

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 754
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2026

BPL CARDHOLDERS

†754. **SHRI LAXMIKANT PAPPU NISHAD:**

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

- (a): the details of the total number of BPL cardholder families currently in Uttar Pradesh district-wise particularly for Sant Kabir Nagar, Gorakhpur and Ambedkar Nagar districts;
- (b): whether the Government is aware that during the process of issuing BPL cards, cards have also been issued to ineligible persons such as owners of pucca houses, two-/four-wheeler vehicle owners, holders of cultivable land and salary/pension recipients;
- (c): if so, the number of such cases reported during the last five years;
- (d): whether the Government has noticed the instances of collusion between Panchayat/Urban Local Body representatives and departmental officials in the issuance of BPL cards;
- (e): if so, the number of cases in which inquiries were conducted, cancellations made, recoveries effected and penal action taken;
- (f): whether the Government proposes to ensure benefits to genuinely needy families by removing ineligible beneficiaries through measures such as social audit and the establishment of a grievance redressal portal; and
- (g): the timeline for revision of the BPL list in the aforesaid districts?

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

- (a): Identification of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is under two categories- households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) to the extent specified by the Central Government and the remaining households as priority households to be identified by the State Governments/ Union Territories (UT) Administrations as per criteria evolved by them, within the coverage determined for the State/UT. There is no Below Poverty Line (BPL) category under the Act.

(b) & (c): As per the information received from the State of Uttar Pradesh, the ration cards are issued, as far as possible, to families that meet the prescribed inclusion criteria determined by the State Government. Over time, the economic status of many families improves. Therefore, regular verifications have been carried out in the State. After verification, the ration cards of families falling under the exclusion criteria are cancelled.

Details of ration cards cancelled in Uttar Pradesh over the past five years due to duplication, ineligibility, displacement and death is as follows: -

Year	Number of ration cards Cancelled
2021	719213
2022	876686
2023	674884
2024	847484
2025	964336

(d) & (e): As reported by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, there is no such type of collusion between Panchayat/Urban Local Body representatives and departmental officials in issuing ration cards.

(f) & (g): The Central Government has issued advisory, from time to time, to all the States/Union Territories to identify all eligible and poor persons/ households including vulnerable Sections of the Society for inclusion under the NFSA. States are undertaking cleaning up of their beneficiary database so that bogus 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.

In order to ensure transparency and accountability in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Act provides for conduct of Social Audit and Constitution of Vigilance Committee by the State Government.

As reported by State Government of Uttar Pradesh regular social audits are conducted in Gram Panchayats. If, upon verification, any family is found ineligible, its ration card is cancelled immediately. If any eligible family applies for a ration card under the NFSA scheme and is found eligible during verification, the ration card is issued to the concerned family without delay.
