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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.476 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION OF ONORC

476. DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:

SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI:

SHRI ARUN SAO:

SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

SHRI SHA.BRA.DR.JAI SIDDESHWAR SHIVACHARYA MAHASWAMIJI:

SHRI SANGANNA AMARAPPA

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 implemented the new Ration Card, One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme to improve the functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the States which have agreed to implement the said scheme;
- (b) the number of migrants estimated to be eligible for accessing the scheme, State-wise and the number of beneficiaries presently linked with the scheme, Statewise;
- (c) whether the implementation of the scheme is mandatory for all the States, if so, the details thereof including the role of the State Governments in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor; and

- (d) whether some States/Union Territories have not implemented the One Nation One Ration Card scheme so far, and whether PDS items are not distributed there as per the new ration card and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to help the beneficiaries especially migrant workers to get food items at subsidized rates anywhere in the country;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide food items and kerosene oil in adequate quantity and convenient manner to the persons/ farmers particularly those who belong to desert, hilly, backward and rural areas; and
- (f) if so, the details of financial outlay for the year 2021-22 for this scheme and the steps taken by the Government to create awareness among migrants regarding this scheme?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b): The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan, for nation-wide portability of the National Food Security Act 2013 (NFSA) benefits, is presently enabled in all the 36 States/UTs, covering entire NFSA population (about 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries) in the country. Under the plan, the NFSA beneficiaries have been empowered with the choice to lift their entitled foodgrain from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice, anywhere in the country, by using their same existing ration card with biometric authentication on an electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) device. All the NFSA beneficiaries (around 80 Crore) including migrant beneficiaries are eligible for accessing this plan.
- (c) & (d): Union Government introduced a central sector scheme namely "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" w.e.f. 1st April 2018. The key objectives of the scheme inter-alia include integration of PDS system/portals of States/UTs, One Nation One Ration Card facility (portability) for ration cards, financial assistance to States/UTs for hiring manpower at State/district level, etc. One Nation One Ration Card facility has been enabled in all the 36 States/UTs covering entire NFSA population. This facility enables all the NFSA beneficiaries, especially migrant beneficiaries, to get food items at highly subsidized rates anywhere in the country.

(e): Under its existing scheme, Government of India regularly allocates foodgrains under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) to all the States/UTs on the basis of coverage of population in that State/UT and covering around 80 Crore persons, which include persons/farmers belonging to desert, hilly, backward and rural areas. Also, One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan which has been enabled in all the States/UTs and ensures nation-wide seamless portability of the entitled ration benefits to all the National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries proved to be of immense help to the beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries.

(f): Does not arise.
