

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has examined the problems that are likely to occur to genuine beneficiaries, especially those living in remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) Under the scheme on "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" the Department is implementing nation-wide portability of ration card holders through 'One Nation One Ration Card' system, which enables the migratory ration card holders/beneficiaries covered under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice in the country by using their existing/same ration card after biometric/Aadhaar authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices installed at the FPSs.

Further, under PDS reforms, so far nearly 88% FPSs in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices at FPSs to ensure rightful delivery of subsidised foodgrains. More than 60% of the total allocated foodgrains across the country are being transacted through these ePoS devices after biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries on monthly basis.

The Department has issued the instructions to all States/UTs that no eligible beneficiary/household shall be denied from subsidized foodgrains under NFSA and any suspected ineligible/duplicate ration card/beneficiary shall only be deleted after proper field verification by concerned State/UT.

The Department has issued the instructions to all States/UTs that no eligible beneficiary/household shall be denied from subsidized foodgrains under NFSA, due to any technical failure of ePoS device, network/connectivity/linking issues including in the remote areas, failure of biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiary/non-possession of Aadhaar.

Implementation of 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme

†723. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to implement 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme across the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government has linked all ration cards with Aadhaar cards in order to implement 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when Government plans to implement this scheme across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (d) Under the scheme on "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (LM-PDS)" the Department is implementing nation-wide portability of ration card holders through 'One Nation One Ration Card' system, which enables the migratory ration card holders/beneficiaries covered under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice in the country by using their existing/same ration card after biometric/Aadhaar authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices installed at the FPSs. So far, the facility of national/inter-State portability under One Nation One Ration Card plan is available in 12 States. Further, integration of remaining States/UTs depends on the readiness of States/UTs to implement the same.

Presently, about 90% of total 23.4 crore ration cards under NFSA across the country have been seeded with Aadhaar number, of at least one member of the household. Linking of Aadhaar with ration cards is also dependent on generation of Aadhaar and their delivery to beneficiaries. In this regard, timeline given to all State/UT Governments to complete the Aadhaar seeding with all ration cards, as per the notification of this Department dated 08.02.2017 (as amended from time to time) has been extended up to 31.03.2020.

Rotting of imported onion

724. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has contracted for import of 36,000 tonnes of onion to check spike in prices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a good percentage of the contracted onions have already reached the country;