

AATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT ABIYAN: SELF RELIANT INDIA



Editors

**Dr. S. Theenathayalan
Dr. V. Sriman Narayanan**

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FOREWORD

Edited by

**Dr. S. THEENATHAYALAN
Dr. V. SRIMAN NARAYANAN**

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Editors : **Dr. S. THEENATHAYALAN**
Associate Professor & Head
Department of Economics and Centre for Research in Economics
The Madura College (Autonomous) Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Dr. V. SRIMAN NARAYANAN
Associate Professor
Department of Economics and Centre for Research in Economics
The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai, Tamil Nadu

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CONTENTS

S.No	Title	Page No.
1	Performance Analysis of Digital Transactions in India Dr. S. Theenathayalan & Dr. S. Murugan	1
2	Digitalization and its Impact on Environment T. Kalaiselvi & Dr. S. Ganesan	7
3	A Study on Rural Women Entrepreneurs in Vadipatti Taluk, Madurai District, Tamilnadu Dr. M. Regina Mary	12
4	Digitalisation and its Impact on Indian Economy Dr. P. Kannan & Dr. R. Gopi	24
5	Perceived Factors which Induce The use of New Technology in (Digital India) E-Banking Services Dr. A. Marimuthu & S. Hemanath	27
6	An Empirical Analysis of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Dr. S. Meenakshi	35
7	Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abiyan: Make in India – An Outlook Dr. S. Karthikeyan & Dr. P. Gnanasoundari	41
8	Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan – A Pride of India Dr. V. Sriman Narayanan & Dr. J. Premkumar	46
9	G-20 Conference: A Pride of India Dr. M. Subramanian, Dr. D. Abraham Pradeep & Dr. R. Sivajothi	52
10	புதிய பாரத எழுத்தறிவுத் திட்டம் 2022-23 முனைவர் பெ.குப்புசாமி	57
11	Implementation of Government Sponsored Employment (SGSY) Schemes in Sivaganga District Dr. S. Chidambaranathan	65
12	Women Empowerment through Self Help Groups in Theni District, Tamil Nadu Dr. S. Karthikeyan & Dr. S. Senthilkumar	69
13	Impact of Make in India on Tourism and Hospitality Dr. C. Sahaya Mary Sophia & Dr. R. Suji Karthika	75
14	Digitalization and its Impact in India Dr. M. Yesurajan & Dr. T. Indra	81
15	Prospects and Challenges Ahead in Indian Industries: An Optimistic Approach S.T. Siddharthan	87
16	Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abiyan Make in India: A Step Towards Making India Self-Dependent Dr. S. Karthikeyan & Dr. P. Mohammed Hither Ali	95

17	Make in India Versus Make for India Dr. S. Karthikeyan & Dr. M. Satheesh Pandian	106
18	Digital India Innovation in Agricultural Sector Some Reflection Dr. B. Sasikumar	112
19	Effective Utilization of Intellectual Property Potentially Enhances the Role Played by MSMEs S. Seethalakshmi & Dr. K.S. Alakumarimuthu	120
20	Role of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Indian Economy A. Rajeswari & Dr. S. Karthikeyan	124
21	Digital Transaction in India: An Analysis Dr. V. Kannan & Dr. P. Senthilkumar	130
22	A Proactive Support to Empower Entrepreneurs by the Dint of Startup India Scheme Dr. P. Anita	135
23	E-Governance in India - Successes and Challenges: The Way Forward Dr. K.S. Alakumarimuthu & K. Pandi	140
24	Efficiency and Problems Faced by the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Madurai District R. Dilipan & Dr. S. Theenathayalan	143
25	Role of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises in India Dr. M. Gnanamani	148
26	A Study on Startup and its Impact on MSME in Tamilnadu with Special Reference to Vellore District Dr. S. Jaber Asan	156
27	Digital Payment Ecosystem in India K. Satheeshkumar & Dr. R. Kalirajan	161
28	Impact of Make in India on Indian Economy: Evidences of Secondary Data Dr. A. Kannan & V. Thamaraiselvi	166
29	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of India and Economic Growth Dr. M. Manjula	171
30	Self Reliant India with Special Reference to One Nation One Ration Card Dr. G. Angala Eswari	178
31	Role of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) of Coir Industry in Pollachi Taluk, Coimbatore District Dr. M. Mehar Banu & Mrs. Divyabharathi R	183
32	A Study on Performances and Prospects of MSME in India Angel D	190
33	Trend Analysis of Revenue Collection from Goods and Service Taxes in India Dr. R. Premalatha	194

34	Economic Implications of Goods and Service Tax – A Frontward Approach Dr. S. Thangamayan	202
35	Impact of Digitalization on the Growth of Indian Economy- An Analytical Study Z. Meer Ismail Ali	210
36	Trend and Pattern of Manufacturing Sector in Tamilnadu Dr. T. Selvakumar, Dr. J. Priya Rubi & Dr. S.T. Jacob Ponraj	214
37	Impact of GST on Small and Medium Industries – A Case Study of Selected Small Scale Industries in Madurai District Dr. S. Sureshkannan	223
38	Challenges and Opportunities for Digital India S. Sheela & Dr. T. Indra	229
39	MSME is a Tool for Women Empowerment Mrs. A. Gracy Rani & Dr. K. Selvalakshmi	233
40	G20 Summit: Prominence and Pride of India Dr. V. Venkadeshwaran	237
41	Role of Digital India Program in Strengthening Good Governance: A Study of Madurai Municipality Corporation A. Subha Bharathi, T. Sathish Kumar & Dr. T. Indra	241
42	Impact of Climate Change on MSME's in Madurai District Dr. M. Deepan	247
43	Sanitation and Hygiene Issues on Human Health Dr. B. Lakshmi & Dr. R. Dharmadurai	252
44	Current Scenario of MSMEs in India Dr. S. Sharmeela Banu	264
45	Challenges of Make in India: Prospects from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's View Dr. C. Nithiyantham	270

SELF RELIANT INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ONE NATION ONE RATION CARD

Dr.G.Angala Eswari

Assistant Professor

Department of Economics, The Madura College, Madurai

Abstract

India, officially the Republic of India is a country with the special face of seventh largest country by area and the second most populous country in South Asia. The History of India faced and crossed the several struggles to reach the goal of the sustainable development in the Indian Economy.

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan or Self-reliant India campaign is the vision of new India envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 12 May 2020. Our PM raised a clarion call to the nation giving a kick start to the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-reliant India campaign) and announced the Special economic and comprehensive package of INR 20 lakh crores equivalent to 10% of India's GDP to fight COVID-19 pandemic in India.

The aim is to make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses. He further outlined five pillars of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat – Economy, Infrastructure, Technology driven System, Vibrant Demography and Demand.

To change the vision of India, it has been step forward based on one nation one ration card, one election, one tax, and one election etc. with the big theme of self reliant India or Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abiyan. Thus, this paper would like to focus the overview of One Nation One Ration Card scheme in India.

Keywords: Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abiyan, India, One Nation One Ration Card, Self reliant India, Migrant Worker.

Introduction

India, officially the Republic of India is a country with the special face of seventh largest country by area and the second most populous country in South Asia. The History of India faced and crossed the several struggles to reach the goal of the sustainable development in the Indian Economy.

The country became an Independent nation within the British Common Wealth on 15 Aug 1947. Direct Administration by the British, which began in 1858 and affected a political and Economic unification of the subcontinent till their end of the rule came in 1947.

India's 75 years of Independence has a fall of different castes, religion and cultures but they live together. That's the reason behind India being is in Unity in Diversity.

To change the vision of India, it has been step forward based on one nation one ration card, one election, one tax, and one election etc. with the big theme of self reliant India or Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abiyan. Thus, this paper would like to focus the overview of One Nation One Ration Card scheme in India.

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan:

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan or Self-reliant India campaign is the vision of new India envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 12 May 2020. Our PM raised a clarion call to the nation giving a kick start to the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-reliant India campaign) and announced the Special economic and comprehensive package of INR 20 lakh crores equivalent to 10% of India's GDP to fight COVID-19 pandemic in India.

The aim is to make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses. He further outlined five pillars of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat – Economy, Infrastructure, Technology driven System, Vibrant Demography and Demand. Finance Minister further announces Government Reforms and Enablers across the country to Strengthening the major critical industries such as defence, production, minerals, space sector, atomic energy sector, infrastructure, power production and distribution units, airspace management sector, and coal through fundraising and relief measures under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan.

One Nation One Ration Card:

The implementation of nation-wide portability of ration cards through “One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan”, is an ambitious endeavor of the Department of Food & Public Distribution, Government of India to empower about 81 Crore beneficiaries. This includes ensuring food security for migrants as well. Through this facility, while a migrant beneficiary is enabled to get his/her ration through portability in the destination State/UT, at the same time, the family back home is also allowed to get their part of the entitled ration to support itself. The usage of portability can be seasonal or long-term.

The One Nation One Ration Card reform has its genesis in the vision that the computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the country must be taken to the next level in ensuring food security in the country. This technology-driven system of portability is being implemented in all States and Union Territories where the system is being built upon the strong foundations of computerized TPDS operations including the installed infrastructure of electronic Point of Sale devices at the Fair Price Shops (FPS) and seeding of beneficiaries' Aadhaar numbers with their ration cards.

Benefits of the One Nation One Ration Card

ONORC has been in the works since April 2018. The conversion of the regular ration card to the One Nation One Ration Card is expected for all beneficiaries in all states and Union Territories by 2021.

The major benefit of the One Nation One Ration Card is that the people who are eligible to receive subsidised food grain can do so from any FPS shop in any city. With many of the people migrating to different cities and the previous inability to purchase food grain in any other city, the One Ration card can help the livelihood of migrant workers all over the country.

Some of the other benefits of the ONORC are:

- ✚ Under the ONORC, all the beneficiaries from one state can get their share of rations in other states where the ration card was originally issued. Any recipient can use their ration cards at any PDS shop across the country. ONORC is aimed at providing universal access to PDS food grains for migrant workers.
- ✚ Apart from this, ONORC will also give the beneficiaries the opportunity to choose their own dealer. With many cases of misallocation, the beneficiary can switch to another FPS shop instantly, if there is any case of foul play.
- ✚ This scheme will be beneficial for women and other groups, since social identity and other contextual factors will provide them with a strong backdrop in accessing PDS.
- ✚ The ONORC will also help achieve the target set under SDG 2: Ending hunger by 2030. It also aims to address the poor state of hunger in India, where India has been ranked 102 out of 117 countries in the Global Hunger Index.

List of States Integrated with One Nation One Ration Card Portability:

According to reports, the official rolling out of the ONORC was on 1 June 2020. However, at the moment there are 19 states on board to roll out the interstate portability of the ration card under the NFSA. The 19 states and 2 Union Territories are as follow:

• Andhra Pradesh	• Tripura
• Gujarat	• UttarPradesh
• Goa	• Telangana
• Jharkhand	• Bihar
• Haryana	• HimachalPradesh
• Kerala	• Punjab
• MadhyaPradesh	• Dadra & Nagar Haveli
• Karnataka	• Daman & Diu
• Rajasthan	• Odisha
• Maharashtra	• Mizoram and Nagaland

Key highlights of the system:

- ✚ One of its kind Beneficiary Centric initiatives in the Country.
- ✚ A technology and data driven system for nation-wide portability of ration cards under NFSA.
- ✚ Empowering NFSA Migrants with seamless food-security, anywhere in the Country.
- ✚ Ration card details and entitlements are available online on any ePoS device in the country.
- ✚ Includes both inter-State and intra-State (inter-district/intradistrict) portability of ration cards.

Salient features of ration card portability

- ✚ Online and transparent system empowering migrants to be self-reliant for their food security anywhere in the country.

- ✚ No need for new ration card, registration or paper work - Just walk in to any ePoS enabled FPS nearby.
- ✚ No need to carry original documents (ration card or Aadhaar card).
- ✚ A copy of either is acceptable or just quote any of the two numbers to the FPS dealer.
- ✚ Beneficiaries authenticate their identity through Aadhaar biometrics and lift their foodgrains with satisfaction.
- ✚ Receive full or part entitlements; family back home also gets foodgrains on same ration card.

Difficulties faced by ration card portability:

1. **Beneficiaries were confined to particular FPSs**
 - ✚ Ration Cards were tagged to a particular FPS.
 - ✚ Beneficiaries can avail food grains from tagged FPS only.
 - ✚ Dependent on the FPS dealer.
2. **Loss of food security due to migration**
 - ✚ Migrant beneficiaries lose access to subsidised food grains.
 - ✚ Forced to purchase from open market at inflated prices.
 - ✚ Very purpose of 'Food Security' under NFSA is not fulfilled.
3. **Difficulty in getting new Ration Card**
 - ✚ Lengthy process to obtain new ration card at new place.
 - ✚ Requirement of supporting documents and local proofs.
 - ✚ Prone to introducing duplicity of ration card/beneficiary.

Suggestions:

1. This scheme should be covered all over the states across the country.
2. People should aware about the scheme launched by the Indian Government.
3. Government should take initiate steps to understand the nature and benefits of the scheme among the Indian Citizen.

Conclusion

In India many schemes are initiated to eradicate the poverty and launched different types of poverty alleviation programmes. Among the all schemes, this schemes saves the people from the hungry circumstances. Because, it helps to collect the food grains from all over the country at anywhere through the same ration card used in previously as a migrant labour. So, this scheme helps to tackle the poverty crisis in the Indian Economy.

To conclude that the step taken by the government to introduce the One Nation One Ration Card is beneficial for the migrant workers and their families who travel to other states for work.

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ABOUT THE EDITORS



Dr. S. THEENATHAYALAN is presently serving as Associate Professor and Head, Department of Economics and Centre for Research in Economics of The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai, Formerly Member – Syndicate (Governor's Nominee) and Member - Convener Committee, Madurai Kamaraj University. At present he is a Member in Academic Council, Madurai Kamaraj University and Member- Planning Board (Governor's Nominee), Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. He has credibly maintained consistent academic records in his post graduate studies with a University Rank. He started his teaching career in July 1991 with a passion for teaching for more than 3 decades. He has guided 15 Ph.Ds, 32 M.Phil., published 22 books and good number of students completed their PG Projects.

He was also the organizing secretary of 10 National Seminars, 1 National Conference and 3 International Conferences. In addition, he has delivered 80 plus invited lectures at the UGC-HRDC and keynote addresses in Economics in National, International conferences and radio talks. His research contributions are also outstanding. At present, 4 Ph.D. Scholars and one Post-Doctoral fellow are working under him. He is the domain expert and one of the authors of Plus One and Plus Two Economics Text Books of Government of Tamil Nadu.

He has published 40 research papers in national and international journals of repute. His academic contributions involve membership and Chairmanship of Board of Studies of various colleges and universities. He was also a recipient of "Best Teacher Award", "Best NSS Programme Officers Award", "Senior Economists Award", "Eminent Academician Award" and "Distinguished Resource Person Award". Besides, he served as NAAC Coordinator, IQAC Coordinator and Dean of Academics and Research at the College. He was invited to deliver a keynote address in the International Multidisciplinary Conference held at Malaysia.



Dr. V. SRIMAN NARAYANAN, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. SET, is presently working as Associate Professor PG Department of Economics and Centre for Research in Economics, The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai since 1998. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from the Madurai Kamaraj University in 2008. To his credit, he has participated and presented many papers in the International, National and State Level Seminars/Conferences and Workshops. He has also published few articles in the refereed and UGC-Care Listed journals and edited books. He has produced a Ph.D., 15 M.Phil. scholars and many PG Projects. He has rich experience in administration as Member Secretary in the Academic Council, Placement Officer, Deputy Controller of Examinations and Controller of Examinations in The Madura College. Recently, he visited Malaysia for an International Conference as Chairperson. Besides, he received the Best NSS Programme Officer award from the Madurai Kamaraj University.



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