

# NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT, 2013

## 1 INTRODUCTION:

An Act to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

### 1.1 COMMENCEMENT: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2013

## 2. PROVISIONS FOR FOOD SECURITY:

### 2.1 Coverage / Identification of Beneficiaries

To the extent of up to 75% population of Rural and up to 50% population of Urban areas may be identified as eligible households for food security. The eligible households will be identified in two categories –

- i. Households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (Identified to the extent as may be specified by the central government for each state in accordance with the guidelines of Antyodaya Anna Yojana Scheme launched by Central government on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2000)
- ii Priority Households (to be identified in accordance with such guidelines as the State Government concerned may specify)

### 2.2 Entitlements for General People

The households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana shall be entitled to get 35 Kg. of foodgrains per household per month.

Every person belonging to priority household shall be entitled to get 5 kg. of foodgrains per person per month.

The said foodgrains will be provided at the prices of Rs. 3 per Kg. for rice, Rs. 2 per Kg. for wheat and Rs. 1 per Kg. for coarsegrains.

### 2.3 Entitlements for Women

Every pregnant woman and lactating mothers except those who are in regular employment with Central or State Govt. or Public Undertaking or those who are in receipt of similar benefits under any law, shall be entitled to:-

- (a) Meal, **free of charge**, during pregnancy and six months after the child birth, through the local *anganwadi*.
- (b) Maternity benefits of not less than Rs. 6000/-, in such installments as may be prescribed by Central Govt.

### 2.4 Entitlements for Children

Every child upto the age of fourteen years shall be entitled to have entitlements for his nutritional needs:-

- (a) Every child from the age of six months to age of six years shall be entitled to get appropriate meal, **free of charge**, through local *anganwadi*.
- (b) In case of children, upto class 8 or within the age group of six years to fourteen years shall be entitled to have one mid day meal, **free of charge**,

- everyday, except on school holidays, in schools run by local bodies, government and government aided schools
- (c) The state government shall, through the local *anganwadi*, identify and provide meals, free of charge, to children who suffer from malnutrition, so as to meet nutritional standards.

### 3. FOOD SECURITY ALLOWANCE:

In case of non supply of entitled quantities of foodgrains or meals to entitled persons, such person shall be entitled to receive such foodgrains security allowance from the concerned State Government to be paid to each person. For this, in case of short supply of foodgrains from the central pool to State, The Central Government shall provide Funds to the extent of short supply to the State Government for meeting obligations.

### 4. REFORMS IN TARGETED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS:

The central and state governments shall endeavour to progressively undertake necessary reforms in the targeted public distributed systems  
The reforms shall include-

- (a) Door step delivery of food grains to the TPDS outlets
- (b) Transparent recording of transactions at all level by applying the information and communication technology tools including end to end computerization
- (c) Proper targeting of beneficiaries by leveraging "Aadhaar"
- (d) Full transparency of records
- (e) Involvement of public institutions or public bodies such as panchayats, self help group, cooperatives, in licensing of fair price shops and management of fair price shops by women of their collectives
- (f) Introduction of schemes, such as, cash transfer, food coupons, or other schemes, to the targeted beneficiaries in lieu of their foodgrains entitlements

### 5. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

The eldest women who is not less than eighteen years of age shall be head of the eligible household for the purpose of issue of ration cards.

Where a household at any time does not have women or a women of eighteen years of age or above, but has a female member below the age of eighteen years than, the eldest male member of the household shall be the head for the purpose of issue of ration cards and the female member, on attaining the age of eighteen years, shall become the head of the household for such ration cards.

**6. OBLIGATIONS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS FOR FOOD SECURITY:**

The Central governments shall, for ensuring the regular supply of foodgrains to persons belonging to eligible households, allocate the required quantity of food grains to the State governments under TPDS, from the Central pool as per the entitlements and at the rate of Rs1/-, 2/- & 3/- for coarse-grains, wheat & rice, respectively.

The Central Government shall procure food grains for the central pool through its own agencies and the state governments and their agencies. The central governments shall provide for transportation of food grains, as per allocation, to the depots designated by the central government in each state.

The Central Government shall provide assistance to the state governments in meeting the expenditure incurred by it towards intra-State Movement, handling of foodgrains and margins paid to fair price shop dealers.

The Central Government shall create and maintain required modern and scientific storage facilities at various levels.

The Central Government shall provide Funds to the extent of short supply to the State Government for meeting obligations.

**7. OBLIGATIONS OF STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR FOOD SECURITY:**

The State Government shall be responsible for implementation and monitoring of the schemes of various Ministries and Departments of the Central Government in accordance with guidelines issued by the Central Government for each scheme, and their own schemes, for ensuring food security to the targeted beneficiaries in their State.

Under the Targeted Public Distribution System, it shall be the duty of the State Government to take delivery of foodgrains from the designated depots of the Central Government in the State, at the prices specified and organize intra-State allocations for delivery of the allocated foodgrains, through authorized agencies at the door step of each fair price shop and ensure actual delivery or supply of the foodgrains to the entitled persons.

In case of non supply of entitled quantities of foodgrains or meals to entitled persons, the State Government shall be responsible for payment of food security allowance.

The State Government shall create and maintain required scientific storage facilities at State, District and Block levels.

## 8. REQUIREMENT OF FOODGRAINS UNDER NFSA-2013

As per estimated population of 2013, out of overall population of 125.02 Crore, 86.06 Crore is Rural and 38.96 Crore is Urban. The coverage under NFSA-2013 out of said population is to the tune of 64.55 crore (Rural) and 19.48 crore(Urban), totalling to 84.03 crore. The estimated requirement of foodgrains as per Schedule-IV of National Food Security Act-2013, is to the tune of 549.26 lakh tonnes.

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION OF NFSA

National Food Security Act, 2013 has been implemented by the following States/UTs:-

Sl. No.	State	Started from
1	Haryana	September, 2013
2	Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh & Delhi	October, 2013
3	Punjab	December, 2013
4	Karnataka & Chhattisgarh	January, 2014
5	Maharashtra	February, 2014
6	Chandigarh *	March, 2014
7	Madhya Pradesh & Bihar	March, 2014
8	West Bengal	June 2015 - In 3 Districts. 4 more districts from July 2015 and remaining 13 districts from February 2016
9	Lakshadweep	August, 2015
10	Puducherry * & Tripura	September, 2015
11	Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, & Telangana	October, 2015
12	Daman & Diu	November, 2015
13	Odisha	Partially in 14 Districts in November '15 and in entire State from Dec'15
15	Assam, Goa & Andhra Pradesh	December, 2015
16	Sikkim & Uttar Pradesh	January, 2016. In UP - Partially in 28 Districts from January 2016 and in entire State from March'2016
17	Meghalaya & J&K	February, 2016

18	A & N Islands & Dadra Nagar Haveli **	March, 2016.
20	Mizoram	March, 2016
21	Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh & Manipur	April, 2016
22	Nagaland	Partially in 2 Districts from July'16 and in entire State from Aug'16
22	Kerala & Tamil Nadu	November, 2016

\* From September, 2015, Chandigarh & Pudduchery have implemented NFSA in the form of DBT instead of foodgrains to the beneficiaries.

\*\* In Dadra Nagar Haveli - DBT in Silvassa Municipal Area and Dadra Panchayat. For rest part, foodgrains have been allocated under NFSA

The allocation of foodgrains under NFSA is in supersession to the earlier allocation under TPDS for APL BPL & AAY categories. Allocations of foodgrains (Wheat, Rice & Coarsegrain) under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is being made by the Ministry of CAF&PD for two categories i.e. i. NFSA ( sub categories -PHH & AAY) and ii Tide Over (Other than NFSA). For the population covered under the Act, allocation is being made under the category named 'NFSA' at the issue price of Rs.1/2/3 for coarsegrains, wheat and rice, respectively. For rest of the population which could not be covered yet, allocation is being made under the category 'Tide Over', at the issue prices applicable for APL category.

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## **OTHER WELFARE SCHEMES**

In addition to regular NFSA(PHH and AAY) allocation and special schemes launched by Govt. of India during COVID crisis, Food Corporation of India is also regularly issuing foodgrains under various welfare schemes(OWS) of the Government of India viz. Mid-Day-Meal, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme, Welfare Institutions & Hostels, Annapurna, Scheme for Adolescent Girls etc. on regular basis. Schemewise overview and there overview are as under :-

### **PM POSHAN (Mid-Day Meal Scheme)**

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme was launched on 15.08.1995 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development with a view to enhance enrollment, retention, attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among students in primary schools. . The Scheme presently covers students of Class I-VIII of Government and Government aided schools, Education Guarantee Scheme/Alternative and innovative Education Centres (EGS/AIE). Provision for a quantity of 100 gm. And 150 gm. Of food grain per child per school day, respectively for I-V Standard and VI –VIII standard, respectively.

Beneficiaries:- Students upto 5<sup>th</sup> class of Government schools. However, allocation of foodgrains has also been made from Oct. 2007 for the students from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Educationally backward blocks.

Rates:- Free of cost to States

Bills are raised at Wheat 200/- & rice 300/- by the FCI with Ministry of HRD.

### **Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP)**

This Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development. The foodgrains allotted under this Scheme are utilized by the States/Uts under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) for providing nutritious/energy food to children below 6 years of age and expectant/lactating women.

Beneficiaries:- State run Child Development Projects

Rates:- Wheat:200/- Qtl.

Rice :300/- Qtl.

### **Scheme For Supply of Food grains to Welfare Institutions and Hostels**

With a view to meet the requirement of Welfare Institutions viz. Charitable Institutions such as beggar homes, nari nicketans and other similar welfare institutions not covered under TPDS or under any other Welfare Schemes and SC/ST/OBC hostels, an additional allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) not

exceeding 5% of the BPL allocation is made to States/Uts at BPL prices by the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Beneficiaries:- For Welfare Institutions including SC/ST/OBC Hostels of the States/Uts

Rates:- Wheat:415/- Qtl.

Rice :565/- Qtl.

### **Annapurna Scheme**

The Ministry of Rural Development launched the scheme in 2000-01. Department of Food and Public Distribution allocate foodgrains as per the requirement projected by the Ministry of Rural Development. Indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who are not getting pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) are provided 10 kgs. Of foodgrains per person per month free of cost under the scheme. Since 2020-21, Govt. of India has not made any allocation.

Beneficiaries:- Old aged person eligible for Pension but are not getting the same

Rates:- Wheat:415/-Qtl.

Rice :565/- Qtl.

### **Scheme for Adolescent Girls(SAG)**

The Ministry of Women & Child Development launched the Scheme on 19.11.2010 by merging two schemes namely Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) and Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) in to a single scheme to be implemented in 200 selected districts across the country aims at empowering adolescent girls of 11-18 years by improvement of their nutritional and health status and upgrading various skills like home skills, life skills and vocational skills. The requirement of food grains under the scheme for nutrition is @ 100 grams of grains per beneficiary per day for 300 days in a year. W.e.f. 2017-18 the name of the scheme has again revised to Scheme for Adolescent Girls(SAG) from earlier name Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls-"SABLA".

Beneficiaries:- State run Women Welfare Projects.

Earlier it was known with the name AGPLM, NPAG and Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls-"SABLA".

Rates:- Wheat:415/- Qtl.

Rice :565/- Qtl.

### **OTHER SCHEMES**

In addition to OWS, Food Corporation of India also issues food grains under following schemes/sectors:-

## **Defence**

Food grains are allocated to Battalions/defence agencies like ITBP etc. at economic cost. 1.28 LMT of foodgrains (0.02 LMT wheat and 1.26 LMT rice) have been allocated till 30.04.2022 under the scheme for for the year 2022-23.

Beneficiaries:- Defence and paramilitary forces.

## **Ethanol**

Under biofuel policy of Govt. of India, surplus rice stock are supplied to the distilleries by the FCI. The rice is supplied to the distilleries on pre-payment basis and no credit sale is allowed. The supply is given in one go or in tranches. 10.16 LMT rice has been allocated during the 2021-22 ethanol sugar year (ESY).

Beneficiaries:- Distilleries who are manufacturing ethanol under the biofuel policy of GoI.

## **OMSS (D)**

FCI undertakes sale of Wheat & Rice under OMSS (D) as per the policy guidelines of GoI every year to offload the excess stock in the open market as well as to control the inflationary trends. Reserve price of Wheat & Rice are communicated by GoI and e-Auction are being conducted for sale under OMSS (D) to private parties. The state Govt. and its undertakings are also allowed to participate in the OMSS(D) without e-auction.

Beneficiaries:- Traders, bread, biscuit, atta manufacturers, floor mills, state govt.'s and its undertakings.

## **Additional Allocation**

Food grains are supplied to victims of natural calamities such as floods, Bru Reang Migrants, additional requirement for festivals etc. at MSP/CIP/Economic Cost of FCI/ Open Sale Rate as specified by the Ministry from time to time.

## **Export**

As per the allocation given by GoI, FCI issues food grains to other countries under humanitarian aid/assistance programmes. The cost of food grains are reimbursed by Ministry of External Affairs.

## **SCHEMES INTRODUCED DURING COVID-19**

Government of India has taken pro-poor initiatives to ameliorate the hardship faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by Corona Virus. With this reference, apart from the regular allocation of foodgrains under NFSA,



the following additional schemes have been introduced during COVID-19 period under which foodgrains have been allocated by the GOI. The details are given hereunder:-

### **PMGKAY**

In view of the pro-poor initiative announced by the Govt. of India to ameliorate the hardship faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by Corona virus, additional food grains have been allocated to all the State/UTs free of cost @ 5 kg per person per month for distribution to all beneficiaries covered under NFSA (AAY, PHH & DBT) over and above NFSA allocation. Initially the scheme was introduced vide GoI, MoCAF&PD letter No. F. No. 7-1/2019(ii)-BP.III dated 30th March 2020 for a period of three months from April-June 2020. The scheme has been extended five times by MoCAF&PD, for 5 five months from July-November, 2020, for 2 months from May & June 2021, for 5 months from July-November, 2021, for 4 months from December'2021 to March'2022 & for another 6 months from April 2022- September 2022.

Beneficiaries:- PHH and AAY card holders.

### **Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme**

As part of the Economic Measures (Atma Nirbhar Bharat) , GOI allocated free foodgrains for the migrants, who are not covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) or State Scheme PDS Cards, @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for two months i.e. May & June, 2020 to benefit approximately 8 crore stranded migrants to help mitigate their plight during this precarious COVID-19 situation and to ensure availability of foodgrain to them.

For Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme, Govt. of India had also decided to bear the entire cost on account of such distribution including food subsidy, intra-state transportation, dealer's margin/additional dealers margin etc. without any sharing by States/UTs. Govt. of India has allocated 8.00 LMT foodgrains (2.44 LMT wheat and 5.56 LMT rice) under this scheme.

Beneficiaries:- Migrants/Stranded Migrant workers and non-NFSA card holders.

### **Scheme for Non-NFSA card holders**

The Govt. of India had decided to allocate foodgrains for all the beneficiaries to whom ration cards have been issued by the State Governments under their own scheme but who are not covered under NFSA, @ 5 kg per person per month for distribution to such beneficiaries for three months from April to June, 2020 at Rs. 21/- per Kg. wheat and Rs. 22/- per Kg. rice. and directed FCI to make available the required quantity of foodgrains, as per the demands of the States/UTs, from Central Pool Stocks for distribution to such person holding valid cards issued by the State/UT Govts.

This scheme has been extended for a period of eleven months i.e. from May 2021 to March 2022, and further extended till 31.12.2022 with revised rates i.e. Rs. 22/kg for wheat and Rs. 23/kg for rice.

Beneficiaries:- persons who don't have NFSA cards.

### **Supply to Charitable/ Non-Governmental Organizations**

Govt. of India, Ministry of CAF&PD vide letter No. 1-4/2020-Py-IV dated 08.04.2020 & 09.04.2020 had communicated that in view of the extra ordinary situation prevailing due to COVID-19 pandemic, it has been decided that as a onetime measure, charitable/non-governmental organizations running relief camps or community kitchens etc. and providing cooked food etc. to various needy people including migrant labourers/ vulnerable groups in the light of prevailing lockdown declared by Govt. of India may be provided foodgrains (wheat & rice) by FCI under Open Market Sale Scheme without the need of registration with FCI or the need to participate in e-auction at a uniform rate of Rs. 21 per Kg. for wheat and Rs. 22 per Kg. for rice. The minimum allocated quantity would not be less than 1 MT and more than 10 MT at a time for allocation of foodgrain to each such organization from any FCI Depots.

The scheme is extended till 31st December 2022 with revised rates of Rs. 22/kg for wheat and Rs. 23/kg for rice.

Beneficiaries:- NGOs, Charitable Organisations, Community Kitchens.

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