ORIGINAL IN HINDI

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1504
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2020

IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE NATION ONE RATION CARD SCHEME

1504. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY

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

(a) whether the Central Government has formulated any plan to implement 'Pan India Ration Card';

(b) if so, the details of action plan for implementing 'Pan India Ration Card' Scheme; and

(c) the details of the proposed role of State Governments, in this regard?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a): Yes sir. By using same/existing ration card under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), the beneficiary may lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice anywhere in the country under the One Nation One Ration Card plan.

(b): Initially the facility of inter-State portability was started in 4 States i.e. in two clusters of two adjoining States each in August 2019. So far, 26 States/UTs have enabled the national portability of NFSA ration cards in a single national level cluster. Further, this Department is continuously pursuing with remaining 10 States/UTs with an objective to enable the facility in all States/UTs by 31.03.2021. However, integration of remaining States/UTs is dependent on their readiness to implement the same in terms of installation of electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices at FPSs, enablement of biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries and other technical aspects.

(c): Since, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments, where inter-alia operational responsibilities for distribution of foodgrains to beneficiaries, installation of ePoS devices at FPSs, Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries, enablement of biometric/Aadhaar authentication facilities at all FPSs, supervision & monitoring of FPS operations, etc. rest with the respective State/UT Government, thus, the role of States/UTs is integral to the implementation of One Nation One Ration Card plan.

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