

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5349
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2026

NFSA

5349. SHRI ABHAY KUMAR SINHA:

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

- (a): whether the Government has made any specific provision under the National Food Security Act for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups who do not possess any Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) or Above Poverty Line (APL) ration card to receive subsidised foodgrains;
- (b): if so, the details and the exact mechanism through which such persons without any ration card receive foodgrains and the number of such beneficiaries identified so far, State-wise, particularly in Bihar, district-wise;
- (c): whether the Government maintains a detailed and updated database of all BPL, AAY and APL card holders in the country;
- (d): if so, the details thereof, State and district-wise particularly for Bihar especially in Aurangabad district; and
- (e): the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fully digitise all BPL, APL and AAY ration cards and link them with Aadhaar for better targeting and transparency?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is now governed as per the provision of the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. Identification of beneficiaries under the Act is under two categories - Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and priority households (PHH). There is no Above Poverty Line (APL) or Below Poverty Line (BPL) category under the Act.

The Act provides that the State Government shall, within the ceiling of beneficiaries determined for the State, identify the households to be covered under the AAY to the extent specified by the Central Government, in accordance with the guidelines applicable to the said scheme and the remaining households as PHH to be covered under the TPDS, in accordance with such guidelines evolved by the State Government itself. Thus, the criteria for identification of beneficiaries under

Priority Households Category may vary from State to State. There is no specific provision for “Homeless persons” under the Act.

(c) & (d): A statement indicating State/UT wise number of beneficiaries covered under the Act, including State of Bihar is at **Annexure I**.

A statement indicating the district wise number of beneficiaries covered under the Act in the State of Bihar, including Aurangabad district, is provided at **Annexure-II**.

(e): For better targeting and transparency, the Ration cards/ beneficiaries’ database has been completely (100%) digitized in all States/UTs and 99.7% of ration cards have been Aadhar seeded.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (D) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5349 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 25.03.2026 REGARDING "NFSA".

Statement indication State/UT wise number of beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

S. No	State Name	Beneficiary Count (As on 23.03.2026)		
		AAY	PHH	Total
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	11,463	49,900	61,363
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	22,61,686	2,45,61,517	2,68,23,203
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1,58,173	7,24,824	8,82,997
4	ASSAM	21,50,112	2,27,44,673	2,48,94,785
5	BIHAR	83,00,243	7,71,24,599	8,54,24,842
6	CHANDIGARH	926	3,43,413	3,44,339
7	CHHATTISGARH	18,63,494	1,81,10,189	1,99,73,683
8	DADAR & NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	20,704	2,42,470	2,63,174
9	DELHI	2,66,874	69,42,182	72,09,056
10	GOA	38,842	4,37,568	4,76,410
11	GUJARAT	31,90,729	3,05,01,291	3,36,92,020
12	HARYANA	8,12,965	1,48,22,882	1,56,35,847
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	6,37,786	22,26,610	28,64,396
14	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	7,52,355	50,83,210	58,35,565
15	JHARKHAND	33,64,649	2,29,78,222	2,63,42,871
16	KARNATAKA	42,77,361	3,59,16,376	4,01,93,737
17	KERALA	18,56,178	1,34,39,202	1,52,95,380
18	LADAKH	18,804	94,299	1,13,103
19	LAKSHADWEEP	4,040	16,048	20,088
20	MADHYA PRADESH	47,31,631	4,91,11,111	5,38,42,742
21	MAHARASHTRA	97,58,759	5,79,18,342	6,76,77,101
22	MANIPUR	1,86,866	19,23,346	21,10,212
23	MEGHALAYA	2,89,138	18,44,911	21,34,049
24	MIZORAM	63,585	6,51,026	7,14,611
25	NAGALAND	1,29,718	10,02,634	11,32,352
26	ODISHA	34,27,028	2,89,38,481	3,23,65,509
27	PUDUCHERRY	77,091	6,27,023	7,04,114
28	PUNJAB	3,23,318	1,50,02,924	1,53,26,242
29	RAJASTHAN	19,23,705	4,22,59,086	4,41,82,791
30	SIKKIM	57,847	3,18,731	3,76,578
31	TAMIL NADU	62,63,321	3,01,97,875	3,64,61,196
32	TELANGANA	15,66,311	1,75,98,796	1,91,65,107
33	TRIPURA	4,34,895	19,03,186	23,38,081
34	UTTARAKHAND	6,69,312	53,50,952	60,20,264
35	UTTAR PRADESH	1,27,96,790	13,29,40,072	14,57,36,862
36	WEST BENGAL	52,90,817	5,46,89,849	5,99,80,666
	Total	7,79,77,516	71,86,37,820	79,66,15,336

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (D) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5349 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 25.03.2026 REGARDING "NFSA".

Statement indication District wise number of beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

S. No.	District	Beneficiary Count (As on 23.03.2026)		
		AAY	PHH	Total
1	ARARIA	2,15,229	24,40,075	26,55,304
2	ARWAL	74,236	3,82,025	4,56,261
3	AURANGABAD	2,19,321	15,72,731	17,92,052
4	BANKA	1,10,634	17,10,211	18,20,845
5	BEGUSARAI	2,47,728	23,47,918	25,95,646
6	BHAGALPUR	1,90,877	23,26,844	25,17,721
7	BHOJPUR	2,00,130	18,47,741	20,47,871
8	BUXAR	1,07,089	10,51,193	11,58,282
9	DARBHANGA	2,96,489	33,27,823	36,24,312
10	GAYA	3,04,922	27,69,272	30,74,194
11	GOPALGANJ	2,27,781	16,32,421	18,60,202
12	JAMUI	1,43,203	13,98,904	15,42,107
13	JEHANABAD	73,928	7,11,716	7,85,644
14	KAIMUR (BHABUA)	1,59,879	10,77,813	12,37,692
15	KATIHAR	1,72,427	28,45,221	30,17,648
16	KHAGARIA	1,51,896	13,58,506	15,10,402
17	KISHANGANJ	1,84,985	14,30,577	16,15,562
18	LAKHISARAI	62,995	8,10,412	8,73,407
19	MADHEPURA	1,25,923	15,68,568	16,94,491
20	MADHUBANI	4,75,147	32,48,107	37,23,254
21	MUNGER	1,38,680	8,79,562	10,18,242
22	MUZAFFARPUR	4,43,792	38,09,476	42,53,268
23	NALANDA	2,84,216	20,73,852	23,58,068
24	NAWADA	1,40,987	16,04,748	17,45,735
25	PASHCHIM CHAMPARAN	4,02,974	29,28,947	33,31,921
26	PATNA	3,41,619	36,46,569	39,88,188
27	PURBI CHAMPARAN	4,87,690	38,47,374	43,35,064
28	PURNIA	2,04,201	26,52,960	28,57,161
29	ROHTAS	1,84,085	17,75,699	19,59,784
30	SAHARSA	1,17,600	16,69,400	17,87,000
31	SAMASTIPUR	3,91,479	34,41,030	38,32,509
32	SARAN	3,70,202	23,89,014	27,59,216
33	SHEIKHPURA	41,154	4,73,918	5,15,072
34	SHEOHAR	42,967	5,28,926	5,71,893
35	SITAMARHI	2,57,004	25,60,499	28,17,503
36	SIWAN	2,23,060	25,51,362	27,74,422
37	SUPAUL	1,60,201	18,99,526	20,59,727
38	VAISHALI	3,23,513	25,33,659	28,57,172
	Total	83,00,243	7,71,24,599	8,54,24,842