

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1709
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2025

NFSA, 2013

†1709. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many eligible families are still deprived of rations due to the lack of an updated list of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the process being adopted to update the list;
- (c) whether some States are facing technical hurdles in data sharing or portability in implementing the "One Nation, One Ration Card" scheme and if so, the manner in which the Union Government is addressing the said issue;
- (d) whether the Government has assessed the effectiveness of the current monitoring system to ensure the quality of foodgrains distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to procure and distribute local produce like coarse grains (jowar, bajra) through the Public Distribution System (PDS) in agricultural districts like Chandauli; and
- (f) if so, the timeline fixed by the Government likely to be done?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) & (b): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is being successfully implemented in all the States/UTs. The Act aims to supplement the food requirements of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, which at Census 2011 comes to 81.35 crore persons.

The Coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit. At present, against the intended coverage of 81.35 crore, 80.56 crore beneficiaries are receiving foodgrains free of cost.

Under the joint responsibility of the Union and State Governments, the responsibility for identification of beneficiaries rests with the State Government. There is, no report from any State/UT regarding deprivation of rations to eligible households under the Act.

(c): At present, One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) feature is enabled in all 36 States/UTs, across the country, covering almost 100% NFSA beneficiaries and is being implemented seamlessly without any technical hurdle. So far, 197 crore portability transactions have been recorded under ONORC, covering both inter-State and intra-State transactions."

(d): The Department has formulated and issued a Quality Control Manual, to uniformly maintain the quality standards of foodgrains from procurement to its distribution to the eligible beneficiaries through various social security programmes of Government of India.

(e) & (f): To improve the level of nutrition among the targeted beneficiaries covered under the NFSA, all the States/UTs have been advised to procure millets and distribute to NFSA beneficiaries as per local consumption preferences and as per guidelines issued by the Central Government from time to time.
