



ABSTRACT

Public Distribution System - Implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013 and continuance of Universal Public Distribution System – Orders - Issued.

Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection (B1) Department

G.O.(Ms) No.124

Dated:27.10.2016
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு, 2047
துன்முகி வருடம், ஐப்பசி 11,

Read:

1. The National Food Security Act, 2013 published *vide* the *Gazette of India*, Extraordinary, dated 10.9.2013.
2. Letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, dated 20.12.2011, 2.8.2013, 24.8.2013 and 29.9.2015.
3. Memorandum presented to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, dated 3.6.2014, 7.8.2015 and 14.6.2016.
4. From the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, D.O. Letter No.12793/B1/2009-64, Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, dated.18.9.2015.
5. From the Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution, D.O. No.1/Tamil Nadu/ 2015-NFSA, dated.23.9.2015.
6. From the Under Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution, No.1-2 / 2015-BP III, dated.7.10.2016.
7. From the Under Secretary, Election Commission of India, Letter No.437/TN-LA/2016(MCC)/Vol.II, dated 27.10.2016.

ORDER:-

The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to provide food security to all. In order to achieve this goal, the Government of Tamil Nadu have been implementing Universal Public Distribution System. The universal character

of Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu has been widely appreciated as an effective tool to provide food safety net to all without any exclusion. On the directions of the Honourable Chief Minister, the Government of Tamil Nadu have been supplying rice under Public Distribution System **free of cost since 1.6.2011.**

2. The present scale of supply to all rice cardholders is 12 Kg per month for first unit, and additional 4 Kg per additional unit (adult member) and 2 Kg per additional child, with a monthly ceiling of 20 Kg per card. For The Nilgiris District, 4 Kg rice per card per month is being given over and above the regular entitlement. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families are supplied 35 Kg rice per month.

3. The Government of India have enacted the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013, which has come into force on 5.7.2013. It seeks to provide food and nutritional security to targeted priority households. The Government of India, based on the Large Scale Sample Survey of Household Consumption Expenditure, 2011-12, have determined the coverage of rural and urban population under NFSA. **In the case of Tamil Nadu, the coverage has been fixed as 62.55% for rural population and 37.79% for urban population by Government of India.** As per the NFSA, every person belonging to priority households, including a child, shall be entitled to receive 5 Kg of food grains per month at subsidised prices. Antyodaya Anna Yojana families would continue to get 35 Kg of food grains per month at the subsidised price.

4. The Government of India, *vide* Letter No. 1-2/2015-BP.III, Department of Food and Public Distribution, dated 7th October, 2016, have conveyed that monthly allocation of food grains to APL beneficiaries of Tamil Nadu will be made at Minimum Support Price (MSP)/ MSP derived rate in case of wheat and rice respectively, **as the State has so far not implemented NFSA.** It has also been informed that no further additional allocation of food grains will be made to the State under APL and BPL category. The Government of India have conveyed that the present MSP derived rate for rice is Rs.22.54 per Kg. The State has so far been getting 15.15 lakh MT of rice annually under APL category from the Government of India at Rs.8.30 per Kg.

The present monthly offtake of rice under the Public Distribution System, including AAY, is about 3.23 lakh MT. The monthly allotment of rice to the State by the Government of India is 2.96 lakh MT. The additional requirement of rice, over and above the AAY, BPL and APL allocation, was being met through additional allocation of 27,969 MT of rice per month at BPL rate (Rs.5.65 per Kg) by the Government of India up to June, 2016. There has been no additional allocation from July, 2016. **The annual expenditure on this pattern of supply is Rs.2,393.30 crore for supply of 38.93 lakh MT of rice.**

Due to revision of rate by Government of India for rice under APL category, with effect from 1.11.2016, **the Government of Tamil Nadu will have to incur an additional expenditure of Rs.2,730.95 crore per year over and above the present expenditure of Rs.2,393.30 crore, if NFSA is not implemented.**

5. Taking the above circumstances carefully into consideration, the Government of Tamil Nadu have decided to implement the National Food Security Act, 2013 in Tamil Nadu **from 1st November, 2016**. With a view to protect the Universal Public Distribution System which the State has been adopting at present, in which rice is supplied to **all** rice cardholders without any discrimination, it has been decided to retain and continue the Universal Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu while implementing NFSA. Therefore, the Government have decided as follows:-

- i. **All rice cardholders will be eligible for 5 Kg of rice per person (including a child) per month while ensuring that the quantity supplied under the new system is not less than the present entitlement under Universal Public Distribution System. Further, there shall be no upper ceiling of 20 Kg per card per month.**

Illustration 1.

(a) If there is only one adult member in a family, the entitlement will continue to be 12 Kg per month, though the monthly entitlement as per NFSA norms is 5 Kg only.

(b) If there are two adult members in a family, they will continue to get 16 Kg (12Kg+4Kg) of rice per month though their monthly entitlement as per NFSA norms is 10 Kg only.

Illustration 2.

If there are 5 members (3 adults and 2 children) in a family, they will get 25 Kg of rice per month. Similarly, if there are 7 members in a family, they will get 35 Kg of rice per month.

- ii. **Rice will continue to be supplied free of cost to all rice cardholders.**

- iii. In case of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), the existing scale of supply of 35 Kg of rice per card per month will continue to be supplied free of cost.

6. On account of implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 and retaining and continuing the Universal Public Distribution System with protection of existing entitlements, the offtake per month is expected to go up. **The State Government shall have to bear the additional**

expenditure on this account. This will result in an additional commitment of about Rs.1,193.30 crore per annum.

7. The Government have also decided to constitute a State Food Commission for the purpose of monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the NFSA as provided under Section 16 of the Act. The orders appointing the Chairperson and Members to the State Food Commission will be issued separately.

8. As per sub-section (1) of section 15 of the said Act, every State Government shall appoint or designate, for each district, an officer to be the District Grievance Redressal Officer for expeditious and effective redressal of grievances of the aggrieved persons in matters relating to distribution of entitled food grains or meals and to enforce the entitlements under the Act. Accordingly, the Government direct as follows:-

(i) The District Revenue Officers in the Districts shall be designated as District Grievance Redressal Officer to hear complaints regarding non-distribution of entitled food grains or meals, and matters relating thereto, and take necessary action for their redressal in such manner and within such time as may be prescribed by the State Government.

(ii) Any complainant or the officer or authority against whom any order has been passed by the officer, who is not satisfied with the redressal of grievance may file an appeal against such order before the State Food Commission.

(iii) Orders relating to the procedure to be followed and the time frame to settle the grievances will be issued separately.

9. As stipulated in the National Food Security Act, 2013, the list of priority households will be uploaded in the website. **The supply of food grains will be uniform both for priority and non-priority households under Universal Public Distribution System.**

10. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection is hereby directed to ensure that all the cardholders, eligible to draw rice, get rice as per new entitlement, **free of cost, from 1st November, 2016.**

11. The revised scale of supply will be implemented in the State from 1.11.2016 except in 134-Aravakurichi, 174-Thanjavur and 195-Thiruparankundram Assembly Constituencies due to election/bye-election in these three constituencies. In case of these constituencies, revised scale of supply will be implemented after election/bye-election process is over (vide reference seventh cited).

12. This Order issues with the concurrence of the Public (Elections) Department *vide* its U.O. No. 14200/2016-81, dated 27.10.2016 and with the concurrence of Finance Department *vide* its U.O. No.3515/FS/P/2016, dated:24.10.2016

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

P. Rama Mohana Rao,
Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies and
Consumer Protection, Chennai- 600 005.

The Principal Secretary / Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation,
Chennai -600 010.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Chennai-600 010.

The Additional Director General of Police, Civil Supplies CID,
Chennai-600 035.

All Heads of the Departments.

All District Collectors.

The Registrar, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission,
Chennai - 600 003.

Copy to:-

The Secretary to Government of India,
Ministry of Consumer Affairs,
Food and Public Distribution,

Department of Food and Public Distribution,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.

The Principal Secretary to Governor, Raj Bhawan,
Guindy, Chennai -600 032.

The Principal Secretary-II to the Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Chennai - 600 009.

All Special / Senior Personal Assistants to Ministers.

All Departments of Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

All Section in the Co-operation, Food and Consumer
Protection Department, Chennai - 600 009.

SF /SC.

/Forwarded by order/



27/10/2016

Section Officer