

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.585
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2023**

ABHA CARDS COMPULSORY FOR RATION

585. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has made it compulsory for BPL families to have ABHA Card for availing the monthly ration; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the state/UT-wise details of the people who have been denied ration due to non-possession of the ABHA card; and
- (c) whether the Government has made alternative arrangements for people who have not yet enrolled for ABHA cards and if so, the details thereof, state/ UT-wise?

**A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a), (b) & (c): Under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), the coverage of beneficiaries for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been de-linked from the erstwhile poverty estimates (Above Poverty Line/Below Poverty Line) and has been linked to the population estimates under two categories namely Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH) only. As such no BPL cards are issued under NFSA, 2013.
