

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA**  
**ABSTRACT**

National Food Security Act, 2013 – Telangana Food Security Rules, 2017 – Notification – Orders - Issued.

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**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES (CS.I-CCS) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O.Ms.No.4.**

**Dated:12.04.2017.**

**Read the following:**

- 1.National Food Security Act, 2013 (No.20 of 2013), dated:10.09.2013.
- 2.G.O.Ms.No.7,CA,F&CS(CS.I-CCS)Dept., Dated.25.02.2016.

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**ORDER:**

In supersession of the orders issued in the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> read above, Government hereby publish " The Telangana Food Security Rules, 2017 ", in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (1) of section 40 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (No.20 of 2013).

2. The appended Notification will be published in English, Telugu and Urdu languages in the Extraordinary issue of Telangana Gazette and in English and the chief languages of the District concerned in the Gazette of all the Districts in the State.

3. The Director of Printing, Stationery and Stores Purchase (Printing Wing); Telangana, Hyderabad is requested to publish the Notification in the Extraordinary issue of the Telangana Gazette. He is also requested to send 50 copies of the Gazette notification to the Government after its publication for record.

4. The Director of Translation, Hyderabad is requested to furnish forthwith the translation of the Notification into the regional languages concerned to the Director of Printing Stationery and Stores Purchase (Printing Wing), Hyderabad to enable them to publish the same in the Telangana Gazette and also in the District Gazette under intimation to the Government.

**(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)**

**C.V.ANAND**

**EX.OFFICIO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To:

The Director of Printing, Stationery and Stores, Purchase (Printing Wing), Telangana, Hyderabad,  
(for publication of the Notification in an extraordinary issue of Telangana Gazette.)

**Copy to:**

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Telangana, Hyderabad.  
All Collectors (CS) / CRO, Hyderabad/ All District Supply Officers.  
The VC & Managing Director, Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad.  
The General Manager ( AP& Telangana Region), FCI, Nampally, Hyderabad.  
The Principal Secretary, WD &CW Department  
The Principal Secretary, Education Department  
The Commissioner, School Education Department  
The Director, WD &CW Department, Hyderabad.  
The Director of Translation, Hyderabad.  
The P.S. to Minister for Food and Civil Supplies.  
SF/SC

**// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //**

**SECTION OFFICER**

## **NOTIFICATION**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 40 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (No: 20 of 2013), and in supersession of the earlier rules on the subject, the Telangana Government hereby notify the "Telangana Food Security Rules, 2017 " as indicated in the Annexure, which is appended to this G.O..

**ANNEXURE**

**TELANGANA FOOD SECURITY RULES, 2017**

	<b>CHAPTER – I PRELIMINARY</b>
<b>1. Short title and Commencement</b>	(1) These rules may be called Telangana Food Security Rules, 2017. (2) They shall come into force from the date of the publication in the Official Gazette.
<b>2. Definitions</b>	(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires – a) “Act means the National Food Security Act, 2013 [No. 20 of 2013]; b) “Commission” means the State Food Commission constituted for the State of Telangana under sub-rule (1) of rule 3 read with section 16 of the Act; c) “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the State Food Commission of the Government of Telangana. (2) Words and expressions used and not defined here but defined in the National Food Security Act.
	<b>CHAPTER – II IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS</b>
<b>3. Identification of eligible households</b>	3 (1) The State Government shall, as soon as possible, identify-  (a) the households to be covered under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana as per the following criteria prescribed by the GOI; (i) <b>Landless agriculture labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/craftsmen such as potters, tanners, weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, slum dwellers, and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector like porters, coolies, rickshaw pullers, hand cart pullers, fruit and flower sellers, snake charmers, rag pickers, cobblers, destitutes and other similar categories in both rural and urban areas.</b> (ii) <b>Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons/persons aged 60 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support.</b> (iii) <b>Widows or terminally ill persons or disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or more or single women or single men with no family or societal support or assured means of subsistence.</b> (iv) <b>All primitive tribal households.</b> (v) <b>Leprosy Affected persons, HIV Positive patients / families, families of deceased due to starvation and families threatened by Starvation Deaths, Urban and Rural Homeless people and beggars also in addition to those covered by the AAY eligibility as per the GOI guidelines as stated above.</b> (b) the priority households:  In accordance with such guidelines including Exclusion and Inclusion Criteria notified by the state government :  (i) <b>The Annual family Income ceiling for issue of Food Security Cards Rs. 1.50 Lakhs and below in Rural Areas and Rs.2.00 Lakhs and below in Urban Areas.</b>  (ii) <b>The land ceiling limit is 3.50 Acres and below for wet land and 7.5 Acres and below for dry land. The mere possession of land shall not alone be the criteria for deciding the eligibility to Food Security Cards. The income on the land prescribed above shall also be taken into consideration. If</b>

	<p><b>the income from the land is less than the income ceiling prescribed above, the family shall be entitled for Food Security Card.</b></p>
	<p>(2) The State Government may, at such intervals or any other time, if may deem fit, re-identify the eligible households;</p>
	<p>(3) The State Government may, if it deems fit, by notification, amend the prescribed guidelines from time to time and require fresh survey conducted for the identification of eligible households or take a decision to continue the existing guidelines in respect of Ration Cards till such time the issue of fresh guidelines is considered necessary.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER – III</b> <b>GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL SYSTEM</b></p>
4. District Grievance Redressal Officer	<p>(1) The District Rural Development Officer of the district shall be the District Grievance Redressal Officer as designated by the State Government.</p>
	<p>(2) The District Grievance Redressal Officer shall, on receipt of complaint either in writing or personally or through Helpline Call Centre Toll Free No.1967, cause verification of the complaint received and address the concerned to rectify the instance.</p>
	<p>(3) The State Government may, also wherever consider necessary take a decision to appoint a full time District Grievance Redressal Officer keeping in view the relevant provision of the National Food Security Act, 2013 [No.20 of 2013].</p>
	<p>(4) District Grievance Redressal Officer shall have all the powers of a Civil Court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, (Act V of 1908) and in particular, in respect of the following matters namely:-</p>
	<p>a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath.</p>
	<p>b) Discovery and production of any document.</p>
	<p>c) receiving evidence on affidavits;</p>
	<p>d) Requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office ; and</p>
	<p>e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents.</p>
5. Procedure for registering complaints.	<p>(1) Any aggrieved person may file and register his complaint with the District Grievance Redressal Officer in writing or through e-mail or by dropping their written grievance in grievance boxes at the office of District Grievance Redressal Officers, select fair price shops, and other public places such as schools, anganwadis, etc.</p>
	<p>(2) The complaint boxes shall be opened at 4.00 PM every day to retrieve the complaints and immediate action shall be taken for their redressal.</p>
	<p>(3) Complaints shall be filed with specific details and contact information of the complainant. No anonymous complaint shall be entertained.</p>
	<p>(4) Where a complainant is unable to make a complaint in writing, the District Grievance Redressal Officer shall render all reasonable assistance to the person making the request orally to reduce the same in writing.</p>
	<p>(5) All complaints shall be assigned unique complaint number with date and informed to the complainant.</p>
6. Procedure for disposal of complaints.	<p>1) For every complaint received, the District Grievance Redressal Officer shall verify whether there is a prima-facie substance in the complaint to proceed in the matter.</p>
	<p>2) If the District Grievance Redressal Officer is satisfied that there is prima-facie substance in the complaint, he shall seek explanation in the matter from concerned officer or person or agency against whom complaint has been made, along with relevant documents. The requisite explanation and documents shall be furnished by the concerned officer or person or agency against whom complaint has been made to the District Grievance Redressal Officer, within fifteen days.</p>

	<p>3) Based on the explanation of concerned officer or person or agency against whom complaint has been made, and the available documents, if the District Grievance Redressal Officer is satisfied about the veracity of the grievance, he shall issue necessary order for its redressal within thirty days from the date of receipt of the complaint. District Grievance Redressal Officer shall dismiss the complaint, in case no merit is found.</p> <p>4) If the District Grievance Redressal Officer feels that the matter needs to be further examined, he may :</p> <p>(i) get the matter enquired by a suitable officer of the State Government at District level and decide on the basis of report so received within 45 days from the date of receipt of the complaint,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p>(ii) if considered necessary, give an opportunity to the complainant and officer / person / agency concerned with the complaint, to present their case on the fixed date and after having heard them and taking into consideration the evidences submitted, decide the matter within 45 days from the date of receipt of the complaint.</p> <p>5) On the date fixed for hearing, if the complainant is absent, the District Grievance Redressal Officer may dismiss the complaint or proceed to enquire the matter ex-parte and decide. If, however, the officer / person / agency concerned with the complaint, called by the District Grievance Redressal Officer is absent on the date fixed by him, he may proceed to enquire the matter ex-parte and decide.</p> <p>6) The complainant shall be informed of the decision on his complaint in writing or through electronic mode, with a system for confirmation of its receipt by complainant.</p> <p>7) If the District Grievance Redressal Officer is of the opinion that the disposal of the complaints require more time than prescribed under clauses (3) and (5) above, the complainant shall be sent an interim reply citing the reasons for delay.</p>
<p><b>7. Powers of District Grievance Redressal Officer</b></p>	<p>The District Grievance Redressal Officers, while enquiring into complaints, shall have powers to require any concerned officials / persons at District / field level –</p> <p>a) To produce before, and allow to be examined such books, accounts, documents or any other material in custody or under control of the persons so required as may be specified in the requisition</p> <p>b) To furnish such information as may be required.</p>
<p><b>8. Monitoring the disposal of complaints.</b></p>	<p>Disposal of complaints shall be monitored by the Secretary / Principal Secretary Civil Supplies Department, Telangana Secretariat, at least once in every quarter.</p>
<p><b>9. Appeal</b></p>	<p>Any complainant or the officer or person or agency against whom any order has been passed by the District Grievance Redressal Officer, who is not satisfied with the redressal of grievance, may file an appeal against such order before the State Food Commission, within thirty days from the date of the issuance of such order by the District Grievance Redressal Officer.</p>
<p><b>10. Periodical Reports</b></p>	<p>District Grievance Redressal Officer shall send a monthly report on complaints received and disposed of by him to the state Government by 15<sup>th</sup> day of the succeeding month. The State Government shall send a quarterly consolidated report for the State as a whole to the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, within thirty days after the quarter is over.</p>
<p><b>11. Timely disposal of the Complaints.</b></p>	<p>(1) An inquiry under this rule shall be finalized as soon as may be, but in any case within 90 calendar days of its being seen by the District Grievance Redressal Officer.</p>

	<p>(2) In order to ensure the timely disposal of the complaints, the District Civil Supply Officer from Civil Supplies Dept. the Project Officer (ICDS) of WD &amp; CW Dept. and DEO from School Education Department shall be the Nodal Officers respectively in each district, as designated by the State Government.</p>
	<p>(3) Where the complaint cannot be disposed of within time allowed under Rule 6 (4), in each such case, the District Grievance Redressal Officer shall send a report in writing about the reasons for the Nodal Officer appointed under sub-rule (1) by the end of the calendar month, but in any case within a week of completion of 90 days referred to in sub-rule (1)</p>
<p><b>12. State Food Commission</b></p>	<p>1) The State Food commission constituted in accordance with the provisions of section 16(1) and (2) of the Act for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of the Act.</p> <p>The State Commission shall consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a Chairperson;</li> <li>(b) five other Members and</li> <li>(c) Member Secretary:</li> </ul> <p>2) The State Food Commission shall undertake the following functions under section 16(6) of the Act, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Act.</li> <li>b) either suo motu or on receipt of complaint inquire into violations of entitlements provided under Chapter II;</li> <li>c) give advice to the State Government on effective implementation of the Act;</li> <li>d) give advice to the State Government, their agencies, autonomous bodies as well as non-governmental organizations involved in delivery of relevant services, for the effective implementation of food and nutrition related schemes, to enable individuals to fully access their entitlements specified in the Act;</li> <li>e) hear appeals against orders of the District Grievance Redressal Officer;</li> <li>f) prepare annual reports which shall be laid before the State Legislature by the State Government.</li> </ul> <p>3. State Government shall make available to the Commission adequate staff for proper discharge of its functions under section 16 of the Act.</p> <p>4. Meetings of the Commission shall be convened by the Member Secretary, on the direction of the Chairperson, as per the requirement of work, but atleast once in six months. The Commission shall formulate its own procedures for holding meetings.</p> <p>5) (a) The Commission shall meet formally at least once in a month in its headquarters or at its offices in other places or at such other places decided as per the need and importance of implementation of the Act in those places.</p> <p>(b) The quorum for the meeting of the Commission shall be four members.</p> <p>Provided that for a meeting of the Commission to review any previous decision taken by the Commission or for consideration of any issue which could not be decided on account of equality of votes in favour of and against the resolution proposed, the quorum for the meeting shall be all members being personally present</p> <p>(c) The Chairperson of the Commission may instruct the Member-Secretary to call a meeting of the commission to be held at such time and at such place as the Chairperson may direct. In addition, any member of the Commission may request for a meeting of the Commission at any time by sending a notice in writing to the other members and with a copy to the Member Secretary. The notice of all meetings shall be given to the members in writing.</p>

- (d) The Commission shall be entitled to decide urgent matters by circulation of the paper to all the members.
- (e) In case of a difference of opinion among the members of the Commission, the opinion of the majority shall prevail and the opinion of the commission shall be expressed in terms of the views of the majority. Each member of the Commission shall have one vote only. The Chairman shall have no casting or second vote.
- (f) All decisions, directions and orders of the Commission shall be in writing and shall be supported by reasons. The decisions, directions and orders of the Commission shall be available for inspection by any person. Copies of the same shall be made available in the website of the Commission and as in a manner as the Commission may specify.
- (g) When the Chairperson of the Commission is unable to discharge the functions owing to absence, illness or any other cause, the next senior member of the Commission shall discharge the functions of the Chairperson, until the day on which the Chairperson assumes the charge of his functions.
- (h) The Member Secretary shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission and shall exercise such powers and discharge such functions, as delegated by the Commission.
- (6) The Chairperson or any Member may, by notice in writing under his/her hand addressed to the Governor of the State, resign from the office.
- (7) The State government shall ensure that all the vacancies are filled and the commission is constituted fully with all the seven members as provided in section 16(2) of the Act, i.e One Chairperson, One member secretary and five other members. On account of any vacancy arising out of either resignation or termination or retirement of any member, the government shall fill the vacancy within a period of not more than three months from the date of arising of the vacancy, ensuring due representation of women, SC and ST members not less than stipulated in the Act.
- (8) (a). The Headquarters of the Commission shall be at Hyderabad, as the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify and the Commission may, with the previous sanction of the State Government, establish offices at other places in the State.
- (b) The Commission shall be provided, by the State Government, with all the required physical infrastructure and office amenities and equipment for carrying out its functions smoothly, like conduct of meetings and hearing appeals, receiving and processing complaints and reports, preparation of reports, undertaking any research and impact studies etc.,
- (9) The State Government shall also make available financial support from the Government of India towards meeting the expenses of the Commission.
- (10) The salaries and other allowances payable to the members and the administrative expenses, including salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of the officers and other employees of the Commission, shall be charged to the Consolidated fund of the State.
- (11) The Commission shall have the following powers, in addition to the powers provided in section 20 of the Act, for performing its functions.
- (a) Subject to the provisions of the Act and the rules thereunder, the Commission shall have the power to lay down its own procedure.

- (b) To hear appeal over the decisions of the District Grievance Redressal Officers. The appeal shall lie within 30 days from the date on which the decision should have been made by or was actually received from the office of DGRO.
- (c) While making a decision on the appeal or the complaint, the State Food Commission has the power to require the DGRO or any officer responsible for providing any entitlement under the Act to comply with the Provisions of the Food Security Act –
- (i) Issue of ration cards or eligibility cards upon satisfying the eligibility criteria.
  - (ii) Right to receive food grains at subsidized prices by persons belonging to eligible households under TPDS or ANTYODAYA ANNA YOJANA.
  - (iii) Nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers.
  - (iv) Nutritional support to Children of six months to 14 years of age, by providing appropriate meal free of charge, through local anganwadi and schools.
  - (v) In the case of Children, up to class VIII or within the age group of six to fourteen years, one mid-day meal shall be provided, free of charge, every day, except on school holidays in all schools run by local bodies /govt / govt aided schools.
  - (vi) Prevention and management of Child malnutrition by providing meals, free of charge, to children who suffer from malnutrition, through local anganwadi.
  - (vii) Implementation of various schemes for realization of entitlements under the Act.
  - (viii) Payment of Food Security Allowance.
- (d) To summon DGRO or any other official involved in the implementation of the Act, against which a grievance/complaint is received or whose presence is felt necessary for disposal of any matter before the commission.
- (e) To necessitate the presence of the Department officials and implementation staff for any review meeting or training or any other related event.
- (f) To direct any official to act in pursuance of objectives of the Act or to perform any functions necessitated to implement the provisions of the Act.
- (g) To decide on the appeals and complaints received and direct the appropriate authority to act accordingly.
- (h) To award penalties as provided in the Rules for default or breach of provisions of the Act as decided by the Commission.
- (i) To visit and inspect any stock and delivery point, fair price shop, School, Anganwadi, local authority, office of DGRO or any other office performing designated functions related to the implementation of the Act.
- (j) To commission any studies or enquiries in pursuit of better understanding of the implementation, impacts of the Act and for necessary improvements in the implementation processes.
- (12) All orders and decisions of the Commission shall be authenticated by the Member-Secretary or any other officer of the Commission duly authorized by it on its behalf.
- (13) Any complainant may approach State Food Commission by him/her self directly, in matters relating to distribution of entitled food grains or meals or other cash entitlements or Food Security Allowance as per the Act, in case the complaint is not redressed by the orders passed by the District Grievance Redressal Officer.

	<p>(14) If the State Food Commission has passed any strictures against the nodal officer / DGRO, they shall be communicated to their HOD's on record for necessary action.</p> <p>(15) Under section 20(2) of the Act, the State Food Commission shall have the power to forward any case to a Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the same and the Magistrate to whom any such case is forwarded shall proceed to hear the complaint against the accused as if the case has been forwarded to him under Section 346 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.</p>
<p><b>13. Internal System of Grievance Redressal</b></p>	<p>(1) The State Government shall set up a robust and efficient internal system of grievance redressal for disposal of the complaints relating to the Act.</p> <p>(2) without prejudice to the general provisions contained in sub-rule (1) above, the internal system for grievance redressal may consist of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a call center based help line with toll – free No 1967 established for registering complaints and providing information to the public;</li> <li>(b) a Web – based grievance redressal portal started for effective implementation of the Act in the State.</li> </ul> <p>(3) The District Civil Supply Officer of the district shall be the Nodal Officer with regard to Public Distribution System, as designated by the State Government.</p> <p>The Nodal Officer shall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Verify, at the end of every month and at each FP shop, the status of supply of food grains to the entitled persons covered under each FP shop, as per the entitlement under the Act.</li> <li>(b) Record in writing, the reasons for non-supply of entitled quantity of food grains to any entitled person.</li> <li>(c) Ensure payment of food security allowance to the entitled person in every case where entitled quantity of food grains has not been supplied due to non-availability of food grains at the FP shop or for any unforeseen reasons, by the end of the 3rd week of the month in which the non-supply occurred.</li> <li>(d) Ensure that a bank account is opened by such person within one month from the date of initial payment of the food security allowance.</li> <li>(e) Register a complaint with the DGRO forthwith where food grains have not been supplied due to any willful lapse of any FP shop dealer.</li> </ul> <p>The food security allowance shall not be payable to an entitled person who does not visit the FP shop to claim his entitlement during the month. Provided that the Nodal Officer may exempt a person from visiting the FP shop and claiming his entitlement, for reasons to be recorded in writing.</p> <p>Provided further that the food security allowance shall not be payable to an entitled person who refuses to claim his entitlement on the ground of quality of food grains or such other grounds.</p> <p>(4) The State Government may also consider designating one or more of its officers as Nodal Officers for grievance Redressal with regard to Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers and Children up to the age of fourteen years.</p>
<p><b>14. Review and Monitoring</b></p>	<p>For review and monitoring of implementation of the Act, the Commission shall hold regular meetings with the officers of the Civil Supplies Department, other concerned agencies, reputed NGOs and members of the civil society, and give its advice to the State Government for effective implementation of the Act.</p>

<p><b>15. Procedure for registering complaints and appeals</b></p>	<p>(1) Complaint regarding violation of entitlements under the Act and appeal against the order of the District Grievance Redressal Officer shall be presented by the complainant or appellant to the Commission in person or by registered post or any electronic mode addressed to the Member-Secretary of the Commission.</p> <p>(2) Any appeal against the order of the District Grievance Redressal Officer shall be filed before the Commission within thirty days from the issuance of the order.</p> <p>(3) Every appeal shall be accompanied by the certified copy of the order of the District Grievance Redressal Officer and such of the documents as may be required to support grounds of appeal.</p> <p>(4) Complaint or appeal shall be filed with specific details and contact information of the complainant. No anonymous complaint shall be entertained.</p>
<p><b>16. Disposal of complaints and appeals by the Commission</b></p>	<p>(1) The Commission shall, on receipt of any complaint, seek a report on it from the District Grievance Redressal Officer, along with supporting documents, who shall be required to furnish it within fifteen days.</p> <p>(2) Taking into consideration the report of the District Grievance Redressal Officer, and the available documents, the Commission shall issue appropriate orders for Redressal of the complaint within fifteen days from the date of receipt of the report of the District Grievance Redressal Officer.</p> <p>(3) In the case of appeal against the orders of the District Grievance Redressal Officer, the Commission shall give an opportunity to the District Grievance Redressal Officer and the appellant to present their cases in person on a fixed date, time and place and after having heard them and taking into consideration the evidences submitted by them, decide the appeal within thirty days from the date of receipt of appeal.</p> <p>(4) On the date fixed for hearing, it shall be obligatory for the District Grievance Redressal Officer and the appellant to appear before the Commission, and in case of failure to do so, the Commission may in its discretion either dismiss the case or proceed to enquire the matter ex-parte and decide the appeal within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of appeal.</p> <p>(5) The Order of the Commission shall be authenticated by the Member-Secretary or any other officers of the Commission duly authorized by the Commission on its behalf.</p> <p>(6) The Commission shall arrange to deliver copies of the decision to the officer/person/agency concerned within a period of fifteen days from the date of such decision.</p> <p>(7) If the Commission is of the opinion that the disposal of the appeal requires more than thirty days, the appellant shall be sent an interim reply citing the reasons for delay.</p>
<p><b>17. Powers of the Commission</b></p>	<p>The Commission, while enquiring into any matter referred to in clauses (b) and (e) of sub-section (6) of section 16 of the Act, have powers specified in section 20 of the Act.</p>
<p><b>18. Maintenance of records</b></p>	<p>The Commission shall maintain all the records, including the appeals and records related to their disposal.</p>
<p><b>19 . Stamps and Logo</b></p>	<p>The stamps and logo of the Commission shall be specified by the Government.</p>
<p><b>20. Vigilance Committees</b></p>	<p>(1) The Vigilance Committees constituted / revamped at different levels shall effectively function, on the due dates.</p> <p>(2) The Vigilance Committee(s) consist the following members in various levels and be in existence for two years from its constitution.</p>
<p>I)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At State level</b></p> <p>(a) (I) The Minister of Food &amp; Civil Supplies shall be the Chairman of the committee.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(II) The Commissioner of Civil Supplies &amp; Ex Officio Secretary to Government shall be the Vice Chairman.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(III) The Deputy Commissioner (CS), Office of the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, shall be the Convener.</p> <p>In addition to the existing members, there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, 2013 [No. 20 of 2013], keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p>

II)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At District Level</b></p> <p>a) District Collector shall be the Chairperson. Chairperson of Zilla Parishad shall be the Co-Chairperson. Joint Collector shall be the Vice Chairperson. District Civil Supply Officer shall be the convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p>
III)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Mandal Level</b></p> <p>a) Revenue Divisional Officer shall be the chairperson. Chairperson of Mandal Praja Parishad shall be the Co-Chairperson. Tahsildar shall be the Member – convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p>
IV)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Gram Panchayat Level</b></p> <p>a) Sarpanch shall be the Chairperson and Convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, 2013 keeping in view the preferences and reservations provided.</p>
V)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Municipal Corporation Level</b></p> <p>a) Chief Rationing Officer in respect of twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad and Joint Collectors for other Corporations shall be the Chairperson. Mayor of the Corporation shall be the Co-chairperson. District Civil Supply Officer shall be the convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p>
VI)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Circle Level</b></p> <p>a) District Civil Supply Officer shall be the Chairman. Asst. Civil Supply Officer / Tahsildar shall be the convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall be other members as per the National Food Security Act, keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p>
VII)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Municipality Level</b></p> <p>a) Revenue Divisional Officer/ Sub- Collector shall be the Chairperson, Tahsildar shall be the Convener.</p> <p>b) In addition to the existing members there shall other members as per the National Food Security Act, keeping in view the preference and reservations provided.</p> <p>The Vigilance Committees shall perform such functions and have such powers as are prescribed under Section 29 of the Act.</p> <p>The Vigilance Committees shall meet as per the periodicity indicated.</p>
<b>21. Reports</b>	<p>1) In addition to sending reports to the District Grievance Redressal Officer as per section 29 of the Act, the vigilance committees at various levels shall send monthly reports to the Tahsildar, RDO/ Sub Collectors, Joint Collector, Collector, Commissioner of Civil Supplies as the case may be.</p> <p>2) The Vigilance Committees may also, in cases where it finds a matter to be of utmost importance , send special report to the authority mentioned in sub- rule (5) above and such authority may take such report as it may deem fit.</p>

<p><b>22. Social Audit</b></p>	<p>(1) The State Government shall, as soon as possible, issue detailed guidelines for conduct of Social Audit as per the provisions of section 28 of the Act.</p> <p>(2) The guidelines shall inter - alia also provide for the constitution of social audit committees at various levels. The social audit committees shall conduct a social audit of the implementation of schemes under the Act at such intervals and in accordance with such guidelines as may be notified by the State Government.</p> <p>(3) No social audit shall be conducted in a manner obstructing conduct of normal work of any state authority.</p> <p>(4) No social audit shall be conducted unless a notice of 15 days has been given to the concerned public authorities.</p>
<p><b>23. Keeping Records in Public Domain</b></p>	<p>(1) Without prejudice to the general provisions of sub - rule (1) the following documents shall be considered related to entitlements under the Act:-</p> <p>Guidelines notified by the State Government for identification of eligible Priority households. List of beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana households or eligible Priority households for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System under Section 3 of the Act; duly to purifying the data based on Aadhaar Seeding. The entitlements of food grains, including quantity and price of beneficiaries under (b) above;</p> <p>Details of the Fair Price Shops in the State, districts block etc.</p> <p>Policy directives issued by the State Government or the Commissioner of Civil Supplies , Telangana to the Collectors , District Grievance Redressal Officers and other officers of the State Government for effective and efficient implementation of the Act.</p> <p>(2) All documents and records identified under sub- rule (1) and (2) shall be open for public domain on the web portal maintained for this purpose.</p> <p>(3) All documents and records identified under sub- rule (1) and (2) shall be open for public inspection , free of charge, and shall be kept at places mentioned in column (3) of Schedule – A by the authorities indicated in column (4) of the said schedule.</p> <p>(4) Any person may , after ensuring receipt of notice of 3 days, to the concerned local authority , inspect such records, free of charge</p> <p>(5) Any person may request copies of the records after paying such fee as may be prescribed by the State Government.</p> <p>(6) Copies equated under sub-rule (5) shall be given within 15 days of receipt of application along with such fee.</p>
	<p><b>Chapter-IV</b> <b>Role of Panchayaths and Urban Local Bodies</b></p>
<p><b>24. Responsi- bility of Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies</b></p>	<p>(1) The State Government may choose to assign such duties at district, Mandal and village level to respective Panchayaths, which in its opinion, cannot be conveniently carried out by existing arrangements of service delivery.</p> <p>(2) The State Government may choose to assign such duties in municipal areas to the urban local bodies which in its opinion cannot be conveniently carried out by existing arrangement of service delivery.</p>

	<b>Chapter-V Miscellaneous</b>
<b>25. Payment of Food Security Allowance:</b>	<p>(1) The Principles to fix responsibility for failure to provide the entitlements as required by the Act shall be as per Schedule-B.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The State Government may modify the schedule-B.</p> <p>(2) In case of failure to provide the entitlements as required the Act the beneficiary shall be paid such Food Security Allowance as notified by the Central Government under the provision of section 8 and section 39 of the Act.</p> <p>(3) Any Food Security Allowance paid by the State Government shall be recovered from the concerned responsible persons including officers of the State Government according to the principles laid down under sub-rule(1):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Provided that the State Government shall bear the cost of the liability of public servants for Food Security Allowance for first year from the commencement of implementation of the Act in the State.</p>
<b>26. Surrender of entitlements under the Act.</b>	<p>(1) A beneficiary may, if he so desired, by applying to the concerned local authority in writing surrender his right-entitlements either temporarily or permanently.</p> <p>(2) the entitlement shall be automatically re-instated at the end of the period of such temporary surrender, unless such period of surrender is extended further in writing by the concerned beneficiary.</p> <p>(3) Where right has been surrendered permanently by a beneficiary, he may at a subsequent date in writing apply to the concerned local authority for his entitlements to be reinstated, and the said authority shall do so with immediate effect.</p>
<b>27. Feed back of default in provision of entitlements.</b>	The public authority is responsible for provision of entitlements as required by the Act shall, in cases where beneficiary does not turn up to claim the entitlements or has surrendered it under Rule 13, report such event along with beneficiary wise list to such authority as may be prescribed by the State Government.
<b>28. Right to surrender under Rule.14</b>	The State Government shall, as soon as possible but within thirty days from the commencement of the implementation of the Act, issue detailed guidelines for exercise of right to surrender under Rule 14 and feedback mechanism under Rule 15. Such guidelines may also include electronic/online mode of documentation etc.
<b>29. Reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System</b>	The State Government may, as soon as may be, prescribe detailed guidelines for the reforms in the Targeted Public Distribution System as required by section 12 of the Act.
<b>30. Funding of Expenditure</b>	The State Government shall bear from its exchequer all expenses incurred in implementation of these Rules and the Act, beyond the expenses borne by the Central Government under cost sharing and assistance, as per Section 7 and Section 22 (4) (d) respectively.
<b>31. Modification of Rules</b>	Any amendment to these Rules excepting under Rule 20 below, shall be made as per section 40 of the Act.
<b>32. Power to Remove difficulties</b>	<p>(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these Rules, the State Government may, by order, publish in the Official Gazette by making such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act and these rules, as appear to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty;</p> <p>(2) Every order made under this rule shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each house of the State Legislature.</p>

## SCHEDULE - A

**List of places where Documents shall be kept open for inspection  
[See Rule 22]**

Sl.	Level at which Records to be maintained	Concerned Office	Concerned Officer
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Documents related to Targeted Public Distribution System		
1.	State Level Records	At Commissioner of Civil Supplies Office	Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, O/o CCS, Hyderabad.
2.	District Level Records	At District Civil Supply Officer's Office	Asst Civil Supply Officer O/o District Civil Supply Officer
3.	Mandal Level Records	At Tehsil Office/ Urban local body Office	Deputy Tahsildar / Superintendent, O/o Tahsildar / ASO
4.	Village Level Records	At Gram Panchyat's Office	Panchayat Secretary/ Village Revenue Officer
5.	Ward level Records	At Municipalities/ Corporation's Office	Municipalities / Corporation's Office
6.	FP shop level Records	FP Shop	Panchayat Secretary/ Village Revenue Officer
7.	Anganwadi Centre level Records	Anganwadi Centre	Anganwadi Teacher/Worker
8.	Primary/Upper Primary School	Primary/Upper Primary School	Head Master of the School

## SCHEDULE - B

### Fixation of Responsibility at Various Levels in Targeted Public Distribution System [See Rule 24 (1)]

Level	Required Action	Responsibility
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>First</b>	1. Forwarding of Demand for Allotment for eligible households at least three months before the start of year.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies office and Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies Department.
	2. Issue of yearly allotment by Central Government at least two months before the start of year.	Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.
	3. Communicating yearly allotment received from Government of India to the Managing Director / District Managers Civil Supplies Corporation.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies Office
	4. Deposit of Money by Civil Supplies Food Corporation of India (FCI) / Civil Supplies Corporation (CSC).	District Managers Civil Supplies Corporation (At least 15 days before the month of lifting).
	5. Issue of Release Order (RO) by Food Corporation of India / Civil Supplies Corporation	Area Manager, FCI (At least 10 days before the month of lifting)
<b>Second</b>	6. Lifting of food grains from the godown of Food Corporation of India/Civil Supplies Corporation (CSC).	District Managers of Civil Supplies Corporation
	7. Mandal Level Godown hiring / arranging adequate capacity at least 15 days before start of lifting.	District Managers of Civil Supplies Corporation.
	8. Receiving food grains at Mandal level Godown.	MLS Point in Charges.
<b>Third</b>	9. Deposit of money by Fair Price Shop (FPS) owners for lifting of food grains.	Tahsildar / ACSO concerned.
	10. Providing details of money deposited to Godown In-charge / District Managers of Civil Supplies Corporation.	MLS Point in Charges.
	11. Lifting of food grains from Block godown by	MLS In-charge and the DT of the area concerned.
	12. Distribution of food grains by FPS owner to beneficiaries	FPS owner / VRO or Inspector of the area.

- A. The DMs TSCSCL shall appoint adequate number of transport contractors with sufficient capacity to ensure timely lifting of food grains from FCI / Civil Supplies Corporation godowns to Mandal godowns.
- B. The agreement with the transport contractors shall contains a provision for recovery of cost as per market rate / FCI or Civil Supplies Corporation economic cost for whichever is higher for the first violation and double the cost for subsequent violations along with invoking of other
- C. Conditions for terminating the contract.
  - i. If order for lifting is issued in time by the Department to such contractor or his representative;
  - ii. If adequate space is available in the Mandal godowns;
  - iii. If adequate food grain is available in the FCI / CS Corporation godowns;
- D. DM Civil Supplies Corporation shall prepare movement plan in advance and monitor it on a daily basis. Daily status of lifting shall also be sent to the CCS & the VC & MD, Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation.
- E. The FPS owner shall distribute the food grain to beneficiaries on fixed dates and send a report of lifting of food grain by beneficiaries to District Civil Supply Officer within two days of each such distribution day.
- F. A list of beneficiaries lifting food, not lifting food and food grain remaining at FPS shall also be reported to District Civil Supply Officer by the end of month of distribution. Such information shall be sent by the District Civil Supply Officer to District Grievance Redressal officer every month, who may choose to get it investigated by such public servant, as, he may deem fit.
- G. The FPS owner shall also, at the end of every distribution month, report in writing to the District Civil Supply Officer number of beneficiaries who surrendered their right to receive food grains, along with the surrender letters written by them, and quantity of food grains surrendered.

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