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No. 24 -37/2021-PD.II (E-374544)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110  
001  
Dated 02/06/2021

To  
The Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
Food & Civil Supplies Department  
All States/UTs.

**Sub:- Launch a special drive to issue ration cards and providing foodgrains to the weakest and vulnerable sections of the society-reg.**

Sir/Madam,

Targeted Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibilities of the Central and the State/Union Territory Governments. The operational responsibilities of identification of eligible persons/households under NFSA, issuance of ration cards to them, allocation of foodgrains to all FPSs within the State/UT, distribution of foodgrains to all NFSA ration card holders, licensing of FPSs, supervision & monitoring of FPSs operations, regular review of the eligible list of beneficiaries/households under NFSA, etc. lies with the concerned State/UT Governments.

2. The constant endeavour under the NFSA should be to take special care for identification and providing ration cards to eligible households in urban as well as rural areas, subject to the overall ceiling of each State/UT.
3. States/UTs may be aware that during the current scenario pandemic of Covid-19, there are several reports/grievances through Media, newspapers, NGOs, individuals stating that **vulnerable and weakest sections of the society i.e. street dwellers, rag pickers, hawkers, rickshaw pullers, migrant labours etc. , who are in dire need of foodgrains, are unable to procure ration cards.** It is felt that some of the poor and needy people, who also may not have address proof, may be finding it difficult to obtain a ration card.
4. In the present condition, States/UTs are requested to utilize the available coverage under their overall NFSA limits by launching a special drive to reach out to the most vulnerable and economically weakest sections of the population in urban and rural areas.
5. In view of the above, all the States/UTs are requested to **furnish a fortnightly Status report** to this Department.
6. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Digitally signed by RAJESH  
KUMAR PANDEER

Date: Wed Jun 02 17:36:17 IST  
(Rajesh Kumar Pandeer)

Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Reason: Approved

