

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1730
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2026

IMPLEMENTATION OF PDS IN MUMBAI

1730 SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the implementation of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in Mumbai during the last three years with regard to availability, accessibility and timely distribution of essential foodgrains and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of foodgrains allocated, lifted and distributed in Mumbai under various food security schemes, indicating the number of beneficiaries covered;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding irregularities, diversion of foodgrains, authentication failures or inadequate functioning of Fair Price Shops in Mumbai and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen transparency, digital monitoring, beneficiary authentication, grievance redressal and efficient delivery of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System in Mumbai?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) to (d): Yes. In order to strengthen implementation of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) under NFSA, 2013, the Department of Food and Public Distribution conducted the concurrent evaluation for assessment of the implementation of PMGKAY during 2025-26. The assessment outcomes are generated at National/State level and not at city level.

The State of Maharashtra performs strongly in Service Delivery. Service Delivery under PMGKAY assesses the efficiency, regularity, accessibility, and quality of foodgrain distribution systems delivered through Fair Price Shops (FPSs). The assessment captures key operational dimensions, including receipt of full entitlement, regularity of ration distribution, proper weighing practices, waiting time, ease of access, single-visit collection, and beneficiary satisfaction with FPS services and foodgrain quality. The Service delivery performance indicators of Maharashtra is at **Annexure-I**.

Lifting and distribution of foodgrains under TPDS is a continuous process. States/UT's lift foodgrains from Central Pool for distribution under TPDS as per requirement/entitlement. States/UT's are also allowed to lift foodgrains in advance (higher quantity based on supply chain

requirements) for future distribution cycles, owing to their local exigencies. Foodgrains are allocated State wise.

Details of allocation, lifting and distribution under TPDS of foodgrains to Maharashtra during the last three Financial Years is at **Annexure-II**.

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/ Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/ UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS, issuance of license to Fair Price Shop dealers, supervision over and monitoring of functioning of FPSs etc. rest with the concerned State/ UT Governments.

Helpline number 1967/1800-State series number is operational in all the States/ UTs for contacting and redressal of the complaints in Public Distribution System and filing any type of complaints by the intended beneficiaries. As and when any complaints/ grievances related to PDS are received in this Department from any source, they are sent to concerned State/ UT Governments for inquiry and appropriate action.

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

In addition to above, the Government has taken following steps for digitization and transparency in Public Distribution System:

- i. Digitisation & Aadhaar seeding:** Ration cards/beneficiary database 100% digitised in all States/UTs; 99.7% of ration cards Aadhaar-seeded, eliminating bogus/duplicate cards.
- ii. Transparency & grievance redressal:** Transparency portals and online grievance redressal/toll-free helplines operational in all States/UTs.
- iii. Online allocation & supply chain computerisation:** Online allocation implemented in all States/UTs; supply chain computerised in 31 States/UTs (except Chandigarh, Puducherry and urban Dadra & Nagar Haveli, which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer).
- iv. ePoS-based Aadhaar authentication at FPS level:** 5.50 lakh (99.8%) of 5.51 lakh Fair Price Shops automated with ePoS devices, ensuring biometric authentication of beneficiaries at the point of distribution and curbing diversion.
- v. One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC):** Nationwide portability implemented across all 36 States/UTs, covering all PMGKAY beneficiaries; over 221 crore portability transactions recorded to date, reducing exclusion and duplicate entitlement claims.
- vi. Rightful Targeting (RT):** A dedicated de-duplication and beneficiary-verification exercise using Aadhaar/PDS data analytics has led to identification and deletion of ineligible/duplicate beneficiaries, with 5.95 Cr flagged beneficiaries (excluding landholding cases) and 2.35 Cr deleted beneficiaries.

vii. SMART-PDS reform initiative: Being implemented with modules for Ration Card Management, Distribution, Supply Chain and Grievance Redressal to further standardise and digitally integrate State-level TPDS operations.

viii. NIRMAL & SAKSHAM: New initiatives under the SARTHAK PDS Umbrella Scheme (2026–31) aimed at strengthening data architecture/analytics (NIRMAL) and real-time data integration (including VLTS) from Procurement of food grains to Distribution to the beneficiaries (Saksham).

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1730 FOR ANSWER ON 29.07.2026 IN THE LOK SABHA

S.No.	Estimated Percentage of	State%
1.	Beneficiaries receiving the full foodgrain entitlement	97.4
2.	Beneficiaries receiving monthly rations on a regular basis	97.6
3.	Beneficiaries reporting accurate weighing during distribution	94.8
4.	Beneficiaries collecting ration in a single FPS visit	85.5
5.	Beneficiaries receiving ration within 30 minutes	85.0
6.	Households primarily using ration for household consumption	94.5
7.	Beneficiaries reporting easy access to FPS services	83.4
8.	Beneficiaries satisfied with FPS service delivery	83.0
9.	Beneficiaries satisfied with foodgrain quality	80.6

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED
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(Fig. in thousand tons)

Year	Foodgrain	Allocation	Offtake	Distribution	
				Quantity	No. of beneficiaries
2023-24	RICE	2947.320	2652.742	2615.601	68,432,163
	WHEAT	1657.868	1475.758	1457.584	
	TOTAL	4605.188	4128.500	4073.185	
2024-25	RICE	2812.929	2375.589	2563.252	6,80,73,038
	WHEAT	1792.259	1563.727	1552.088	
	TOTAL	4605.188	3939.316	4115.340	
2025-26	RICE	2715.794	2738.316	2530.895	67,802,516
	WHEAT	1889.393	1601.727	1611.149	
	TOTAL	4605.187	4340.043	4142.044	
