

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5387
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2026

ADDITION AND DELETION OF RATION CARDS

5387. SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:

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

- (a): the number of ration cards added and deleted under the Public Distribution System (PDS) since 2014, including the current year, State, Union Territory and year-wise;
- (b): the details of the reasons for deletion of ration cards during this period, including grounds such as ineligibility, duplication, Aadhaar seeding, migration, income criteria or non-verification;
- (c): whether the Government maintains any standardised criteria or guidelines for addition and deletion of ration cards across States and UTs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d): whether any grievance redressal or appeal mechanism exists for beneficiaries whose ration cards have been deleted and if so, the details of the safeguards put in place to prevent exclusion of genuine beneficiaries?

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

(a) & (b): As an outcome of the use of technology in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations, i.e., digitization of ration cards/beneficiary databases, Aadhaar seeding, de-duplication process, identification of ineligible records, deaths, permanent migration of beneficiaries, etc. all States/UTs have been able to weed-out approx. 6.31 crore ration cards between 2014 to 2025 in order to achieve rightful targeting. A statement showing year-wise and State-wise deleted Ration Cards is at **Annexure**.

(c): Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013, the responsibility for identifying eligible households rests with the respective State Governments/UT Administrations. As per Section 10 of NFSA, 2013, the State Government is required to frame its own inclusion and exclusion guidelines and identify households to be covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH) within the limits prescribed under Section 9 of the Act. Accordingly, the criteria for determining eligibility or ineligibility of beneficiaries are defined by the respective State Governments/UTs through their Control Orders and guidelines.

(d): The Department has undertaken several measures to strengthen digital monitoring and grievance redressal mechanisms under the Public Distribution System (PDS).

Firstly, grievance redressal systems have been strengthened through the universal availability of toll-free helplines (1967/1800 series) across all States/UTs. In addition, Anna Sahayata (ASHA) has been introduced as an AI-enabled grievance redressal platform leveraging WhatsApp and IVRS channels, enabling beneficiaries to lodge complaints and provide feedback in their preferred regional languages.

The Mera Ration Mobile App also provides an integrated interface for beneficiaries to access their entitlement details, view transaction history, locate nearby FPSs, and register grievances directly.

Further, monitoring has been strengthened through integration with the CPGRAMS platform, wherein States/UTs have been advised to adhere to the prescribed timeline of 21 days for grievance disposal. Grievance pendency is regularly monitored through dashboards, and periodic advisories are issued to ensure timely resolution. States/UTs with high pendency are specifically flagged for corrective action.

These initiatives collectively enhance transparency, improve accountability, and ensure timely delivery of services to beneficiaries under the PDS.

STATUS OF DELETED RATION CARDS

Sl.	State/UT	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2,024	2025
1	Andhra Pradesh	5,45,987	1,29,202	4,75,023	5,449	15,209	12,762	24,523	13,128	30,94,232	52,610	512	102
2	Andaman & Nicobar	-	37	7	6	47	421	431	196	950	47	49215	50681
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,059	115	4,396	56	-	-	-	-	1,151	328	268	1128
4	Assam	-	-	1,08,681	42,077	1,35,250	22,412	21,291	11,120	28,590	38,590	161516	24381
5	Bihar	21,712	16,401	6,291	-	2,18,051	3,92,713	99,404	15,678	1,61,809	4,49,525	1686266	149043
6	Chandigarh	-	-	-	88	-	-	-	-	684	2,291	207	2401
7	Chhattisgarh	7,10,000	1,43,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	56,834	1,38,967	4,508	10,400	20,715	29,108	57371	60496
8	DNH and Daman & Diu	-	262	650	272	4,898	577	5,840	2,454	73	1	151	1101
9	Delhi	-	38,496	22,696	3,969	2,56,987	381	518	448	116	3,686	61292	11438
10	Goa	93	1,45,471	10,115	6,146	1,130	888	148	805	2,117	5,801	166	3467
11	Gujarat	64,079	45,833	22,119	18,965	95,659	23,038	47,936	2,19,151	1,32,519	1,35,362	30889	69102
12	Haryana	22,903	43,515	19,648	29,686	2,91,926	-	-	-	1,96,174	8,49,972	328557	1343474
13	Himachal Pradesh	235	-	1,148	172	56,858	367	4,376	2,538	3,299	7,551	9673	7400
14	Jammu and Kashmir	640	3,325	50,709	664	3,428	13,869	13,224	33,677	2,927	5,403	4767	3036
15	Jharkhand	19	7,914	4,46,025	3,59,793	82,394	60,333	65,234	-	75,137	29,771	6374	67730
16	Karnataka	6,64,755	7,61,326	1,44,432	3,26,382	73,675	1,09,312	31,753	42,558	48,477	74,401	27105	50594
17	Kerala	57	-	-	-	3,314	2,543	52,475	1,04,511	41,998	40,800	11555	7261
18	Ladakh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NIL	NIL	614	30	58	615	764
19	Lakshadweep	76	872	442	-	5	6	7	33	38	89	88	32
20	Madhya Pradesh	1,313	-	3,89,124	1,84,673	1,27,441	61,265	1,65,829	9,93,704	98,186	4,96,092	704848	260285
21	Maharashtra	85,160	8,20,780	11,55,908	-	12,81,922	6,53,677	1,31,986	36,119	1,44,985	2,01,676	174342	133469
22	Manipur	-	-	-	336	-	-	45,321	9,411	30,493	9,684	7215	6515
23	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	2,568	10,525	16	-	402	1,612	449	102
24	Mizoram	47	53	101	559	107	156	1,443	1,637	3,617	4,115	2,548	742
25	Nagaland	3,247	-	-	8,521	7,723	18,552	7,304	-	3,428	3,177	3,924	1347
26	Odisha	-	-	6,50,471	35,740	-	-	-	-	64,122	31,240	19420	121134
27	Puducherry	10,629	56,121	9,886	3,290	3,533	2,093	1,881	1,731	538	847	898	763
28	Punjab	93,267	-	-	69,945	34,972	94,031	1,79,837	3,305	1,52,497	1,23,722	7520	2290
29	Rajasthan	-	26,329	13,71,230	73,110	8,016	72,276	5,80,241	1,35,283	2,65,390	26,386	103444	605826
30	Sikkim	-	-	11,714	1,126	3,377	5,622	6,981	-	458	0	604	2116
31	Tamil Nadu	96,406	1,14,175	84,470	9,089	-	-	-	2,00,942	86,150	73,875	63905	33339
32	Telangana	11,71,354	83,048	5,21,790	41,194	3,101	40,684	12,154	-	4,988	34,064	3424	140947
33	Tripura	11,814	66,236	92,728	-	18,874	552	1,099	1,100	1,254	800	467	4334
34	Uttar Pradesh	19,117	2,33,847	25,86,541	44,41,748	43,72,491	41,52,273	8,54,025	7,19,213	9,99,100	7,00,138	841123	597012
35	Uttarakhand	-	1,11,367	89,984	3,18,718	1,26,268	-	-	49,712	66,627	9,691	4,589	3014
36	West Bengal	16,77,311	21,84,152	-	-	88,593	1,00,151	59,666	2,93,326	6,47,003	7,56,860	509952	374519
	Grand Total	52,01,280	50,31,877	84,26,329	61,31,774	73,74,651	59,90,446	24,19,451	29,02,794	63,80,274	41,99,373	4885259	41,41,385