File No: 21(3)/2016-Comp(Part) (E-329349)
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: **27/01/2021**

To
 Principal Secretary/Secretary,
 Food & Civil Supplies Department,
 All States/UTs.

Subject: Adoption of 'DigiLocker' for ration cards in Public Distribution System (PDS) – reg.

Sir/Madam,

 The undersigned is directed to refer to the OM of the D/o Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) dated 28.12.2020 and DO of CEO (NeGD), MeitY dated 15.12.2020 (copies enclosed), and to state that, 'DigiLocker' facility has been introduced by the Government of India for the use of citizens to preserve the authentic digital copies of various documents, certificates, etc. issued to them by Government agencies and other entities. This facility enables anytime, anywhere access of the digitally verified documents by the citizens as well as a number of service providers/verifiers without the need of any physical documentary interface. The current COVID-19 situation has also amplified the reliance on digital platforms equally for the citizens/beneficiaries as well as Governments/service provides and to promote paperless citizen-centric service deliveries.

2.   As per the instruction of DARPG, it is mandatory for all Government Ministries/Departments delivering citizen services to integrate their systems with DigiLocker for the issuance and verification of documents to the citizens/beneficiaries in a time-bound manner to enable hassle-free and friendly citizen service deliveries by various public authorities. Besides, in view of the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan, the CEO (NeGD) has also advocated the adoption of DigiLocker in Public Distribution System (PDS) for making ration cards available through this facility, so that beneficiaries can easily access their e-Ration Card anytime, anywhere in the country under ONORC. This will also reduce the hassles of migratory beneficiaries against the threat of stolen, lost or damaged/soiled ration cards.

3.   Since, ration cards are issued by the State/UT governments, it is requested that necessary action may be initiated to integrate the respective ration cards data with DigiLocker at the earliest. Necessary technical guidance and support for shall be available from NeGD (National eGovernance Division) under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). For any further details in this regard, the nodal officers may contact Sh. Durgaprasad Dash, Addl. General Manager, NeGD at email: durga@digitalindia.gov.in / Mo: +91-735001000.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

Digitally signed by ASHOK KUMAR
Date:Wed Jan 27 16:04:32 IST 2021

(Ashok Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 011- 23383942

 Copy to:
1. PPS/PS to President & CEO, NeGD, Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, New Delhi.
2. Sh. Durgaprasad Dash, AGM, NeGD, Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, New Delhi.
3. Sh. BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC HQ, A-Block, CGO Complex, New Delhi.
4. Sh. Sunil Kumar Singh, Under Secretary, DARPG, Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi.

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अभिषेक सिंह, आइ.ए.एस.

अध्यक्ष एवम् मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी

ABHISHEK SINGH, IAS
President & Chief Executive Officer

राष्ट्रीय इ–गवर्नेंस प्रभाग
इलैक्ट्रोनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
National e-Governance Division
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

सत्यमेव जयते

Do No: NeGD/05-01/2015
15th December 2020

Dear Sir,

The current situation of COVID – 19 and associated lockdown has amplified our reliance on digital platforms to avail the benefits associated with them like access to digital documents, retrieve and exchange digitally issued original certificates. Given the widespread pandemic at hand, the government in the Centre and states has adopted the practice of issuing and verifying the documents for the citizens digitally through its various agencies in association with **DigiLocker.**

2.   'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme is implemented for the beneficiaries to avail the benefits across the country using the same ration card. To enable these e-Government projects and exchange data seamlessly requires interoperability amongst applications and databases to give the experience of 'One Government-Connected Government' to the citizens. By making Ration card available through **DigiLocker**, beneficiaries can easily access their e-Ration card anytime, anywhere and also eliminates the threat of stolen, lost or any type of damage by calamities.

3.   In view of the above, it is requested that necessary direction may be issued to integrate Ration card with DigiLocker for issuance and verification of documents. This will help us in realizing Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of paperless governance and transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

4.   For any further details in this regard, Mr. Durgaprasad Dash, Addl. General Manager, NeGD (email: durga@digitalindia.gov.in ; Phone +91-735001000) may be contacted by the concerned nodal officer.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Abhishek Singh)

Sh. Sudhanshu Pandey, IAS
Secretary
Department of Food and Public Distribution.
Government of India, New Delhi