

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.485
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2022**

RATION CARD PORTABILITY

485. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

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 introduced ration card portability to curb corruption and improve access and service quality by removing monopolies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment of the implementation of ration card portability scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure all migrants workers are benefitted under the scheme; and
- (f) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

**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): The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan, for nation-wide portability of the National Food Security Act 2013 (NFSA) benefits, is enabled in all the 36 States/UTs, covering entire NFSA population (about 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries) in the country. ONORC plan empowers the NFSA beneficiaries, particularly migrant beneficiaries, to lift their entitled foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS), in the country.

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(c) & (d): Yes Sir, as a part of the Concurrent Evaluation of the implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) and Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations through appointed Monitoring Institutes (MIs), which are reputable Universities and Institutes, the Department has inter-alia conducted assessment of implementation of ONORC plan in randomly selected districts of all the States/UTs in a phased manner. These evaluation studies clearly indicate that the beneficiaries are leveraging the facility of ration portability to access their NFSA as well as PM-GKAY foodgrains from any FPS of their choice, without being dependent on the tagged ration shop in the ration card. This is also corroborated from the fact that more than 75 crore portable transactions have been recorded so far and more than 3.4 crore portable transactions are being recorded every month, showing very wide acceptability of ONORC.

(e) & (f): ONORC facility is applicable to all the 80 crore NFSA beneficiaries, which also include migrant NFSA beneficiaries. The flexibility of choosing any FPS (ration shop) under ONORC has proved to be a tremendous value-added service for many migrant beneficiaries/families to access their NFSA as well as PM-GKAY foodgrains from any FPS of their choice, without being dependent to visit only the tagged ration shop with ration card.
