

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.236
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07TH AUGUST, 2024

INCLUSION OF NPH CITIZENS IN FOOD SECURITY SCHEME

*236 MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to include Non-Priority Holder (NPH) citizens with orange ration cards in the Central Government's food security scheme;
- (b) the details of the manner in which the Government will ensure that NPH citizens with incomes slightly above the threshold still receive necessary foodgrains at concessional rates;
- (c) whether a lot of families have been coerced into signing the give up food subsidy form;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether a lot of families have been deprived of the free ration under Food Security scheme during 2014 and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY-TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 236 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2024 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b): The Government is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) which provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, at the all-India level, for receiving free of cost foodgrains.

The PMGKAY scheme is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. Under the joint responsibility of the Union and the States, the responsibility for identification of beneficiaries, within the coverage determined for the State/UT, rests with the concerned States/UT. 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.

At present, no proposal for inclusion of Non-Priority (NPH) category under the PMGKAY is under consideration of the Government.

(c) & (d): There is no such report from any State/UT.

(e): In the year 2014, the foodgrains were being distributed under the National Food Security Act, 2013 at highly subsidized prices of Rs.3/2/1 per kg for rice/ wheat/ coarsegrains respectively. The distribution of foodgrains, free of cost, started w.e.f. 1st January, 2023. Further, there is no report from any State/UT about deprivation of any eligible households from the benefit of free of cost foodgrains under the PMGKAY.
