

BY FAX/ E-MAIL

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
FOOD SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER WELFARE DEPARTMENT

No. 15682 / dated, Bhubaneswar the 10-8-15
09-17-15-05/15

From

Sri Madhusudan Padhi, IAS
Commissioner- cum Secretary to Government

To

All Collectors

Sub: Implementation of NFSA 2013 in Odisha – issues during field verification and solution thereof.

Ref: This Department Letter No.13958/FS&CW dtd.16.07.2015.

Madam/Sir,

With reference to the above subject and above referred letter, the work on various components of NFSA implementation, like field verification of suspect list, desk review of DPL lists at Block and ULB headquarters, scrutiny of DPL in Gram & Ward Sabha and receipt of objections and their disposal is going on in full swing in your district at present. **Supervisory officers** from the Department have visited your District to sensitise the functionaries and provide support apart from the monitoring the progress. Government has also directed several senior officers in the rank of Principal Secretary/ Commissioner/Directors to act as a **Senior Nodal Officer** for each of the district. Hon'ble Chief Minister had a Video Conference with Collectors on 29th July, 2015 and directed to give utmost importance to this work by the District Administration for next one month to all Collectors.

Hon'ble Minister, FS & CW, Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner held a Video Conference with the Collectors on 7th August, 2015 on the issues relating to progress of field work. The undersigned visited Ganjam and Gajapati Districts on 5th and 6th August, 2015 as a Senior Nodal Officer and had interacted with the field functionaries at Blocks/ULBs and also held meetings with concerned functionaries at the district level in presence of Collector and PD, DRDA.

Based on the inputs from various sources, it has been observed that field functionaries are facing several problems. An attempt is being made to suggest possible solutions to these problems:

1. **Names missing** from all published lists:

There has been complaints that many people have been issued with the acknowledgement slips as a proof of digitisation of their application but their names do not appear either in the **DPL** or in **On Hold** list or in the **Suspect** Lists. All such applicants are complaining to BDOs/EOs about such omission. This problem has been acute in small ULBs where more than one ward was tagged to one RC i.e. a RC had two or more Wards tagged to it. It is believed that this has occurred due a software problem which was rectified on 23-7-15. Any download of DPL on or before that date would have this problem.

For such cases, it is suggested that RC wise PDF of DPL which has been kept in the following link : <http://164.100.141.79/dpldownload> can be down loaded again and handed over to the concerned BDOs/EOs/ULBs for dissemination to the Gram/Ward Sabha and for objection hearing. The vendor can be asked to do so for concerned RCs in one day and same can be sent to all concerned on the second day. In case, the fresh DPL and On Hold and Suspect lists for the RC do not have name of an applicant, s/he may be requested to file objections with the BDO/EO with copy of Acknowledgement Slip (AS). In such cases, the BDO/EO is to list all such objections in following format and send it to CSO who will mail these to Department for taking appropriate action.

List of missing families for published lists

District:

Block/ULB

Sl.No.	Form Number(11 digit)	Name of HoH

2. **Mistakes in Suspect List-2:**

It has been reported from some districts that there has been lot of errors, ranging between 10% and 25%, with respect to suspect list-2. Many people who have meagre income have been shown as income tax payee in this list. As the exclusion criteria information in Suspect List-2 has been brought from SECC data base, the mistakes of SECC have been reflected here.

However, there is nothing to panic about the same. The concerned people should be given such assurance at field verification time. The Field verification teams may be directed to indicate "**not confirmed**" for each such entries where the team genuinely feels that there has been a mistake in respect of those who do not come under the exclusion criteria. The team should write "**confirmed**" against those entries in the Suspect List-2 who are actually covered under the notified exclusion criteria in the remark column.

The applicant who is not confirmed by the verification team may be advised to file objections with copy of AS, NREGA card or any other document as a proof of being actually needy to the BDO or EO for consideration. This procedure may be brought to notice of all field verification teams so that they can tell the potential beneficiaries accordingly.

If there is **more than 15% of not confirmed** entries (out of total suspect list-2) in any RC, a senior officer of the level of Junior Class-I or above should check all the non-confirmed cases give his/her report after physical verification of some 10% of all such cases. Such oversight is basically to keep an eye over the verification team's quality of work. **It is important to ensure that no eligible beneficiaries be left out of the ambit of NFSA due to mistakes of an earlier survey like SECC.**

3. **Application by Government officials** to be included as NFSA beneficiary:

It has come to the notice of Government that several government servants have applied to get a ration card under NFSA despite notification of exclusion

criteria. It is expected that the government officials who have applied should have withdrawn their applications for the ration card by giving an application to the concerned BDO/EO for deletion of their names and their family names from the list of beneficiaries.

It may be noted that government orders have already been taken to initiate departmental proceedings against all such government officials who have illegally tried to corner the benefit of NFSA. You are requested to identify few of them through Suspect lists- 2 & 3 and start disciplinary proceeding through their controlling officer immediately. Few such government officials may be placed under **suspension** to have a visible impact over all such applicants. Number of action taken with respect to suspension and initiation of proceeding may be intimated to the undersigned for giving information to Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chief Secretary.

4. Confusion regarding status of **Contractual Employees**: There is confusion regarding the status of persons who have been engaged on contractual basis like Sikhya Sahayaks, contractual Teachers, Lady Supervisors, ANMs, Anganwadi workers etc.

It is clarified that the persons who have been engaged as a contractual employees under recent circular of Government with a condition of getting confirmation as regular employees after a fixed period (six years) are **to be treated as** Government servant for all practical purposes. In that case, all such applicants and their families should be excluded from the ambit of NFSA.

On the other hand, persons who have been engaged in honorarium jobs like Anaganwadi workers, Gram Rojgar Sevaks, Jogan Sahayaks etc. would not be treated as government servants and can be included under ambit of NFSA if members of their family do not attract any one of the notified exclusion criteria.

5. Problems in **Desk Review:**

Desk Review is one of the few human interventions in this gigantic exercise to weed out ineligible families from the ambit of National Food Security Act'2013 .It is reported that there has been reluctance on part of some of the functionaries who have been engaged for desk review to reveal the names of ineligible applicants on the pretext of fear. However, it may be explained to all the functionaries that their indication of ineligible applicant is only for moving the concerned applicant to the Suspect List-4 and that a regular process would be in place to enquire into their status by way of show cause notice and opportunity for hearing them at a later date and that their names shall not be revealed under any circumstances.

For this, the Team leader i.e. the Extension Officer may be asked to sign on the abstract of the finding by the desk review team. An attendance sheet of all the team members involved in the desk review on the particular day for a particular RC may be kept for record. No other functionary may be asked to sign on abstract findings of the desk review. The abstract of the desk review shall be in following format:

District:	Block/ULB:	RC Name:	RC Code:	
Sl.No.	Form Number(4 digit)	Name of HOH	Reason for Exclusion	Remarks

Date: _____ **Signature of Extension Officer** _____

Despite this, if any of the officials like Anganwadi worker or Booth Level Officer or Teacher do not reveal the names during the desk review, the government will initiate action against them if it is subsequently found through field enquiry by other agencies like Vigilance or Crime Branch that there was ineligible applicant whose name was not pointed out during the desk review and who subsequently managed to get the benefit under Act by way of ration card and subsidised ration. This fact should be driven among all the persons who are engaged in desk review. The action will be taken against them for furnishing false report during the desk review.

6. Verification of AAY List:

At present the AAY list has been generated Fair price shop (**FPS**) wise with ascending order of Form Numbers (11 digit). Such a list is not very useful for verification because the AAY register maintained in the Block/ULB or the Sale Register maintained at the fair price shop does not have any references to the 11 digit form number.

So it has been decided to revise the AAY list in ascending order of **AAY card number**. The revised AAY list has been placed in the website under **e-Bitaran link** under NFSA web application. The same may be down loaded and used by the MIs/ACSOs for verification of the genuine AAY applicants either with the register maintained at the Block/ULB or with the sale register of FPS.

It is also seen that all the AAY applicants have not given AAY Card number from the downloaded lists. So during the process of verification, the card number as maintained in the register block or ULB or sale register at the FPS may be noted against the blank or incomplete AAY card numbers. These card numbers will be updated so as to make the data base complete.

7. Arrangement for receiving & hearing **Objections**:

It is seen that no proper arrangement has been made for receiving objections or dealing with them. So it is suggested that **an Objection Register** may be put in place with following columns.

Sl. No	Date of receipt	Name of Objectioneer	Form No (11digits)	Objection in brief	Documents attached	Date of disposal	Remarks
--------	-----------------	----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------------	---------

This register may be kept in custody of an officer who remains in Block or ULB Office during the office hours, like any Head Clerk or senior clerk. The custodian of register will give a token to the person who files the objection as a proof of

receipt. The token would have the seal of the block / ULB with the Sl. Number of objection in the register and the signature of the custodian.

A notice in shape of flex board indicating the dates of receiving objection, time of receiving objection and the person receiving objection may be prepared and put at 2 to 3 prominent places in office premises of the ULB/Block so as to attract the attention of the people. This mechanism should be placed as all the blocks and ULBs immediately as they have started receiving objections but do not have the mechanism to manage the same.

As objection hearing will be a summary one based on documents, the decision may be made on an order sheet and tagged to the objection. An extract of the decision taken in each objection is to be transferred in tabular formats and given to CSO for updating in the CDC under direct supervision of an ACSO and Asst Programmer.

8. Disposal of Objections by BDOs/EOs:

There would be primarily three types of objections:

- a. Those dealing with incomplete entries (on Hold list)
- b. Those dealing with objection against Suspect lists 1, 2 & 3
- c. Those from left out Antyodaya Anna Yojana beneficiaries

a. For the objections dealing with Incomplete entries (on Hold list), the BDO/EO would dispose these with reference to some documents like proof of identity. S/he needs to make an abstract of disposed objections in following format:

Block /ULB:

District:

Sl No	Form Number		Name of applicant	Missing Names		Remark
	RC Code (7 digit)	4 digit no.		Spouse	Father	

Date: Block/ULB --- Dist-----

Signature of BDO/EO

This list may also be prepared by the Gram/Ward Sabha and submitted to BDO/EO with required Proof of Identity so as to reduce the workload at Block/ ULB level. In such cases, the PEO for GPs and Community Organiser for Ward must sign the list at the end

b. BDO/EO has to dispose the objections against entry of an individual/family in Suspect lists 1, 2 &3 based on documents like NREGA card, inputs from RTO regarding ownership of vehicle, from concerned Head of offices or HRMIS regarding Government Servants or from Tax authorities on registration of enterprises or from Electricity Utility authorities for Electrical load or average consumption (as per exclusion criteria). S/he needs to make an abstract of disposed objections with respect to Suspect lists in following format:

Block /ULB:

District:

Sl No	Form Number		Name of applicant/HOH	Reason in Suspect list	Order in brief	Remark (eligible or not)
	RC Code (7 digit)	4 digit no.				

Date: Block/ULB --- Dist-----

Signature of BDO/EO

c. BDO/EO have to dispose the objections from those left out from Antyodaya Anna Yojana beneficiaries list on basis of copy of the first page of his/her AAY card, Acknowledgement Slip and the AAY register of the Block/ULB or the AAY sale register of the concerned Fair Price Shop(FPS). S/he needs to make an abstract of disposed objections with respect to Suspect lists in following format:

M/S

Block /ULB:

District:

Sl No	Form Number		Name of applicant/HOH	AAY Card Number	FPS Code	Remark (Allowed or not)
	RC Code (7 digit)	4 digit no.				

Date:

Block/ULB --- Dist-----

Signature of BDO/EO

9. Steps to be taken for Suspect List-3:

It may be noted that Suspect List-3 is being generated progressively as and when M/s IBM is completing integration of one external exclusion database with the National Population Register. At present, three databases namely HRMIS, Pension and Vehicle databases have been integrated and accordingly suspect lists for these have been prepared and kept under Suspect List-3.

These may be downloaded Block/ULB wise or RC wise and given to field verification teams for confirmation. As this is only the first iteration, we expect to get more exclusions on these databases later as 4 more iterations have to take place. Similarly, fresh suspect lists under Suspect List-3 would be hosted as soon as we get inputs from IBM on other exclusion databases like electricity, income tax and enterprises.

You are requested to disseminate these steps and solutions to all concerned so that the finalisation of the beneficiary list is completed in time.


Yours faithfully,

M. S. W. M.
10-8-15

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government


Memo No. 15683 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to the Private Secretary to Honb'le Minister FS & CW for kind information of Honb'le Minister FS & CW.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government


Memo No. 15684 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to Principal Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary for the kind information of the Chief Secretary, Odisha.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 15685 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to Private Secretary to the Additional Chief Secretary-cum – Development Commissioner for the kind information of the Additional Chief Secretary-cum – Development Commissioner, Odisha.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government


Memo No. 15686 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to RDCs, Central/Northern/Southern Division for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 15687 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to All Senior Nodal Officers for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government


Memo No. 15688 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to All CSOs for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government


Memo No. 15689 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to all Supervisory Officials for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 15690 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to State Project Co-ordinator, World Food Programme, State Resource Centre Building, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar - 751001 for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 15691 /Dt. 10.8.15

Copy forwarded to Vendors- Mastek, IBM, Karvy, Computer Lab and NSIC- for information and necessary action.


10/8/15
Joint Secretary to Government