2028 is under consideration of the Government.

(b): At present, number of beneficiaries receiving free of cost foodgrains in State of Maharashtra and Jalgaon district is 6,76,61,974 and 27,69,746 respectively.

On the basis of identification of beneficiaries reported by the State Govt., 383766 MT of foodgrains per month is being allocated to State of Maharashtra. District-wise allocation is being made by the respective States/UTs.

(c) & (d): The Pradhan Mantri Grib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) provides for coverage upto 75% of rural population and upto 50% of urban population for receiving free of cost foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about 67% of the bottom population which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore. 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, the States/UTs have identified 79.40 crore person, which is about 97.60% of the intended coverage i.e. 81.35 crore persons. Still, there is a scope of identification of 1.95 crore more beneficiaries under the PMGKAY.

The Central Government has issued advisories to all the States/Union Territories including to the States of Odisha, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh from time to time to identify all eligible and poor persons/ households including vulnerable Sections of the Society for inclusion under the NFSA. States undertake updation 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.

(e) to (g): As part of the Government's digital initiatives to enhance reach and effectiveness of the Public Distribution System (PDS), the ration card/beneficiary database has been 100% digitised

across all States and Union Territories, with 99.7% ration cards Aadhaar-seeded and 99.2% beneficiaries aadhaar seeded. As on 31.01.2026, e-KYC of 87.37% of the PDS beneficiaries have been completed across the country.

All the ration cards in Odisha (including Nabarangpur and tribal areas) and Madhya Pradesh (including Sidhi Constituency and Dewas-Shajapur district) have been Aadhaar Seeded. Further the e-KYC of 97.10% PDS beneficiaries in State of Odisha has been completed. Furthermore, e-KYC of 93.18 % PDS beneficiaries in State of Madhya Pradesh has been completed.
