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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2306 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2021

IMPLEMENTATION OF ONORC SCHEME

2306 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 steps taken by Government in identifying the beneficiaries under One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme, as the migrant workforce move to other cities for employment;
- (b) the manner in which the registration of workers of unorganized sectors is made under ONORC scheme;
- (c) the steps to be taken by Government for making available Domicile-Based Social Sector Scheme's benefits to migrants; and
- (d) the number of States yet to be integrated under ONORC scheme and the data on number of beneficiaries under the scheme, State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a): Under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated in joint responsibilities of the Central and the State/UT Governments, wherein, inter-alia the operational responsibilities, including the identification of eligible beneficiaries/households up to respective ceiling limits under the Act, issuance of ration cards to them, etc. rest with the respective State/UT Governments. Further, under the technology driven One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan, all eligible NFSA beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, are equally empowered to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice, anywhere in the country by using their same/existing ration card, with biometric authentication on an electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) device.

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- (b): Under the ONORC plan, as such beneficiaries are not required to do any registration for availing the benefit of ration card portability anywhere in the country. They may simply walk into any FPS of choice and may either quote/produce a copy of their same/existing ration card or Aadhaar number. However, as an optional facility, beneficiaries may also register for ONORC either through the Mera Ration mobile App or by calling the toll free 14445 helpline number.
- (c): The distribution of subsidised NFSA foodgrains through the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) of the country is not a domicile based social/food security benefit, as eligible beneficiaries/households, including migrants from any State/UT, may get a ration card issued in any part of the country after fulfilling the requisite eligibility criteria under NFSA subject to the condition that their names do not appear in any other valid ration card, anywhere in the country.
- (d): So far, the ONORC plan has been seamlessly enabled in 34 States/UTs, covering nearly 75 Crore NFSA beneficiaries, that is almost 94.3% of total NFSA population in the country. The rollout of ONORC in remaining 2 States (Assam and Chhattisgarh) is dependent upon them achieving the requisite technical readiness for implementing the mechanism of ration cards portability. Statement showing State/UT wise number of NFSA beneficiaries enabled under ONORC is at Annexure.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2306 FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2021 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

State/UT wise number of NFSA beneficiaries enabled/covered under the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan in 34 States/UTs so far:

| Sl. | State/UT | Number of NFSA beneficiaries enabled under ONORC (Current NFSA Coverage) (in Lakhs) |
|-----|----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 0.61 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 268.22 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 8.40 |
| 4 | Bihar | 871.16 |
| 5 | Chandigarh | 2.66 |
| 6 | Dadra & NH and Daman & Diu | 2.65 |
| 7 | Delhi | 72.78 |
| 8 | Goa | 5.32 |
| 9 | Gujarat | 341.71 |
| 10 | Haryana | 126.49 |
| 11 | Himachal Pradesh | 28.64 |
| 12 | Jammu & Kashmir | 72.41 |
| 13 | Jharkhand | 263.70 |
| 14 | Karnataka | 401.93 |
| 15 | Kerala | 154.80 |
| 16 | Ladakh | 1.44 |
| 17 | Lakshadweep | 0.22 |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 482.58 |
| 19 | Maharashtra | 700.17 |
| 20 | Manipur | 18.60 |
| 21 | Meghalaya | 21.46 |
| 22 | Mizoram | 6.68 |
| 23 | Nagaland | 14.05 |
| 24 | Odisha | 324.33 |
| 25 | Puducherry | 6.24 |
| 26 | Punjab | 141.51 |
| 27 | Rajasthan | 440.01 |
| 28 | Sikkim | 3.79 |
| 29 | Tamil Nadu | 364.69 |
| 30 | Telangana | 191.62 |
| 31 | Tripura | 24.83 |
| 32 | Uttar Pradesh | 1,471.92 |
| 33 | Uttarakhand | 61.94 |
| 34 | West Bengal | 601.84 |
| | Total | 7,499.43 |

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