

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4968
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd JULY, 2019

RATION CARDS

†4968. SHRI SUNIL KUMARPINTU

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any policy regarding issuance of ration cards to people so that the beneficiaries can avail the benefits of ration cards from anywhere in the country; and
- (b) if so, the outline of the said policy and the manner in which beneficiaries are likely to get benefit from these ration cards?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) 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. The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

As per clause 3 and 4 of TPDS(Control) Order, 2015, State/UT Governments shall identify and issue ration card to eligible households.

Further, Department has launched a new scheme namely Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS). The main objective of the scheme is to introduce nation-wise portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), to lift their entitlement foodgrains from any FPS of their choice in the country without the need of obtaining a new ration card, by making use of the electronic Point of Sale(ePoS) devices and biometric authentication. Keeping in view the physical progress under ongoing scheme and readiness for implementation of National Portability in few States, it has been decided to implement inter-State/National Portability on a pilot basis in few States shortly.
