

Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Department of Food & Public Distribution

R. No. 275, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Dated: 30.04.2020

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Food & Civil Supplies Department,
Government/Administration of – Bihar, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh

Subject: Implementation of national / inter-State portability of NFSA ration card holders under 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan – reg.

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware this Department is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on 'Integrated Management of Public Distribution System' (IM-PDS) with an objective to sustain the reforms brought in the functioning of TPDS by the earlier scheme on End-to-End Computerization of TPDS Operations. The main objective of the IM-PDS scheme is to implement the nation-wide portability of the benefits under NFSA through "One Nation One Ration Card" plan wherein NFSA ration card holders who migrate across the country in search of temporary employment/work or other reasons may lift their entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains from any ePoS enabled FPS of their choice using their existing/same ration card after Aadhaar authentication on ePoS device.

2. Presently, the facility of national/inter-State portability of ration cards under One Nation One Ration Card is operational in a national-level cluster of 12 States, namely – Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana and Tripura w.e.f. 1st January 2020. The migratory beneficiaries of these 12 States are able to lift their foodgrains from any FPS of their choice within this cluster. Further, constant efforts are being made by this Department to expand the reach of national portability to the beneficiaries of other States/UTs also in association with respective State/UT Governments.

3. In this endeavor, it is highlighted that necessary preparatory activities viz. upgradation of ePoS software, integration with central IM-PDS and Annavitran portals, availability of ration cards/beneficiaries data in Central Repository and testing of national/inter-State portability transactions with other States/UT have been completed for the integration of your State/UT with national portability cluster, with the support of central NIC and CPMU team. It is therefore envisaged to integrate your State/UT with the national portability cluster w.e.f 1st May 2020.

4. Further, requisite orientation trainings have been imparted to the technical team/concerned officers of your State/UT through Video Conferencing. Necessary guidelines/instructions for the implementation of national portability shared earlier are enclosed again. The central NIC team shall be continuously assisting in seamless rollout 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan in your State/UT. It is mentioned that the ration cards which have done at-least one Aadhaar authenticated transaction in the last six months shall be eligible for the national/inter-State portability transactions. This feature has been enabled through the central repository of ration cards/beneficiaries. Further, it is also informed that required web-services and reporting of transactions on central IM-PDS dashboard have been enabled for your State/UTs with immediate effect.

334317/2020/SO(COMPUTER CELL)

5. Some States/UTs have recently decided to suspend biometric authentication of beneficiaries through e-POS device owing to COVID situation. In this regard, this Department has issued detailed guidelines vide letter dated 23rd April 2020 for authentication of ePoS transaction by beneficiaries, / including the requirement of mandatory biometric authentication for portability transactions.

6. It is therefore requested that the State/UT may after assessing the local situation take necessary decision to start the inter-State portability transactions in the State/UT at the earliest. This will also enable the beneficiaries of your State/UT anywhere in the national cluster of 17 States/UT to take the benefit of national portability. Necessary awareness generation activities may also be undertaken on priority.

7. For any technical support/clarification, State/UT nodal officers/technical teams may reach out to following officials:

- a. Sh. BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC (HQ) at bvcrao@nic.in / 9958402296 w.r.t. central repository, national de-duplication and related matters.
- b. Sh. Guru Prasad, Sr. Technical Direct, NIC HQ at guru@nic.in / 9490751034 w.r.t. ePoS application and related matters.
- c. Sh. Pankaj Mishra, Pr. Consultant, CPMU at cpmu.fpd@nic.in / 9971152087 w.r.t. guidelines, procedural matters or any other assistance/clarification from the Dept.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,



(D.K. Gupta)
Director (PD)

Copy to:

Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, Food Department of existing 12 states in National Portability for taking necessary action in view of the above guidelines.

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to AS&FA, D/o FPD, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
2. PPS/PS to Chairman & MD, FCI, New Delhi
3. PS to Director General, NIC, CGO Complex, New Delhi
4. PS to Joint Secretary (Pol. & FCI), D/o FPD, New Delhi
5. PS to Economic Advisor, D/o FPD, DFPD, New Delhi
6. Sh. BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC HQ, CGO Complex, New Delhi – with a request to share the guidelines with SIOs of concerned State NIC Units for timely implementation.
7. Sh. Guru Prasad, Sr. Technical Director, NIC
8. Dy. Secretary (BP), D/o FPD, New Delhi

Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Dated: 04.05.2020

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Food & Civil Supplies Department,
Government of – Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim
and Uttarakhand.

Subject: Implementation of National/Inter-State Portability of NFSA ration card holders under 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan – reg.

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware that this Department under the scheme on "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" has started the implementation of nation-wide portability of all ration card holders/beneficiaries covered under NFSA through the ambitious 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan. The main objective of this is to enable the migratory population under NFSA to lift their entitled foodgrains from any ePoS enabled FPS of their choice, anywhere in the country, by using their existing/same ration card and by authenticating the portability transaction through their Aadhaar. Presently, the facility of inter-State portability is seamlessly operational in a single national-level cluster of 12 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana and Tripura w.e.f. 1st January 2020. Further, 5 more States/UTs of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Dadra & N. Haveli and Daman & Diu shall also be integrating with this cluster w.e.f. May 2020.

2. It is also to bring to you notice that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its recent order dated 27th April 2020 with ref. to instant Writ Petition (Civil) Diary No(s) 1095 of 2020 has directed for an early implementation of 'One Nation One Ration Card' facility across the country so that the large number of migrant beneficiaries can be benefited in view of ongoing crisis/lockdowns due to Covid-19 pandemic. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Union Minister of CA,F&PD on 29th April 2020 reviewed the progress of the implementation of national portability and has given instructions for expeditious implementation of national portability under One Nation One Ration Card plan in remaining States/UTs.

3. Since most of the pre-requisite activities under the computerization scheme are completed and a significant level of technical preparedness under IM-PDS scheme (i.e. availability of ration cards data in central repository, upgradation of ePoS software, deployment of web-services for integration with other States through central systems, etc.) has also been achieved in almost all 7 States as mentioned above; it is thus envisaged to rollout the national portability of ration card holders in your State/UT w.e.f. **1st June 2020**. In this regard, necessary implementation guidelines are **enclosed**. Further, central NIC and CPMU team shall be continuously supporting the technical team of your State/UT to complete the preparatory activities (if any) and the necessary trails/testing of the portability transactions with other States/UTs.

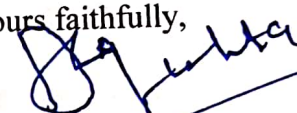
4. It is also informed that, since authentication of ePoS transactions through Aadhaar of beneficiaries is required for inter-State portability, thus owing to the ongoing COVID situation, this Department has also issued detailed guidelines vide letter dated 23/04/2020 (copy enclosed).

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5. Therefore, in view of above, it is requested to issue necessary instruction to all concerned officers/members of the technical team of State/UT for immediately starting the required trial and testing of national/inter-State portability transactions with other States/UTs of the national cluster in close coordination with the central NIC and CPMU team.
6. A plan of action for completing the pending activities and testing of national portability transactions with other States of national cluster before 15th May 2020 may be shared with this Department and NIC latest by 5th May 2020 positively so that necessary coordination with other States/UT may also be done.
7. For any technical support/clarification, nodal officers/technical teams of State/UT may reach out to following officials of central technical team:
- i. Sh. BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC (HQ) at bvcrao@nic.in / 9958402296 w.r.t. central repository, national de-duplication and related matters.
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Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,


(D.K. Gupta)
Director (PD)

Copy to:

1. Sh. BVC Rao, Dy. Director General, NIC HQ, CGO Complex, New Delhi – with a request to share the guidelines with SIOs of concerned State NIC Units for timely implementation.
2. Sh. Guru Prasad, Sr. Technical Director, NIC

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Secretary (F&PD), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Dated: 04.05.2020

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Food & Civil Supplies Department,
Government/Administration of – Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Ladakh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.

Subject: Implementation of National/Inter-State Portability of NFSA ration card holders under 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan – reg.

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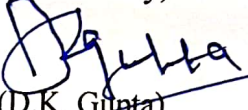
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3. It is therefore requested, to provide a detailed action plan of the State Govt., as applicable, for the operationalization of all pre-requisite activities, such as installation/operationalization of ePoS devices in all FPSs, completion of Aadhaar seeding of all beneficiaries (except Assam and Meghalaya but mobile seeding is urgently required in these two states), implementation of authenticated distribution of foodgrains through Aadhaar of beneficiaries (or other means in case of Assam and Meghalaya), etc. Further, a detailed strategy to complete the requisite activities under the IM-PDS scheme (i.e. sharing of ration cards data in central repository, upgradation of ePoS software, linking with IM-PDS portal, deployment of portability web-services, etc.) for the implementation of national/inter-State portability of ration cards in your State may also be highlighted in the time-bound action plan of the State/UT for trial and testing along with rollout strategy of national portability under 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan in respective State/UT w.e f 1st June 20.

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4. The requested information/action plan may please be furnished to this Department latest by 7th May 2020 for further appraisal to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Yours faithfully,


(D.K. Gupta)
Director (PD)

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