

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.51
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2022**

STUDY OF BENEFITS OF FORTIFIED RICE

51. DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any study of the health outcomes of the beneficiaries of the fortified rice;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the significant achievements of the pilot programme;**
- (d) whether the Government plans to extend the pilot project to more districts and previously uncovered States on the basis of study findings; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): As per the scaling up plan for countrywide distribution of fortified rice across all Government schemes by 2024, NITI Aayog has been authorized as nodal for conducting independent evaluation studies (Baseline/Midline/Endline) on concurrent basis in association with ICMR-NIN and other agencies.

(c): Under the Government of India approved Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System", eleven (11) States namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand have reported distribution of fortified rice in their identified districts. Approximately 4.30 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT) of fortified rice has been distributed through PDS under the Pilot Scheme during 2019-20 to 2021-22.

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(d) & (e): The Pilot scheme has concluded in March, 2022. The Government 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) by the year 2024 in a phased manner. The complete implementation of the initiative throughout the country in a phased manner is envisaged below:

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

Phase-II: Phase I above plus TPDS and OWS in all Aspirational and 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
