

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2378
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST DECEMBER, 2022**

COVERAGE UNDER NFSA

**2378. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:
SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI TIRATH SINGH RAWAT:**

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the number of individuals/families eligible for/in need of subsidised food but are currently not covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide subsidized foodgrains to these people;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of families/individuals covered under NFSA currently, State-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating to increase the coverage under the NFSA based on the population growth in the country between 2011 and 2021 and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) to (c): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which at Census 2011 comes to about 81.35 crore. The Coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

Identification of beneficiaries under the Act is under two categories- households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) which constitute poorest of the poor, to the extent specified by the Central Government and the remaining households as priority households (PHH) to be identified by the State Governments/ UT Administrations as per criteria evolved by them, within the coverage determined for the State/UT.

Thus, the criteria for identification of priority households may vary from State to State depending upon their local requirement.

The Central Government has issued an advisory 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 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.

(d): A statement indicating the State/UT-wise number of persons presently covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 is at Annexure.

(e): Section 9 of the Act provides that the total number of persons to be covered in rural and urban areas of the State shall be calculated on the basis of the population estimates as per the Census of which the relevant figures have been published.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2378 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 21.12.2022 REGARDING "COVERAGE UNDER NFSA".

State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries presently covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

(In lakh)

S. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Number of beneficiaries covered NFSA (As on 15.12.2022)
1	Andhra Pradesh	268.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40
3	Assam	251.17
4	Bihar	871.16
5	Chhattisgarh	200.77
6	Delhi	72.78
7	Goa	5.32
8	Gujarat	344.15
9	Haryana	126.49
10	Himachal Pradesh	28.64
11	Jharkhand	264.12
12	Karnataka	401.93
13	Kerala	154.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	511.32
15	Maharashtra	700.17
16	Manipur	20.08
17	Meghalaya	21.46
18	Mizoram	6.68
19	Nagaland	14.05
20	Odisha	325.03
21	Punjab	141.51
22	Rajasthan	440.01
23	Sikkim	3.79
24	Tamil Nadu	364.69
25	Telangana	191.62
26	Tripura	24.32
27	Uttar Pradesh	1490.71
28	Uttarakhand	61.94
29	West Bengal	601.84
30	A&N	0.61
31	DNH&DD	2.73
32	Lakshadweep	0.22
33	Chandigarh (DBT)	2.76
34	Puducherry (DBT)	6.34
35	J&K	72.41
36	Ladakh	1.44
Total		8003.69
