Subject: Revised Guidelines regarding validity period for the lifting of foodgrains under Other Welfare Schemes i.e. MDM, WBNP, SAG, Annapurna Scheme and Welfare Institutions and Hostels Scheme.

The undersigned is directed to say that allocation of foodgrain is made by Department of Food & Public Distribution in respect of following Schemes and Programs of Government of India:

(a) National Food Security Act, 2013;
(b) Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) –
   1. Mid Day Meal Scheme – Department of School Education & Literacy.

2) In respect of allocation of foodgrain made under NFSA, the offtake of foodgrain pertaining to any allocation month should be completed by States/UTs by the last day of the month preceding the allocation month, so that the eligible beneficiaries could receive their entitled quota of foodgrain during the allocation month itself; failing which States/UTs are liable to pay Food Security Allowance to such beneficiaries under Food Security Allowance Rules, 2015.

3) Secondly, in respect of allocation of foodgrain made under Other Welfare Schemes, different Schemes are governed by different guidelines. There is lack of uniformity in validity period for making offtake of foodgrain among the above 5 OWSs. In order to bring uniformity in this regard, the following has been decided (in supersession of DFPD’s lifting guidelines for OWSs vide its Order No.1-2/2008-BP-II dated 18.07.2008 and 18.09.2008):

   i) Monthly Allocation – Foodgrain pertaining to any particular month under above 5 OWSs, should be lifted by the last day of the month preceding the allocation month;
   ii) Quarterly Allocation – In case the allocation of foodgrain is made by the concerned Ministry/Department on quarterly basis under any of the above OWSs, the States/UTs would have the option either to lift the foodgrain on monthly basis, as per validity schedule mentioned at (i) above or at one go on quarterly basis, subject to the condition that the offtake of foodgrain for the particular quarter should be completed between first day of the month preceding the allocation quarter till the last day of the second month of the said quarter, unless otherwise communicated by Department of Food & Public Distribution in individual cases. The advance lifting of foodgrain would be further subject to the availability of stock in the Central Pool;
   iii) Department of Food & Public Distribution’s guidelines dated 6-Feb-2014 and 6-Nov-2018 regarding advance lifting of foodgrain upto 6 months for TPDS/NFSA/OWS would continue to be in vogue;
iv) In case the last date for lifting happens to be a public holiday, the same will have to be done upto the previous working day;

v) If the allocated quantity of foodgrain is not lifted in full by the specified date, the lifting of balance quantity of foodgrain will be as per extant norms;

vi) If the allocated quantity of foodgrain is not available in the assigned FCI depot/godown, it will have to be lifted from the nearest alternate depot/godown assigned by FCI for this purpose;

vii) The foodgrain has to be released to the concerned State/UT by FCI in the ratio as decided by DFPD;

viii) Since the allocation of foodgrain by FCI to States/UTs under above Schemes/Programmes is on pre-payment basis, States/UTs should deposit the cost well in time so that the lifting of foodgrain could be ensured as per above schedule.

4) This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(Asit Halder)
Under Secretary (BP-II)
Tel. No. 011-23382504

To

Principal Secretaries / Secretaries
Department of Food, Civil Supply and Consumer Affairs
All States / UTs

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development.
2. Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, M/o HRD
3. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
4. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Food Corporation of India, New Delhi
5. JS (Policy & FCI) / JS (Storage) / Economic Adviser (NFSA)
6. Director (PD) / Director (Policy) / Director (Movt) / Director (Storage) / Joint Director (NFSA)