

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3276
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022

DISTRIBUTION OF FORTIFIED RICE

3276. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:
DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is on track to meet its promise of distributing fortified rice through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) and the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the pilot program to distribute fortified rice was successful, if so, the details thereof,
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b). 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) in a phased manner.

Under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (erstwhile Integrated Child Development Scheme), distribution of Fortified Rice began during the second quarter of FY 2021-22 and from the third quarter onwards of FY 2021-22, 100% fortified rice was distributed to all the State/UTs. Consequently, 731962 MTs of Fortified Rice had been allocated to all the States/UTs during FY 2021-22 and 634079 MTs of Fortified Rice had been allocated to the all the State/UTs during FY 2022-23 (upto second quarter only) under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0.

Under PM POSHAN scheme (erstwhile Mid Day Meal Scheme), as per the information received from various States/UTs /FCI, 7,97,793.12 MTs of fortified rice has been lifted during the FY 2021-22.

(c) The Pilot Scheme served as a platform which paved the way towards establishing structures for ecosystem and to further consolidate it for scaling up the distribution of fortified rice under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (erstwhile ICDS), PM- POSHAN and Other Welfare Scheme (OWS) in all States/UTs. A total quantity of approx. 4.30 LMT of fortified rice was distributed in 11 States under the Pilot Scheme on 'Fortification of Rice and its distribution under Public Distribution System'.

Despite constraints due to COVID-19 during 2020 and 2021, the pilot was successful in ensuring the ecosystem for fortified rice throughout the country. Already nearly 142 LMT of fortified rice has been procured by FCI and State Agencies for distribution in earmarked districts.

(d) & (e) Does not arise.