

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5367
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH APRIL, 2023**

RELAXING NORMS TO ISSUE MORE RATION CARDS

5367. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR:

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

- (a) the status of providing ration cards under the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) Scheme which provides for making ration available through ration card at the place where the card holder is present;
- (b) the study regarding the extent of relief to the common man from inflation due to provision of ration through ration card;
- (c) whether the Government would consider relaxing the norms to enable the issuance of more ration cards, keeping in view the inflation, so that the common man can get relief from it; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

A N S W E R

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

(a): One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan ensures nation-wide portability of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) benefits i.e. free foodgrains through the use of same/existing ration card issued by the respective Food & Civil Supplies Departments of State/UT Governments. The nation-wide portability of ration cards, popularly known as One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC), has been achieved in all 36 States/UTs; i.e. across the country. With this facility entitled free foodgrains can be availed by the NFSA beneficiaries from any of the 5.34 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs) located across the country. There is no requirement to issue any new ration cards under ONORC.

(b): As a part of the Concurrent Evaluation of the implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations through appointed Monitoring Institutes (MIs), which are reputed Universities and Institutes, the Department has inter-alia, conducted assessment of implementation of NFSA in selected districts of all the States/UTs in a phased manner. As per the Concurrent Evaluation of NFSA (Phase-II), about 98% of the surveyed households reported receipt of free-of-cost full entitlements (5 kg food grains) under the PMGKAY scheme and the surveyed households expressed satisfaction with the quantity and quality of foodgrains provided to them.

(c) & (d): National Food Security Act (NFSA) provides maximum coverage for about 81.35 Crore persons, out of which, currently around 80.10 crore persons are covered to avail free foodgrains under NFSA. The States/UTs can issue ration cards upto the ceiling limit prescribed under National Food Security Act (NFSA).
