

-FAQs on National Food Security Act, 2013

1) When the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) has come into force in the State of J&K?

As per Cabinet decision No.166/13/2015 dated:02-12-2015, the National Food Security Act, 2013 has been implemented in the whole of the J&K State with effect from 01-02-2016 vide Government Order No.01-CAPD of 2016 dated:04-01-2016 with the objective to provide food and nutritional security by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices.

2) What are the entitlements for foodgrains under NFSA?

Every person belonging to identified eligible households is entitled to receive 5 Kg of foodgrains per person per month at subsidized prices under TPDS. The existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute the poorest of the poor, will continue to receive 35 Kg of foodgrains per household per month.

3) What are the prices at which foodgrains will be provided to the entitled beneficiaries?

Foodgrains under TPDS under the Act will be made available at subsidized prices of Rs. 3/- and Rs. 2/- per Kg for rice and wheat respectively under priority category.

4) How does NFSA empower women?

Under NFSA Act, 2013 the eldest women who is not less than 18 years of age in every eligible household shall be head of the household for the purpose of issue of ration card.

5) Whether the entire population of the State is covered under the Act to receive the subsidized foodgrains?

Under this Act 63.55% of the rural population comprising of 58.05 lakh souls and 47.10% of the urban population comprising of 16.08 lakh souls totaling to 74.13 lakhs souls will be covered in Jammu and Kashmir State under priority category and 45 lac souls under non-priority category. Over all 119.13 lac souls will be covered under the NFSA out of 125 lacs Census population of 2011.

6) What is the basis for determining State-wise coverage under TPDS under the NFSA and what are the State-wise percentage coverage?

Planning Commission has determined the State-wise coverage by using the NSSO Household Consumption Survey data for 2011-12. The State-wise percentage coverage of population under TPDS under NFSA in respect of J&K is 63.55% rural population and 47.10% urban population.

7) How and by whom the eligible households for coverage under TPDS will be identified?

Within the coverage under TPDS determined for each State, the work of identification of eligible households is to be done by State. The State Government has issued a Government Order for identification of priority households under NFSA and the criteria notified is as under:

- i. Present AAY and BPL lists.
- ii. Households having meager monthly income (certificate from competent authority)
- iii. Houseless and Landless
- iv. Widows, orphans, destitutes; militancy and violence affected families in low income group, leprosy patients and domestic house maids
- v. Weaker sections, nomadic families
- vi. Old age pension holders, specially abled/physically handicapped
- vii. Inhabitants having Kuchha houses
- viii. Displaced families (Natural Calamity)
- ix. Labourers and workers
- x. Slum Dwellers
- xi. Any other deserving families identified by competent authority not included above

8) What are the other entitlements for food security in NFSA?

In addition to entitlement for subsidized foodgrains under TPDS, the Act provides for nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers and children. Pregnant women and lactating mothers and children in the age group of 6 months to 14 years will be entitled to meals as per prescribed nutritional norms under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) schemes. Higher

nutritional norms have been prescribed for malnourished children upto 6 years of age.

Pregnant women and lactating mothers will also be entitled to receive maternity benefit of not less than Rs. 6,000.

The entitlements for pregnant women and lactating mothers and children upto the age of 6 years, provided in the Act, will be implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The entitlements for children in the age group of 6 years to 14 years will be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of School Education and Literacy).

9) What will happen in case the entitled foodgrains or meals are not provided to the beneficiary?

In case of non-supply of the entitled quantities of foodgrains or meals to entitled persons, such persons shall be entitled to receive food security allowance from the State Government.

10) What is the mechanism for addressing the grievances in the Act?

The Act provides for putting in place an internal grievance redressal mechanism which may include call centres, help lines, designation of nodal officers, or such other mechanism as may be prescribed.

It is further provided that the State Government shall appoint or designate, for each district, an officer to be the District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO) for expeditious and effective redressal of grievances of the aggrieved persons in matters relating to distribution of entitled foodgrains or meals and to enforce the entitlements under the Act.

There is also a provision that every State Government shall constitute a State Food Commission for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of the Act.

11) Who are the District Grievance Redressal Officers in the State?

The following officers are the District Grievance Redressal Officers in the State:-

S.No	District	District Grievances Redressal Officers	Office Telephone No.	Fax No.	Mail ID
1.	Jammu	Deputy Commissioner, Jammu	0191-544366	0191-2546223	dcofficejammu@gmail.com
2.	Samba	Deputy Commissioner, Samba	01923-241143	01923-241141	samba@nic.in
3.	Kathua	Deputy Commissioner, Kathua	01922-234007	01922-237667	kathua@nic.in
4.	Udhampur	Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur	01992-270212	01992-271845	udhampur@nic.in
5.	Reasi	Deputy Commissioner, Reasi	01991-245587	01991-245586	dcreasi@gmail.com
6.	Ramban	Deputy Commissioner, Ramban	01998-266789	01998-266906	dcofficeramban@gmail.com
7.	Doda	Deputy Commissioner, Doda	01996-233230	01996-233231	deputycommissionerdoda@gmail.com
8.	Kishtwar	Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar	01995-261455	01995-261466	jkis@nic.com
9.	Rajouri	Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri	01962-262244	01962-262481	pa.dcrajouri@gmail.com
10.	Poonch	Deputy Commissioner, Poonch	01965-220333	01965-222363	dcpoonch@gmail.com
11.	Srinagar	Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar	01942452182		dcsgr-jk@nic.in
12.	Anantnag	Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag	01932222337		anatg@nic.in
13.	Budgam	Deputy Commissioner, Budgam	01951255203		dcbudgam@gmail.com
14.	Baramulla	Baramulla	01952234210		baramulla-nic.in pa.dcbla@gmail.com
15.	Kupwara	Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara	01955252343		kupwara.nic.in
16.	Ganderbal	Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal	01942416142		dc-ganderbal@nic.in

17.	Bandipora	Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora	01957226085		bandipora@nic.in
18.	Kulgam	Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam	01931260500		dckulgam@yahoo.in jkkul@nic.in
19.	Shopian	Deputy Commissioner, Shopian	01933260987		shopian@nic.in
20.	Pulwama	Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama	01933241243		dcpul-jk@nic.pul
21.	Leh	Deputy Commissioner, Leh	01982252010		dcleh-jk@nic.in
22.	Kargil	Deputy Commissioner, Kargil	01985232216		Dckgl-jk@nic.in

12) Where can appeal against an order of DGRO be filed?

Any complainant or the officer or authority against whom any order has been passed by a DGRO, who is not satisfied with the redressal of grievance, may file an appeal against such order before the State Food Commission.

13) Whether there is any provision for levying a penalty for not complying with the provisions of the Act?

The Act provides that any public servant or authority found guilty, by the State Commission at the time of deciding any complaint or appeal, of failing to provide the relief recommended by the District Grievance Redressal Officer, without reasonable cause, or wilfully ignoring such recommendation, shall be liable to penalty not exceeding five thousand rupees.

14) What is the transparency portal for TPDS?

All States/UTs have been asked to develop a single transparency portal which should have all TPDS related data and information available for public view without restriction on access and the same should be widely publicized. The transparency portal would host information in public domain, such as lists of beneficiaries, FPSs, Storage godowns / depots, F&CS offices / officers, monthly allocation, actual off-take, etc. The content on the portal must be in the local language of the State/UT as well as in English wherever possible. Information about availability of

foodgrains will also be disseminated through SMS / email to the registered beneficiaries and other registered individuals in the local community.

15) What are the aims and objectives of the scheme 'End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations' in the country?

Computerization of TPDS operations has been taken up with the aim to improve the efficiency of the current system and to address various challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains, fake and bogus ration cards, lack of transparency and weak grievance redressal mechanisms.

16) Does NFSA increase the number of beneficiaries to get ration at Rs. 2/- & Rs. 3/-?

As per the previous TPDS system, only AAY families comprising of 13.77 lakh souls were getting ration on Rs. 2/- and Rs. 3/- where as under NFSA, 74.13 lac beneficiaries would be getting ration at these rates.

17) Does NFSA increase the beneficiaries in comparison to existing TPDS system?

Under TPDS, J&K State was getting ration on the basis of projected population of the year 2000, i.e. for 99.45 lac souls consisting of 18.02 lakh families. However, State was distributing ration at a scale of 35 kg per month per family as per Census 2001, to 19.72 lakh families.

Under the NFSA, total population covered and provided subsidized ration is 119.13 lac souls under priority and non-priority category.

18) What is the cost of ration tickets for 3 years?

The cost of ration tickets under NFSA for 3 years is as under:

Priority AAY	Rs. 30/-
Priority Households (PHH)	Rs. 75/-
Non-priority Households (NPHH)	Rs. 100/-
Exclusion	Rs. 100/-

19) If I do not want ration can I get a ration card as identity documents?

Under NFSA, the population which doesn't fall under any of the category are included in the exclusion category and they shall be provided Ration Cards not for ration purpose but for other purposes.

20) Who are excluded in the State out of purview of NFSA?

The State Government have issued Government Order regarding exclusion of the population out of the purview of NFSA. The criteria notified for exclusion is as under:-

- i) Businessmen having business turnover of Rs. 25.00 Lacs per year;
- ii) Income Tax payees of the slab @ 30% or highest tax slab;
- iii) Persons having land holding above 80 kanals in case of individuals and 250 kanals in case of joint family (based on self declaration);
- iv) All Gazetted Officers or equivalent rank in corporations, Boards, PSUs etc.;
- v) All persons holding constitutional authority/positions;

21) What can I do to complaint for bogus ration card?

The complainant can approach the District Grievances Redressal Officer (DGRO) and lodge complaint about the bogus ration cards and any other issues related to distribution of subsidized ration.

22) Where can I locate my ration card?

The entire digitized beneficiary data has been uploaded on the nation portal and can be viewed by anyone on <http://www.pdsportal.nic.in>

23) Can I see the allocation of my District/Tehsil under NFSA?

The online allocation is available on the CA&PD Department website www.jkcapd.nic.in, www.dircapdjmu.nic.in and www.capdkashmir.nic.in