

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2468
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2023

BENEFICIARIES UNDER PMGKY

2468. SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) the state-wise details of beneficiaries under the PMGKY scheme during the last three years as well as the quantum of foodgrains distributed thereunder;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries under the scheme in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure better access to the entitled beneficiaries following the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) notice over the denial of benefits under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) due to the non-completion of biometric authentication?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) & (b): In the wake of economic disruptions caused by the unprecedented outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, the Government in March 2020 had announced the distribution of additional free-of-cost foodgrains (Rice/Wheat) to around 80 Crore National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries at the scale of 5 Kg per person per month under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY), over and above the regular monthly NFSA foodgrains i.e. regular entitlements of their ration cards. The State-wise details of around 80 Crore eligible NFSA beneficiaries under PM-GKAY is attached as Annexure-I including the State of Andhra Pradesh. The details of quantum of foodgrains distributed during last three years is also attached as Annexure-II.

(c): This Department has issued clear instructions to all States/UTs vide letter No. 1(8)/2017-PD-II dated 24.10.2017 (Annexure-III) that no beneficiary household shall be deleted from the list of eligible beneficiaries/households only on the ground of not possessing Aadhaar and shall also not be denied for subsidized foodgrains or cash transfer (in DBT States) for food subsidy under NFSA due to non-availability of Aadhaar or failure of biometric authentication due to network / connectivity/ linking issues/ poor biometric of the beneficiary or any other technical reason etc. Also, the timelines given to all States/UTs for linking of Aadhaar numbers of beneficiaries with their ration cards has been extended upto 31.03.2023.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a)&(b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2468 FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA.

State-Wise number of Persons/families Covered under National Food Security Act, 2013				
S. N.	States/UTs	Total No. of NFSA Beneficiaries as on 31.03.2021	Total No. of NFSA Beneficiaries as on 31.03.2022	Total No. of NFSA Beneficiaries as on 28.02.2023
1	Andhra Pradesh	268.22	268.22	268.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40	8.40	8.40
3	Assam	250.31	251.17	251.17
4	Bihar	871.16	871.16	871.16
5	Chhattisgarh	200.77	200.77	200.77
6	Delhi	72.78	72.78	72.78
7	Goa	5.32	5.32	5.32
8	Gujarat	341.71	345.15	344.15
9	Haryana	126.49	126.49	126.49
10	Himachal Pradesh	28.64	28.64	28.64
11	Jharkhand	263.70	264.25	264.12
12	Karnataka	401.93	401.93	401.93
13	Kerala	154.80	154.80	154.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	470.46	482.58	511.32
15	Maharashtra	700.17	700.17	700.17
16	Manipur	18.60	19.97	20.08
17	Meghalaya	21.46	21.46	21.46
18	Mizoram	6.68	6.68	6.68
19	Nagaland	14.05	14.05	14.05
20	Odisha	324.33	324.15	325.03
21	Punjab	141.51	141.51	141.51
22	Rajasthan	440.01	440.01	440.01
23	Sikkim	3.79	3.79	3.81
24	Tamil Nadu	364.69	364.69	364.69
25	Telangana	191.62	191.62	191.62
26	Tripura	24.83	24.83	24.32
27	Uttar Pradesh	1465.94	1487.44	1497.77
28	Uttarakhand	61.94	61.94	61.94
29	West Bengal	601.84	601.84	601.84
30	A&N	0.61	0.61	0.61
31	DNH&DD	2.86	3.02	2.73
32	Lakshadweep	0.22	0.22	0.22
33	Chandigarh (DBT)	2.79	2.75	2.76
34	Puducherry (DBT)	6.30	6.24	6.34
35	J&K	72.41	72.41	72.41
36	Ladakh	1.44	1.44	1.44
	Total	7932.78	7972.50	8010.76

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a)&(b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2468 FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA.

PMGKAY	Duration	Quantity Allocated	Quantity Lifted	Quantity Distributed
Phase – I (3 months)	April'20 – June'20	120 LMT	117.9 LMT	112.6 LMT
Phase – II (5 months)	July'20 - Nov.'20	201 LMT	187.01 LMT	186.2 LMT
Phase – III (2 months)	May'21 – June'21	80 LMT	78.3 LMT	75.2 LMT
Phase – IV (5 months)	July'21 - Nov.'21	199 LMT	191.6 LMT	186.7 LMT
Phase – V (4 months)	Dec'21 - Mar.'22	159 LMT	153.54 LMT	149 LMT
Phase-VI (6 months)	April'22 - Sep'22	239 LMT	217 LMT	217 LMT
Phase-VII (3 months)	Oct'22 - Dec'22	120 LMT	92 LMT	83.5 LMT
Total (28 months)		1118 LMT	1037 LMT	1010.5 LMT

No. 1(8)/2017-PD-II
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated: 24/10/17

To,
Principal Secretary/ Secretary,
Food and Civil Supplies Department,
All States /UTs

Subject: Aadhaar Seeding with Ration Cards - reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's notification issued vide SO No. 371 [E] dated 8-2-2017 [as amended from time to time] under Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016("Aadhaar Act"), which requires the individual beneficiaries having Ration Cards under NFSA to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication to receive subsidies under NFSA and those who do not possess Aadhaar to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by giving their name, address, mobile number with Ration Card number and other details with their fair price shop owners or through the web portal provided for the purpose by State /UT Governments.

The notification further provides that till the Aadhaar is assigned to the beneficiaries of subsidies under NFSA, the entitlements under NFSA shall be given to such individuals on production of Ration Card and either Aadhaar Enrolment ID slip or copy of his/her request made to State Govt. for Aadhaar Enrolment along with any of the 8 documents listed in the said notification.

2. In the light of the above notification, the State/UT Governments are required to arrange to provide Aadhaar enrolment facilities to those beneficiaries who do not have Aadhaar and link their Aadhaar numbers with the Ration Cards within the time line specified in Para 4 therein. No person/household shall be deleted from the list of eligible households and denied subsidised food grains or cash transfer of Food subsidy under NFSA only on the ground of not possessing Aadhaar. Deletion from the ration card database shall only happen after proper verification of the ration card holder which establishes beyond reasonable doubt that the entry pertaining to the said ration card holder is not genuine.

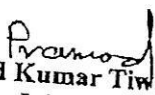
3. As per para 5 of the said Notification dated 8th February, 2017, any member of the eligible household will be entitled to receive entire quantity of subsidised food grains or cash transfer of Food Subsidy under NFSA on behalf of the household if he/she fulfills the aforementioned identification requirements, irrespective of whether all members of the household have had Aadhaar number assigned to them.

4. In case of failure of biometric authentication due to network/connectivity/linking issue or due to poor biometric of the beneficiary or other technical reasons, the beneficiary is to be provided subsidised foodgrains or cash transfer of Food Subsidy on the basis of physical production of Aadhaar card by him/her in place of biometric authentication, as provided by Section 7 of Aadhaar Act ["proof of possession of Aadhaar number"], along with Ration Card.

5. In view of the above, it is requested that all the field functionaries in the State may be instructed to ensure that no instance of denial of foodgrains or deletion of names of family from the Ration Card database only on the ground of non possession of Aadhaar takes place and strict action is taken by State/UT Governments for denial of benefits contrary to the aforesaid Notification.

6. Further, it may be ensured that the details of benefits given to persons on the basis of the verification done through the alternate documents as mentioned in the Notification dated 8/2/2017 or in para 4 above shall be recorded separately as exceptions by the Fair Price Shop dealer. The dealer shall also maintain a copy of Aadhaar card, signature/thumbprint of the beneficiary and other supporting documents as have been specified by the State Government/Union Territory Administration. The State/UT Governments are also requested to devise and implement a suitable mechanism of monthly audit and inspection including field verification beneficiaries of such exceptions to ensure that there is no misuse of exceptions as well as no exclusion of beneficiaries.

Yours faithfully


(Pramod Kumar Tiwari)
Joint Secretary
Government of India

Copy forwarded to:

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