

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1075
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH JULY, 2023

FORTIFIED RICE UNDER TPDS

†1075. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of rice fortification programme;
- (b) the quantum of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized so far under the said programme in Rajasthan;
- (c) the number of states covered under the said programme so far in the country;
- (d) the number of districts which have started distribution of fortified rice under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the country including Rajasthan;
- (e) the details of cumulative annual Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) manufacturing capacity so far under the said programme; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the government to make people aware about the nutrition related benefits of fortified rice?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): In order to achieve uniform nutritional impact of fortified rice among the targeted population, the Government of India has approved the supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and in Other Welfare Schemes of Government of India in all States and Union Territories (UTs) in a phased manner by the year 2024. The following 3 phases are envisaged for full implementation of the initiative:

Phase-I: Covering ICDS and PM POSHAN in all over India by March, 2022.

Phase-II: Phase I above plus TPDS and OWS in 112 Aspirational and 250 High Burden Districts on stunting (total 291 districts) by March 2023.

Phase-III: Phase II above plus covering the remaining districts of the country by March, 2024.

(b): Since, Rajasthan is a wheat consuming State under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), no Custom Milled Rice (CMR) purchased in Rajasthan region.

(c): At present, fortified rice is being distributed in 31 States/UTs across the country. Three States viz. Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana are wheat consuming, where fortified rice is not distributed under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Two UTs viz. Puducherry and Chandigarh are Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) UTs so fortified rice is not distributed.

(d): As of June 2023, fortified rice is being distributed in 529 Districts under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) excluding the districts of Rajasthan. Since, Rajasthan is a wheat consuming State under TPDS, fortified rice is not distributed under TPDS in this State.

(e): As per the licenses given by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) manufacturers, the annual FRK manufacturing capacity of all the FRK manufacturers is approximately 201.184 LMT per annum.

(f): Various State Governments were requested to organize programmes to create awareness on benefits of fortified rice and its positive impact on nutritional security in the tribal areas of the country. Accordingly, workshops/seminars in 9 districts having tribal population – in the States of Gujarat (Vapi), Maharashtra (Nashik and Nandurbar), Chhattisgarh (Kanker), Jharkhand (East Singhbhum), Madhya Pradesh (Shahdol, Mandla, Barwani) and Kerala (Wayanad) were conducted with the involvement of DFPD, FCI and other stakeholders such as Field Experts including Medical Professionals, members of Media, prominent personalities, local leaders and Development Partners.

A provision of Administrative/Contingency Cost which inter-alia includes Information, Education, Communication (IEC) and Capacity Building to the tune of Rs. 5.00 lakh per district has been made, which has been provided by the Government of India during the implementation of rice fortification initiative in Phase-II and Phase-III.