

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1349
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2021**

RATION CARDS FOR MIDDLE CLASS

1349. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is implementing One Nation One Ration card (ONORC) scheme, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether Government has any plan to issue Ration Card to middle class also who are facing shortage of wheat and rice specially for high price in open market; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

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

(a): Yes sir. So far, the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan for nation-wide portability National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 ration cards empowering all NFSA beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, to lift their entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of choice in the country by using their same existing ration card with biometric authentication on an electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) device, is enabled in 33 States/UTs, covering almost 86.7% NFSA population (about 69 Crore NFSA beneficiaries) in the country. Delhi being the latest to enable the same from July 2021. Further, regular follow up has been done with 3 remaining States/UT of Assam, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal to enable the ONORC plan for the benefit of migrant NFSA beneficiaries.

(b) & (c): Under NFSA, the coverage of eligible beneficiaries/ households is delinked from the erstwhile poverty estimates and has been linked to population estimates. Accordingly, it provides coverage for maximum of 81.35 Crore persons, nearly two-third of the country population as per census of 2011, to receive the benefit of highly subsidised foodgrains.

Further, NFSA is operated in joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments, wherein inter-alia the operational responsibilities for the identification of eligible beneficiaries/ households, issuance of ration cards to them as per own norms and procedures rests with the respective State/UT governments.
