

One Nation One Ration Card



Why in News?

In order to tackle the problem of food security, the government of India introduced the One Nation One Ration Card scheme (ONORC).

The characteristics of the ONORC

- ✓ Existing ration cards will be turned into one nation one ration card.
- ✓ It will be a universal ration card allotted to each beneficiary registered under NFSA.
- ✓ Using the ONORC, a beneficiary who migrates from one place to another can buy subsidized food grains from the fair price shop located in the destination city regardless of the origin of the beneficiaries.
- ✓ The beneficiaries will be identified through biometric authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices. These devices will be installed at each fair price shop.
- ✓ The national portability will work using the:
 - Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) portal – It will provide the technological platform for the ration cards portability.
 - Annavitran portal – It will host the data of the food grains distribution through ePoS devices within a state. This will help a beneficiary to access subsidized food grains within a state (inter-district.)
- ✓ Aadhar cards will be seeded with ration cards which will help beneficiaries get the ration using the same ration card

Status of ONORC Scheme

- ✓ Presently, thirty-two States and Union territories have already completed the formalities of the scheme, which include linking beneficiaries' ration cards with their Aadhaar numbers and installing e-Point of Sale (e-POS) machines in each FPS.
- ✓ The full mobility of food subsidy under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 relies on digitalization of the public distribution system (PDS), a network of over 5,00,000 fair-price shops (FPS).
- ✓ The Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IMPDS) portal records all purchases made under ONORC.