

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 559
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2021

DISTRIBUTION OF RATION UNDER PMGKAY TO IMMIGRANT WORKERS AND PERSONS BELONGING TO BPL

559 SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA:

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

- (a) the action plan of Government in distribution of free rice and essential commodities to the immigrant workers and persons Below Poverty Line (BPL) under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) programme;
- (b) whether there is any consideration to increase ration limit to the beneficiaries during this pandemic crisis; and
- (c) whether any such support has been given by the Centre to the marginal labourers and BPL persons during this COVID-19 pandemic?

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): As a part of Economic Response to COVID-19, Govt of India has implemented additional nation-wide schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY) and Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme (ANBS).

Also, under PMGKAY, Govt of India has made allocation of foodgrains @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for around 80 crore beneficiaries of all the 36 States/UTs covered under NFSA (Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) & Priority Households (PHH)) including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for a period of 8 months i.e April-November, 2020 and again similarly during the period May -November, 2021.

During the year, 2020, about 322 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) of food-grains and during the year 2021, about 278 LMT foodgrains have been allocated free of cost under PMGKAY scheme to approximately 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries.

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In addition to foodgrains, during the year 2020, about 14.47 LMT pulses/whole chana have also been allocated under PMGKAY for the period April-November, 2020 to about 19.4 crore NFSA households free of cost @ 1kg per household per month.

Under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme (ANBS), this Department made allocation of about total 8 LMT of additional free of cost food-grain covering all the States/UTs for migrants/stranded migrants, who are neither covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) nor State Scheme PDS Cards, @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for a period of two months (May & June, 2020).

In addition to foodgrains, about 0.27 LMT whole chana has been allocated under ANBS for the period May-June, 2020.

The allocation of free foodgrains under PMGKAY and ANBS was in addition to normal allocation done under the NFSA.

The above allocation of additional free of cost foodgrains/pulses/whole chana has been made to all eligible beneficiaries of NFSA including marginal labourers and other needy persons during COVID-19 pandemic.
