

No.13-4/2016-BP-II
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

12520/RWJ/FSSAI
27/12/16

Krishi Bhawan, Rafi Marg,
New Delhi-110001
Dated - December 22, 2016

To

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries
Food & Civil Supplies Departments
All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations

Subject: **Fortification of Staple Food distributed under the Targeted Public Distribution System - ATTA (whole wheat flour)**

The fortification of staple food has been under consideration of the Government of India for past some time. A large part of the population of our country suffers from acute malnutrition. The deficiencies in vitamins, minerals and other micronutrients, in particular, have long ranging effects on health, cognitive abilities and productivity which are critical to our all round socio-economic development. These deficiencies need to be addressed on a war footing.

2. A consultation meeting in this regard was held on February 19, 2016 in Department of Food & Public Distribution with all stakeholders to evolve a comprehensive policy and draft legislation/regulation on micronutrient fortification wherein States/UTs were encouraged to distribute fortified wheat flour under TPDS.

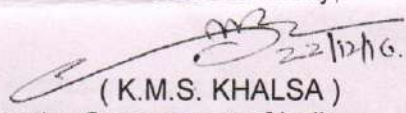
3. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has now brought out a comprehensive regulation on fortification of staple foods namely 'Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulation 2016 covering the production, manufacture, distribution, sale and consumption of fortified food. These regulations include the **fortification standards on wheat** which have been operationalized with effect from 16th October, 2016. A copy of the FSSAI Standards for Fortification of **ATTA** (whole wheat flour) are attached herewith.

4. All the States/UTs especially the States/UTs, which are distributing wheat flour through Public Distribution System are requested to distribute fortified wheat flour as per FSSAI Standards through Public Distribution System in their respective States/UTs.

5. States/UTs may bear the increased cost of conversion themselves or raise the end retail price of fortified wheat flour (Atta) from Rs. 2 per kg as stipulated under NFSA, 2013 so as to cover the cost of conversion. While recovering the cost of conversion of wheat into fortified wheat flour (Atta), the States/UTs shall ensure that the additional cost being charged is limited to the actual cost of conversion. A copy of this Department's communication dated 3rd November, 2014 regarding recovering the cost of conversion of wheat into wheat flour is also attached for reference.

Yours faithfully,

Enclosures: As above


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Copy for information to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
2. Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development
3. ✓ CEO, Food Safety & Standards Authority of India

Copy also to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Union Minister for CAF&PD
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State for CAF&PD
3. PS to Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution
4. PS to Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs

F. No. 10(3)/2005-Py.IV/PD-I/Vol.III
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated the 03rd November, 2014

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Food & Civil Supplies Department,
All State Governments/ UTs

Sub: Distribution of Wheat Flour (Atta) to ration card holders through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer this Department's letter number 4-7/2005-Py.IV/PD.I (Pt.) dated 17.1.2008 (copy enclosed) regarding distribution of wheat flour (atta) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) subject to the terms and conditions prescribed therein. Consequent to coming into force of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), the issue regarding distribution of wheat flour (atta) through TPDS under NFSA, 2013 was also inter-alia discussed during the Conference of Food Ministers and Food Secretaries of State/UTs on issues relating to implementation of NFSA 2013 held at New Delhi on 30.9.2013-1.10.2013 and 4.7.2014.

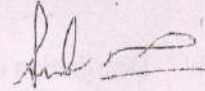
2. It is further to state that the issue regarding distribution of wheat flour (atta) to TPDS beneficiaries under the NFSA 2013 was earlier examined by this Department in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice and vide this Department's letter of even number dated 26.03.2014, States/UTs had been advised that State Governments/UT Administrations shall not reduce the quantity or raise the end retail price of wheat flour (atta) being distributed by them in lieu of wheat through the TPDS under NFSA 2013.

3. In light of the issue raised by States/UTs during the conferences, the matter has been re-examined by the Department in consultation with the Ministry of Law & Justice. It is to intimate that States/UTs may distribute wheat flour (atta) through the network of fair price shops to the eligible TPDS beneficiaries under NFSA 2013, subject to the following terms and conditions :-

- (a) States/UTs may distribute wheat flour (atta) to priority households @ 5 kg per person per month and to Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households @ 35 kg per household per month after adjusting the loss occurring during the process of converting wheat into wheat flour (atta).
- (b) States/UTs may provide wheat flour (atta) in lieu of the entitled quantity under NFSA, 2013 provided that the proportion of wheat flour (atta) derived from wheat is determined by the State Governments /UT Administrations in such a manner that maximum quantity of wheat flour (atta) is obtained from the wheat issued to flour mills for this purpose. States/UTs shall ensure that the shortfall in quantity of wheat flour (atta) distributed to beneficiaries is limited to the loss occurred during the process of conversion of wheat into wheat flour (atta).

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- (c) States/UTs may raise the end retail price of wheat flour (atta) from Rs. 2/kg. stipulated wheat under NFSA, 2013 so as to cover the cost of conversion of wheat into wheat flour (atta) and recover the same from the eligible households under NFSA, 2013 i.e. priority households and AAY households. While recovering the cost of conversion of wheat into wheat flour (atta), the States/UTs shall keep in mind that the additional cost being charged is limited to the actual cost of conversion.
- (d) State Governments/UT Administrations shall distribute wheat or wheat flour (atta) at the option of the beneficiaries.
4. This issues in supersession of this Department's letter of even number dated 26.3.2014 on the subject.

Yours faithfully,



(Sudha Meena)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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