

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

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6094  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 2026**

**NUTRIENT ENRICHED ITEMS IN PDS**

†6094. **SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MEENA:**

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

(a): whether the Government is aware of the fact that in Tonk-Sawai Madhopur district 92,664 children out of 1,59,608 children under the age of five (approximately 74%) and out of 4,54,876 women of reproductive age 2,40,812 (approximately 53%) non-pregnant women have been found anemic;

(b): if so, whether the Government is considering the targeted inclusion of Iron-Fortified Rice or Wheat or pulses enriched with bio-available iron in the Public Distribution System (PDS) for these districts on the lines of other high-burden districts like Churu and if so, the details thereof;

(c): whether any coordination is being established with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to ensure that such nutrient specific provision through PDS are aligned with both curative and preventive nutritional goals; and

(d): if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**

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

(a): The prevalence of anemia in Children under age of five and women of reproductive age in Tonk-Sawai Madhopur district of Rajasthan as per the National Family Health Survey 5 (2019-21) is as listed below: -

S NO.	State/Districts	Children age 6-59 months who are anemic (<11.0g/dl) (%)	All women age 15-49 years who are anemic (%)
1.	Rajasthan	71.5	54.4
2.	Tonk	64.6	52.8
3	Sawai Madhopur	73.3	57.5

(b): To address anaemia and micronutrients deficiency, the Government of India is supplying fortified rice through the Public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) across all States and Union Territories (UTs) except Wheat consuming States of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan and 100% Direct Benefit Transfer UTs of Chandigarh and Puducherry.

(c) & (d): The issue of anaemia and micronutrient deficiencies is addressed by the Government through various interventions of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Women and Child Development, including Anaemia Mukh Bharat and POSHAN Abhiyaan. The Department of Food and Public Distribution has been complementing these efforts through provision of fortified rice under the Public Distribution System and Other Welfare Schemes.

The Ministry of Health and Family welfare is also implementing Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy in a life cycle approach under National Health Mission (NHM), which includes both curative and preventive nutritional goals.

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