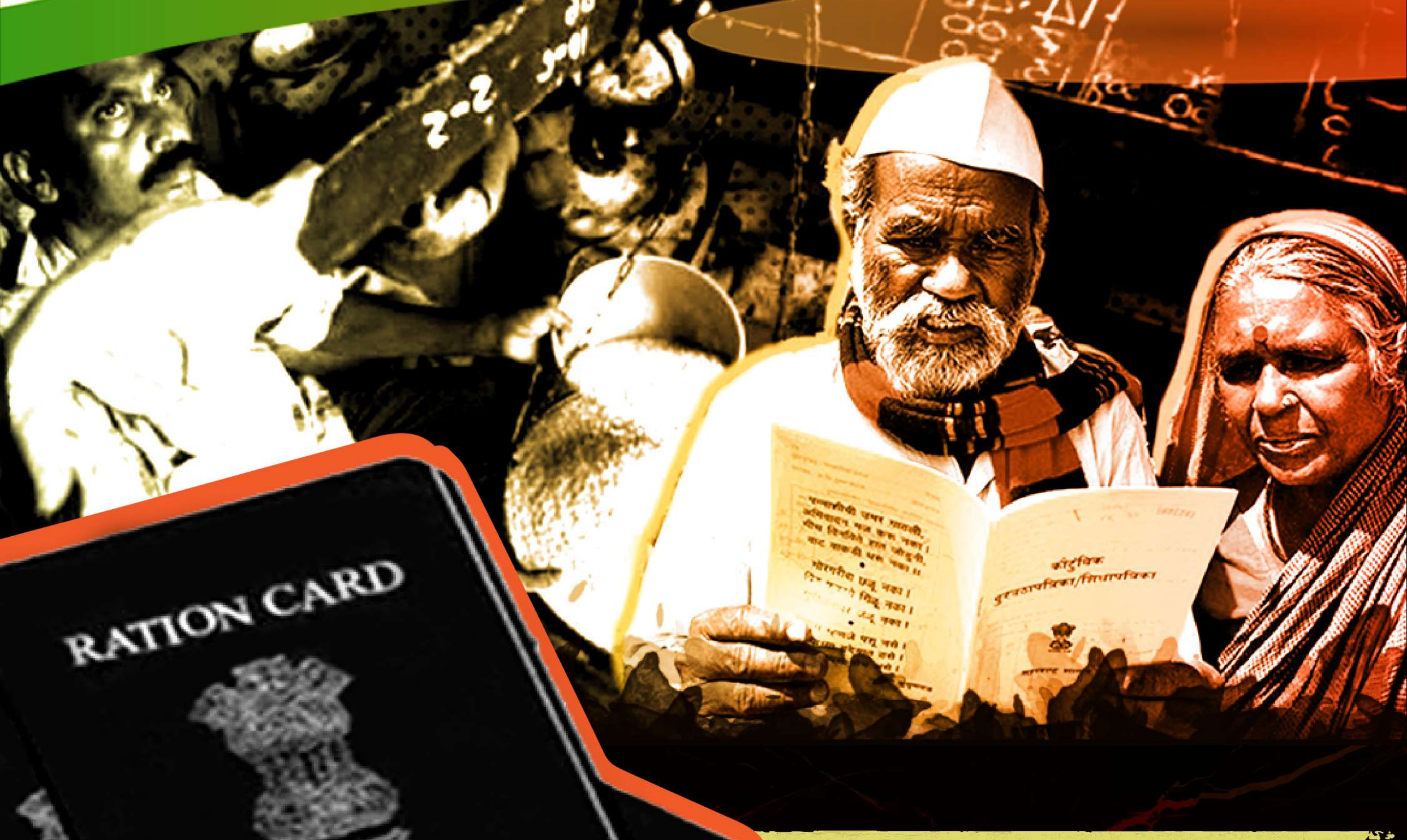


ONE NATION ONE RATION CARD



Why in News?

'One Nation One Ration Card' is a central government scheme that would allow beneficiaries of the Public Distribution System **"especially migrants"** to collect their ration from any shop in the country from July 1, 2020.

Ration Card is used for?

A Ration Card is an **official document** issued by the State Government to purchase the essential commodities from fair price shops (FPS) at a subsidised rate under the Public Distribution System (PDS).



It also serves as an **identity proof** to avail other documents like Domicile Certificate etc.

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About the scheme

Partha Mukhopadhyay Working Group on Migration in 2017 recommended **"portability of food security benefits"**.

Migrants will be able to buy **subsidized food grains** from a ration shop in any part of the country so long as their ration cards are linked to Aadhaar.



They can avail benefits **for the subsidies supported by the Centre** (only), which include rice sold at Rs. 3/kg and wheat at Rs. 2/kg.



They won't be able to access those benefits in a State where **grains were given for free** because of being funded by the State.



National level data repository for de-duplication of beneficiary data (Aadhaar based) will be developed.



10 States - Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana and Tripura are already providing portability of PDS entitlements under **Integrated Management of PDS (IM - PDS)**.

How it will benefit?

Access to migrant workers, no poor is deprived of PDS entitlement if that person shifts from one place to another.



Check on **fake ration card holders**.



Reduces their **dependence on shop** owners and curtail instances of corruption.



Control on rising food subsidy bill by **removing united beneficiaries**, preventing leakages etc.

Challenges



Pan-India portability poses the risk of significantly **increasing the cost to the government** thus increasing the possibility of shops running out of stock.

PDS

Launched as **"general entitlement scheme"** in 1940, Public Distribution System was established under the ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for distributing basic food and non-food commodities to the needy sections of the society at very cheap prices.

Wheat, rice, kerosene, sugar etc are a few major commodities distributed under PDS.

TPDS

Food Corporation of India, a government entity, manages PDS.

PDS was revamped in 1997 as **"Targeted Public Distribution System"** to target poor households.

Antyodaya Anna Yojana Scheme was launched in 2000 to target the **"poorest of the poor"**.

NFSA

National Food Security Act 2013 better known as "Right to Food Act" provides legal right to food to the poor.

IM - PDS

"Integrated Management of Public Distribution System" a central government scheme is an intra-state access to PDS wherein beneficiary can avail his share of food grain from any district in the state.

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