

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2026

NFSA AND PMGKAY

622. SHRI K RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

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

- (a) the number of beneficiaries covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) as on 30.06.2026, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether free foodgrains under PMGKAY have been extended beyond the year 2024 and if so, the financial implication thereof;
- (c) whether any States have reported exclusion of eligible beneficiaries due to Aadhaar seeding issues and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure portability under One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)?

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

- (a): The State/UT wise details of beneficiaries covered under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) are at **Annexure**.
- (b): Yes, the period for distribution of free of cost foodgrains under PMGKAY has been extended for five years from 1st January, 2024, with an estimated financial outlay of Rs. 11.80 lakh crore totally to be borne by Central Government.
- (c): Under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments, the responsibility for identification of beneficiaries and issuance of ration cards within the coverage determined for the State/UT rest with the concerned States/UTs.

The Central Government has issued advisories to all the States/Union Territories from time to time to identify all eligible and poor persons/ households including vulnerable Sections of 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.

Further, all States/UTs have been advised that no genuine beneficiary or household shall be denied from receiving entitled quota of subsidized foodgrains only for want of Aadhaar or due to failure of biometric/Aadhaar authentication due to network/connectivity/linking related issues, other technical reasons, or poor biometrics of the beneficiary.

(d): The nationwide portability of ration cards is popularly known as the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) feature. Through this technology driven reform, approximately 80 Crore PMGKAY beneficiaries are empowered to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice, anywhere in the country, by using their same existing ration card with biometric authentication on an electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) device. Currently, ONORC feature is enabled in all 36 States/UTs, across the country, covering almost 100% PMGKAY beneficiaries. As on date, more than 221 Crore portability transactions (including migrant labourers) have been recorded under ONORC.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 622 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.07.2026 REGARDING “NFSA AND PMGKAY”

State/UT wise number of beneficiaries as on 16.07.2026

Sr. No.	State Name	Number of Beneficiaries
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	59,988
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	2,68,23,000
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	8,40,762
4	ASSAM	2,48,97,059
5	BIHAR	8,23,50,967
6	CHANDIGARH	3,23,214
7	CHHATTISGARH	2,00,77,000
8	DADAR & NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	2,63,163
9	DELHI	72,03,498
10	GOA	4,31,674
11	GUJARAT	3,38,42,935
12	HARYANA	1,26,49,000
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	28,40,796
14	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	68,28,991
15	JHARKHAND	2,63,37,662
16	KARNATAKA	4,01,93,000
17	KERALA	1,52,89,217
18	LADAKH	1,11,941
19	LAKSHADWEEP	20,053
20	MADHYA PRADESH	5,41,10,413
21	MAHARASHTRA	6,77,23,996
22	MANIPUR	21,09,004
23	MEGHALAYA	21,25,005
24	MIZORAM	7,06,000
25	NAGALAND	11,12,356
26	ODISHA	3,21,93,059
27	PUDUCHERRY	6,34,000
28	PUNJAB	1,41,51,000
29	RAJASTHAN	4,38,43,951
30	SIKKIM	3,76,878
31	TAMIL NADU	3,62,23,350
32	TELANGANA	1,91,58,121
33	TRIPURA	23,37,977
34	UTTARAKHAND	60,05,973
35	UTTAR PRADESH	14,66,97,109
36	WEST BENGAL	6,00,05,245
	Total	79,08,97,357