

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1963
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH MARCH, 2026

NATIONWIDE PORTABILITY UNDER ONORC

1963 SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any technology architecture, authentication framework or data integration platform has been proposed for enabling nationwide portability under One Nation One Ration Card;
- (b) if so, the current status of development or testing of such systems;
- (c) whether pilot implementation or phased rollout has been envisaged prior to nationwide launch; and
- (d) if so, the details on the tentative timeline for such pilots, if any?

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

(a) to (d): The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) is a technology-driven initiative of the Department of Food and Public Distribution that enables nationwide portability of ration cards for beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The system allows eligible beneficiaries, particularly migrant workers and other mobile populations, to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) in the country through Aadhaar-based biometric authentication using ePoS devices. The system integrates ration card databases of all States/UTs and facilitates seamless portability through interoperable ePoS devices deployed at Fair Price Shops.

The implementation of ONORC was carried out in a phased manner, beginning with pilot inter-State portability transactions in August 2019, followed by gradual onboarding of States/UTs. At present, ONORC has been successfully implemented across all 36 States and Union Territories, covering about 80 crore NFSA beneficiaries (100% of the NFSA population). Accordingly, the ONORC facility is now automatically available to all PMGKAY beneficiaries across the country.
