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Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 04th July, 2019

To

**Principal Secretaries/Secretaries,
Food & Civil Supplies Department
State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Telangana**

Subject: Guidelines for pilot implementation of National Portability in States Regarding

Sir,

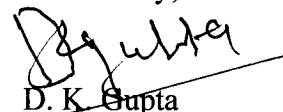
In order to sustain the reforms brought in by the 'End to End Computerization of TPDS Operations' scheme, Government has launched **Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)** with the primary aim of introducing National Portability of ration card in PDS operations.

2. This Department has decided to implement National Portability on a pilot basis in two clusters i.e. Andhra Pradesh & Telangana (cluster-I), Gujarat & Maharashtra (Cluster-II) w.e.f **August 1, 2019**. In this regard, detailed guidelines (enclosed) have been prepared to ensure effective and timely implementation of National Portability between the states in the cluster.

3. It is requested that necessary actions may be taken for the timely launch of National Portability of ration card to enable lifting of foodgrains by NFSA beneficiaries from any FPSs of cluster states.

Encl : As above

Yours faithfully,



D. K. Gupta

Director (PD)

Tel: 23070429

Copy for information to:

1. CMD, FCI HQ New Delhi
2. AS&FA,DFPD, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Director General, NIC, CGO Complex, New Delhi
4. Joint Secretary (Policy&FCI), DFPD, New Delhi
5. Economic Advisor, DFPD, DFPD, New Delhi
6. Dy. Director General, NIC CGO Complex, New Delhi : With request to share the guideline with SIO, NIC of concerned States for timely launching this initiative.
7. Dy. Secretary (BP), DFPD, New Delhi

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (IM-PDS)

Guidelines for pilot implementation of National Portability of Ration Card Holders

1. Objective

To implement nation-wide portability of benefits for ration card holders under NFSA, to lift their entitlement foodgrains from any FPS in the country.

2. Definitions under national portability

- a. **Home State:** Ration card issuing State/UT
- b. **Destination State:** Foodgrains distributing State/UT, other than Home State.
- c. **Central Issue Prices:** Rs. 3, 2, 1 per Kg. for Rice, Wheat and Coarse-grains respectively.
- d. **Scale of Issue:**
 - AAY: 35 Kg per household per month
 - PHH: 5 Kg per person per month
- e. **Automated FPS:** An FPS having fully functional ePoS device working online.
- f. **Un-automated FPS:** FPS without ePoS devices or without network connectivity.
- g. **Portability Beneficiary:** Beneficiary of any State/UT intending to lift subsidised foodgrains in a Destination State/UT through national portability.

3. Eligibility of beneficiaries for national portability

- a. All beneficiaries covered under NFSA shall be eligible, except those tagged to un-automated FPSs and those covered under State Govt. schemes.
- b. Aadhaar number of at least the beneficiary should be seeded with his/her ration card.
- c. The household of the beneficiary shall not have more than one ration card.
- d. Name of any beneficiary of the concerned ration card is not appearing in more than one ration card.

4. Use of Aadhaar for authenticated lifting under national portability

Lifting of subsidised foodgrains from the FPSs shall only be done after successful biometric Aadhaar authentication of beneficiary seeking portability benefit on the ePoS device.

5. Mechanism for lifting of foodgrains from FPSs in Destination State

- a. Beneficiary desirous of lifting foodgrains through portability in a Destination State may approach any automated FPS in the Destination State along with ration card details issued in Home State under NFSA.
- b. Ration card details will be used by the FPS dealer in Destination State to obtain entitlement details of the beneficiary from his/her Home State.

- c. After receiving entitlement details, Aadhaar of the beneficiary will be used for biometric authentication on ePoS device.
- d. After successful biometric authentication on ePoS, the beneficiary will be able to lift the desired quantity of foodgrains from the FPS in Destination State,.

A flow diagram giving complete transaction process is annexed.

6. Commodities, scale of issue and issue prices under national portability

- a. Foodgrains i.e. rice, wheat and coarse-grains shall be issued at the same scale and central issue prices as under NFSA.
- b. Combination/ratio of foodgrains (i.e. Rice, Wheat and Coarse-grains) shall be same as applicable for distribution under PDS in the Destination State/UT.
- c. In case of States distributing Wheat-flour (Atta) instead of Wheat, Wheat flour would be distributed to the portability beneficiaries at a price fixed by the concerned State/UT for distribution of Wheat flour.
- d. Destination State/UT may consider at their discretion to allow the lifting of foodgrains by such beneficiaries at the scale of issue in terms of quantity/commodity or issue price applicable for same category of beneficiaries in the Destination State/UT without any financial implication for GoI.

7. Part-lifting of entitled foodgrains

- a. A ration card holder under national portability, except in ration card with single beneficiary, shall not be allowed to lift entire quantity of the monthly entitled quota of foodgrains in a single transaction in Destination State/UT, to ensure provision of lifting of part quantity by other family members, if any, in the Home State/UT.
- b. If a ration card holder under national portability has more than one member in family/ration card, then he/she can only lift up to 50% of the monthly entitled foodgrains from Destination State/UT in one single transaction, provided there shall be a gap of at least 10 days between two transactions.

8. Advance central allocation of foodgrains

- a. States may take additional 5% quantity of foodgrains from the Central Pool as **one-time advance** for a period of up to three months, i.e. 15% for up to one quarter only.
- b. Advance quantity shall be over and above regular monthly central allocation.
- c. Thereafter, from subsequent quarter, reconciled quantity of foodgrains shall be allocated dynamically after adjustments between the States.

9. State-level allocation of foodgrains

States shall make their own internal arrangements and adjustments for FPS wise allocation of foodgrains under national portability, over and above the State-level portability.

10. Adjustments & Settlement of foodgrains

- a. States/UTs shall reconcile and adjust the quantity of foodgrains with each other on quarterly basis, as per actual distribution to each other's beneficiaries under national portability, as appearing on the central Annavitran portal.
- b. Settlement of foodgrains shall be done at the level of Central Allocation, only in terms of quantity of foodgrains irrespective of the commodities i.e. Rice, Wheat and Coarse-grains, distributed under national portability.
- c. Final reconciliation and adjustment of the quantity of foodgrains shall also be done at the level of Central Allocation on annual basis in the beginning of each Financial Year.

11. Central assistance

States may claim central assistance under NFSA for the intra-State transportation, dealers' margin, etc. as per norms based on actual distribution appearing of foodgrains, as per Annavitran portal.

12. Awareness generation

States may also undertake necessary awareness generation among the beneficiaries with regards to implementation of national/ inter-State portability of benefits i.e. distribution of subsidised foodgrains under NFSA.

Transaction Process of National Portability

