

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1547
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2021

COMPLIANCE WITH SUPREME COURT GUIDELINES IN “IN RE: PROBLEMS
AND MISERIES OF MIGRANT LABOURERS”

1547 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a) the quantity of foodgrains that has been released to each State in accordance with the Supreme Court guidelines in “In Re: Problems and Miseries of Migrant Labourers” and the proposed programme for further release of these foodgrains;
- (b) the measures undertaken to reassess eligible beneficiaries of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and time line envisaged for further evaluation of beneficiaries; and
- (c) the measures undertaken to release foodgrains to States for running of community kitchens for the poor along with quantity of foodgrains released to each State for this purpose?

A N S W E R

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

(a): The States/UTs have been requested to bring in place an appropriate scheme under their respective jurisdictions for distribution of dry ration to migrants without ration cards for which the required quantity of foodgrains as per locally assessed need, can be obtained from FCI as per various provisions made available by this Department.

Further, Migrant National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries can also avail their normal TPDS as well as free foodgrains under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) through the portability available under One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan by utilizing the existing ration card of their home State. A total of approx 43 Crore transactions have been recorded through portability since April, 2020 so far and such migrant beneficiaries have no need to obtain new ration card in their destination State.

.....2/-

(b): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the NFSA is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Under the Act, it is the responsibility of the State Government to identify— (i) the households to be covered under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana to the extent specified by the Central Government, in accordance with the guidelines applicable to the said scheme; and (ii) the remaining households as priority households to be covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System, in accordance with such guidelines as the State Government may specify.

All States/UTs have been advised to identify the eligible beneficiaries under NFSA upto their respective coverage limits.

(c): Community kitchens are run by State Governments. However, under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS (D)], Food Corporation of India (FCI) has released 10422 MT of rice and 1246 MT wheat in year 2020-21 and 847 MT rice and 07 MT wheat in year 2021-22, upto 05.12.2021 to charitable/non-governmental organizations etc. engaged in relief/running community kitchens.
