

**Note # 1**

As discuss with DS (WCD) a meeting notice on Inter-Ministerial on Issues related to Food Fortification is placed at DFA for kind persual and approval.

Vedika  
(Y.P)

25/01/2018 1:12 PM

**KULDIP CHAND SHARMA**  
(ss)

**Note # 2**

29/01/2018 2:08 PM

**ANAMIKA SINGH**  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 3**

O.M. relating to meeting notice sent by email as well as by post/by hand.

01/02/2018 11:26 AM

**RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH**  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 4**

As instructed by D.S. the meeting is now re-scheduled to be held on 6th Feb at 3:00 P.M. in Room no.122. Accordingly, he meeting notice has been issued to all concerned.

28/03/2018 1:05 PM

**KULDIP CHAND SHARMA**  
(ss)

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**Note # 5**

An Inter-Ministerial Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Member, Dr. V.K. Paul to discuss the issues related to scaling up of food fortification on 06.02.2018 at NITI Aayog.

2. Attached is the Minutes of the Meeting as DFA, for your kind perusal and approval.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

28/03/2018 1:17 PM

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR**  
(YP)

**Note # 6**

28/03/2018 5:14 PM

**ANAMIKA SINGH**  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 7**

02/04/2018 10:55 AM

**ALOK KUMAR**  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 8**

09/04/2018 2:23 PM

**ALOK KUMAR**  
(ADVISER)

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**Note # 9**

10/04/2018 1:39 PM

VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(MEMBER)

**Note # 10**

10/04/2018 2:00 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 11**

11/04/2018 5:23 PM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 12**

03/05/2018 3:38 PM

KULDIP CHAND SHARMA  
(ss)

**Note # 13**

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A Meeting was held to discuss Food Fortification with FCI on 27.03.2018 under the Chairpersonship of Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog.

2. The Minutes of the Meeting have been prepared and attached for your kind perusal and reference.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

03/05/2018 4:11 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 14**

04/05/2018 12:10 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 15**

A Meeting was held to discuss Food Fortification with FCI on 27.03.2018 under the Chairpersonship of Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog.

2. The Minutes of the Meeting have been prepared, issued and attached for your kind perusal and reference

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

04/05/2018 12:31 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 16**

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08/05/2018 12:24 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 17**

10/05/2018 11:24 AM

VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(MEMBER)

**Note # 18**

10/05/2018 12:11 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 19**

A Meeting was held World Food Programme (WFP) under the Chairmanship of Adviser, WCD on 21.05.2018 to discuss rice fortification. It was decided that WFP will share a draft Action Plan for scaling up of Rice fortification in India.

2. WFP has shared their Action Plan and the same is attached as Draft, for your perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

05/06/2018 1:09 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

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**Note # 20**

06/06/2018 10:48 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 21**

A Meeting was held World Food Programme (WFP) under the Chairmanship of Adviser, WCD on 21.05.2018 to discuss rice fortification. It was decided that WFP will share a draft Action Plan for scaling up of Rice fortification in India.

2. WFP has shared their Action Plan and the same is attached as Draft, for your perusal. The highlights of the Action Plan are as below:

- a) The need for an Inter-Ministerial Meeting (Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Food) convened by NITI Aayog to push for a comprehensive approach and plan with timetable for fortification of rice, wheat flour, double fortified salt, and edible oil in ICDS and MDM.
- b) Modification of different Guidelines to include Fortification.
- c) Suggestion to focus on the Aspirational Districts in rice consuming States with decentralised procurement of rice.

3. The Action Plan has been discussed with the Adviser and it was suggested that an Inter-Ministerial Meeting with the Development Partners should be organised by NITI Aayog to comprehensively formulate an Action Plan on Fortification. More on the same will be decided after the PMO Minutes (which mandates rice fortification in MDM) is shared with NITI Aayog.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

08/06/2018 6:20 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 22**

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14/06/2018 10:29 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 23**

A Meeting was held in NITI Aayog on 27.03.2018 under the Chairpersonship of Dr. V.K Paul, Member, NITI Aayog in which DFPD was asked to have consultation with the stakeholders and prepare an approach paper on Rice fortification. Following this, a Meeting with representatives of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Food Corporation of India (FCI), State Governments and World Food Programme (WFP) to draft an Approach Paper on Rice fortification.

2. Department of Food has shared a detailed Approach Paper on Rice fortification which is attached as draft for your perusal. The highlights of the Paper are presented below:

a) The Paper recommends initiating rice fortification under PDS on a pilot basis in selected Districts by State Governments with funding from Government of India as it will help understanding the challenges and also acceptability of fortified rice among PDS beneficiaries. Based on the experience, rice fortification will be gradually expanded to cover the entire rice distribution under PDS, and subsequently rice fortification can be made mandatory. Pilots on rice fortification under ICDS and MDM Schemes may also be undertaken.

b) The Paper mentions that Decentralised fortification at intermediate level is the most preferred approach to rice fortification. Under this approach, fortification of rice can be done at district/ block level, especially fortification is done at milling points as it would save the additional cost of debagging of normal rice received at godowns and repackaging it after fortification.

3. The Approach Paper has been analysed. As per the Paper, the current FRK production is about 3600 tons per annum and thus rice fortification can be rolled out in a phased manner. Based on this, two options can emerge from the Action Plan, for your kind perusal.

a) Roll out rice fortification in those States which have initiated rice fortification on pilot basis (Odisha, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tripura).

b) Initiate rice fortification on pilot basis in ICDS, MDM and PDS in the Aspirational Districts

4. As an immediate plan of Action, NITI Aayog can organise a Meeting with Department of Food, FSSAI, FCI, and Development Partners to discuss the following:

a) Current offtake of FRKs and which States are consuming it.

b) Identification of States and rice mills in the identified States for fortification of rice and bagging.

c) Identification of Development Partners for each States for technical capacity and M&E support

- d) Laying down guidelines by FSSAI on safety standards, infrastructure, manpower and institutional mechanism for ensuring quality control during fortification, storage and transportation as well at the time of cooking.
- e) Mandatory rice fortification in ICDS using PMO minutes.
- f) Manufacturing timeline of 65000 tons of FRKs as committed by FSSAI.

5. The Secretaries of Department of Food and Civil Supplies of the i

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

identified States can then be called regional wise for a Meeting to convince them to roll out fortification and draw an action plan for the same in these States.

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14/06/2018 11:03 AM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 24**

have given some instructions on a similar email. let us discuss.

15/06/2018 11:58 AM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 25**

A Meeting chaired by Principal Secretary to PM on continuation of Mid May Meal on 29.05.2018 in PMO, New Delhi.

2. It was decided in the Meeting that Secretary Department of School Education and Literacy may have discussion with Chairman, FCI on exploring various options for fortification of food grains starting from rice. It was also decided that Ministry may examine requirement of increasing fund allocation for fortification of food within the overall requirement.

3. The Minutes of the Meeting is attached as draft, for your perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

02/07/2018 11:44 AM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 26**

Minutes of PMO Meeting held on 29.05.2018 w.r.t. Rice Fortification in MDM for kind perusal please.

03/07/2018 11:27 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

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**Note # 27**

Vedeika has been asked to follow up.

03/07/2018 6:39 PM

**ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)**

**Note # 28**

04/07/2018 10:01 AM

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)**

**Note # 29**

Following the Meetings held on Fortification at NITI Aayog under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, Department of Food was asked to have consultations with stakeholders and prepare an Approach Paper on Rice Fortification in PDS. DoF subsequently shared the Approach Paper wherein it mentions that rice fortification under PDS should be initiated on a pilot basis in few Districts selected by the State Governments with funding from Government of India as it will help in understanding the challenges and also acceptability of fortified rice among PDS beneficiaries. Based on this experience, rice fortification will be gradually expanded to cover entire rice distribution under PDS, and subsequently rice fortification can be made mandatory. It also mentions that rice fortification on a pilot basis under ICDS and MDM Schemes. According to the Approach Paper, preferred fortification points would be at rice mills with rice facility for manufacturing of FRKs and its blending with normal rice.

2. The Policy note on the Central Sector Scheme on Rice fortification under PDS from DoF is awaited.

3. DoF invited the Food Secretaries of all States and NITI Aayog to give comments on the Approach Paper. Please find the comments on the Approach Paper attached as Draft for your perusal.

**Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)**

17/07/2018 6:44 PM

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)**

**Note # 30**

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20/07/2018 4:17 PM

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)**

**Note # 31**

23/07/2018 5:53 PM

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)**

**Note # 32**

25/07/2018 12:11 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 33**

I have seen the paper, we need to be more specific in our recommendation on  
(a) The logistics of fortification: perhaps the milling stage is our best bet.  
(b) what are the learnings with regard to Quality Control infrastructure that is required to ensure that fortifications is done according to requisite standards and does not become a license for adulteration.  
This requires a deeper discussion.

26/07/2018 9:28 AM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISED)

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**Note # 34**

26/07/2018 10:53 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 35**

Department of Food had shared an Approach Paper on Rice Fortification under PDS for which it had sought NITI Aayog's comments.

2. After discussions with the Adviser, WCD, NITI Aayog has prepared the comments on the Approach Paper and the same is attached as Draft, for your kind perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(YP)

02/08/2018 3:01 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 36**

02/08/2018 3:58 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 37**

Approved.

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03/08/2018 4:56 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISED)

**Note # 38**

06/08/2018 12:25 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH

(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 39**

Following the Approach Paper on rice fortification under PDS, Department of Food shared the Central Sector Scheme on rice fortification under PDS on 16.08.2018. The Proposal proposes a new Central Sector Scheme for distribution of fortified rice under the Public Distribution System on pilot basis. The Proposal proposes that **the new scheme will be funded by Government of India in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of North Eastern States and Sikkim and 75:25 in respect of other States/UTs.** The Proposal is attached as Draft, for your perusal.

2. Given the high levels of anemia and micronutrient deficiencies in the country, the note on rice fortification has come at an opportune time and is a step in the right direction to address these problems. As fortification forms an important component of POSHAN Abhiyaan, it is crucial to align this Scheme on rice fortification under PDS with the timelines of POSHAN Abhiyaan and thereafter focus on a scale at national level.

3. NITI Aayog has examined the proposal and prepared the comments. The comments are attached as draft, for your kind perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar

27/08/2018 6:18 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 40**

28/08/2018 2:52 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

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**Note # 41**

Following the Approach Paper on rice fortification under PDS, Department of Food shared the Central Sector Scheme on rice fortification under PDS on 16.08.2018. The Proposal proposes a new Central Sector Scheme for distribution of fortified rice under the Public Distribution System on pilot basis. The Proposal proposes that **the new scheme will be funded by Government of India in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of North Eastern States and Sikkim and 75:25 in respect of other States/UTs.** The Proposal is attached as Draft, for your perusal.

2. Given the high levels of anemia and micronutrient deficiencies in the country, the note on rice fortification has come at an opportune time and is a step in the right direction to address these problems. As fortification forms an important component of POSHAN Abhiyaan, it is crucial to align this Scheme on rice fortification under PDS with the timelines of POSHAN Abhiyaan and thereafter focus on a scale at national level.

3. NITI Aayog has examined the proposal and prepared the comments. The comments are attached as draft, for your kind perusal and approval. Once approved, the same will be shared with Department of Food.

Supreet Kaur



28/08/2018 4:38 PM

SUPREET KAUR  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 42**

28/08/2018 5:04 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 43**

31/08/2018 1:02 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 44**

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Approved

31/08/2018 2:50 PM

VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(MEMBER)

**Note # 45**

04/09/2018 9:25 AM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 46**

04/09/2018 11:28 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 47**

04/09/2018 2:59 PM

SUPREET KAUR  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 48**

This in reference to Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS. The Scheme proposes to initiate rice fortification under PDS on a pilot basis in a District selected by each State, which will be funded by Government of India in the ratio 90:10 in respect of North-Eastern States and Sikkim and 75:25 in respect of other States/ UTs.

2. Department of Food shared the Scheme and sought comments from all the States and NITI Aayog on August 14th, 2018. NITI Aayog shared its comments with Department of Food on August 31st, 2018.

3. Regarding the response from the States, As per the information shared by Department of Food, so far, only three States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Daman And Diu, and Tripura, have responded positively to the Scheme. Punjab has regretted. Tamil Nadu is piloting the Scheme in collaboration with J-PAL in Cuddalore District. Odisha and Chhattisgarh have informed that the proposal is under active consideration.

4. Since the response from the States has been poor, the Department of Food undertook the following measures:

- Reminder to the States/UTs on September 6th, 2018 to expedite comment
- National Consultation on scaling up rice fortification organised on September 14th, 2018 where the States were reminded again.
- Video-conference with some of the Food Secretaries of different States conducted by Joint Secretary, Department of Food on September 17th, 2018.

5. In this background of poor response from the States, Adviser, Health and Nutrition suggested that a Letter may be sent out by the Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog to the States who haven't responded yet on the proposal, encouraging them to implement the Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS.

6. The Draft letter which for the Vice-Chairman has been attached as Draft, for your kind perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(Young Professional)

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**03/10/2018 12:38 PM**

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)**

**Note # 49**

**03/10/2018 12:44 PM**

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)**

**Note # 50**

This in reference to Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS which was shared by Department of Food on August 14th. The Scheme proposes to initiate rice fortification under PDS on a pilot basis in a District selected by each State, which will be funded by Government of India in the ratio 90:10 in respect of North-Eastern States and Sikkim and 75:25 in respect of other States/UTs. The Proposal was shared by Department of Food with all the States and different Stakeholders seeking their comments on the same

2. Regarding the response from the States, As per the information shared by Department of Food, so far, only three States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Daman And Diu, and Tripura, have responded positively to the Scheme. Punjab has regretted. Tamil Nadu is piloting the Scheme in collaboration with J-PAL in Cuddalore District. Odisha and Chhattisgarh have informed that the proposal is under active consideration. NITI Aayog shared its comments with Department of Food on August 31st, 2018.

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- o Reminder to the States/UTs on September 6th, 2018 to expedite comment
- o National Consultation on scaling up rice fortification organised on September 14th, 2018 where the States were reminded again

- o Video-conference with some of the Food Secretaries of different States conducted by Joint Secretary, Department of Food on September 17th, 2018.

4. In this background of poor response from the States, Adviser (Health and Nutrition) suggested that a Letter may be sent out by the Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog to those States who haven't responded on the proposal yet, encouraging them to implement the Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS.

5. The Draft letter for the Vice-Chairman has been attached as Draft, for your kind perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(Young Professional)

03/10/2018 12:57 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

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**Note # 51**

03/10/2018 4:28 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 52**

03/10/2018 5:12 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 53**

A meeting in this regard is proposed to be held in the Ministry next week. A decision can be taken on the suitable future course of action after that meeting.

05/10/2018 12:24 PM

NIDHI SHARMA  
(PS)

**Note # 54**

10/10/2018 1:39 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 55**

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10/10/2018 4:33 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH

**Note # 56**

Following the note on Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under Public Distribution System that was shared with NITI Aayog and the States on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the DoF has shared the draft SFC note on the Pilot Scheme for "Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System".

2. The highlights of the SFC note are:

- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, will be funded by Government of India in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of North Eastern States and Sikkim and 50:50 in respect of other States/UTs - both for production of Fortified Rice and other components of the scheme
- The estimated outlay of the scheme proposed to be implemented during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 is Rs. 147.61 Crores.
- For systemic efficiencies and cost effectiveness, the blending of the fortified rice kernels will take place at the rice milling stage- whether DCP/ non DCP state.
- The objective of this scheme is to start Pilot projects in 15 selected Districts in rice consuming States and Union Territories.

3. The DO letter from DoF and the draft SFC Note is placed at DFA, for consideration

Vedeika  
(YP)

Following the Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under Public Distribution was proposed and shared by the Department of Food and Public Distribution with NITI Aayog and the States on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, it was observed that the pace of the progress of the proposed Scheme has been slow. Accordingly, the Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog during the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges Meeting, desired for a Meeting to be held expeditiously with the Department of Food to discuss the various issues and bottlenecks related to the proposed Scheme.

2. Accordingly, a Meeting is proposed with the **Secretary, Department of Food under the Chairmanship of VCH on 29.11.2018** to discuss the proposed Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS, for kind your approval. It is proposed that the Secretary, Department of Food with his team and FSSAI may be called for this Meeting.

3. Meeting will be structured for **1 hour on 29.11.2018 from 2:00-3:00PM.**

4. Meeting notice and detailed Agenda of the Meeting is placed at DFA, for your perusal.

Vedeika  
(YP)

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26/11/2018 3:31 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 57**

26/11/2018 4:14 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 58**

27/11/2018 3:41 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 59**

27/11/2018 4:25 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 60**

Following the note on Pilot Central Sector Scheme on Rice Fortification under Public Distribution System that was shared with NITI Aayog and the States on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the DoF has shared the draft SFC note on the Pilot Scheme for "Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System". The DO letter from DoF and the draft SFC Note is already placed at DFA, for consideration.

2. The highlights of the SFC note are:

- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, will be funded by Government of India in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of North Eastern States and Sikkim and 50:50 in respect of other States/UTs - both for production of Fortified Rice and other components of the scheme
- The estimated outlay of the scheme proposed to be implemented during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 is Rs. 147.61 Crores.
- For systemic efficiencies and cost effectiveness, the blending of the fortified rice kernels will take place at the rice milling stage- whether DCP/ non DCP state.
- The objective of this scheme is to start Pilot projects in 15 selected Districts in rice consuming States and Union Territories.

3. NITI Aayog has examined the SFC and has prepared comments on the same. The comments on SFC is placed at DFA, for your kind perusal.

**Vedeika  
(YP)**

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04/12/2018 12:13 PM

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)**

**Note # 61**

05/12/2018 3:20 PM

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)**

**Note # 62**

I had a telephonic conversation with VC on this matter. He is of the view that 15 district as a pilot is too small to start. He is of the view that it is possible to scale it up to 50-60 districts in the first go . Secretary (DoFPD) had an opposing view in that he was not sure whether the State Governments would be supportive and whether we would be able to ensure quality control over the production and supply process of the fortified rice.

In view of the above, may like to take a call on whether DFA/ 319293 may be approved.

10/12/2018 7:04 PM

**ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)**

**Note # 63**

My view is that in such cases we should go by the advise of the administrative department. Project is being implemented by them. They have to take ownership. DFA approved.

12/12/2018 10:40 AM

**AMITABH KANT  
(CEO-NITI)**

**Note # 64**

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12/12/2018 7:08 PM

**ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)**

**Note # 65**

17/12/2018 1:08 PM

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)**

**Note # 66**

18/12/2018 10:21 AM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 67**

18/12/2018 10:58 AM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 68**

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24/12/2018 1:56 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 69**

This is in reference to the Meeting that was held between the VC, NITI Aayog and World Food Programme on rice fortification in December, 2018 in which the VC, NITI Aayog suggested to have a Meeting with the Principal Secretaries, Department of Food and Civil Supplies of all 36 States/UTs to discuss introducing fortified rice under Public Distribution System (PDS).

2. Accordingly, a Consultation Meeting will be held under the Chairmanship of VC, NITI Aayog with the Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; CEO, FSSAI and Principal Secretaries of Department of Food and Civil Supplies of all 36 States/UTs to discuss the introduction of fortified rice under PDS on 16.01.2019.

3. The Meeting notice is placed at DFA, for your kind reference.

Vedeika  
(YP)

02/01/2019 12:29 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 70**

02/01/2019 12:52 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 71**

Note on prepage for perusal please.

2. As directed by VC, NITI a Consultation on Rice Fortification under PDS is proposed on 16.01.2019 for which Meeting Notice has been issued to all Stakeholders.

3. The Agenda for the same has been shown to VC office and the same is place at DFA for kind perusal.

04/01/2019 1:11 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 72**

Ok

09/01/2019 7:04 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 73**

10/01/2019 11:39 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 74**

11/01/2019 2:52 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 75**

This is in reference to the Meeting that was held between the VC, NITI Aayog and World Food Programme on rice fortification in December, 2018 in which the VC, NITI Aayog suggested to have a Meeting with the Principal Secretaries, Department of Food and Civil Supplies of all 36 States/UTs to discuss introducing fortified rice under Public Distribution System (PDS).

2. Accordingly, a Consultation Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog with the Secretary and senior officials from Department of Food and Public Distribution and the senior officials from Department of Food of various State Governments on 16.01.2019 to discuss the Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS. The list of participants is attached in correspondence.

3. Different presentations were made by Department of Food and Public Distribution (DoF); FSSAI; Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Government of Maharashtra; Department of School & Mass Education, Government of Odisha; and World Food Programme (WFP) on different aspects of rice fortification. The presentations are attached in correspondence.

4. After detailed deliberations with the State officials, representatives from DoF and other stakeholders, **the following decisions and recommendations were made:**

- The DoF may examine and incorporate the suggestions and inputs given by the State Governments and accordingly **revise the SFC note**. The DoF may also consider alternative models of blending, apart from the European model, and accordingly revise the capital cost of blending machines in the SFC note.



- The total cost of the Scheme covering all Districts is around Rs.2437 crores. **Consideration of providing 100% funding by Government of India** for the Scheme may be explored.
- Since the Scheme has the potential for improving nutritional outcomes of the population in a significant way, **NITI Aayog recommends that the Scheme on rice fortification under PDS should have an enhanced coverage** across India, covering both DCP in the Phase I and non-DCP States in Phase II. To achieve the same, **adopting a 2 pronged Strategy is recommended-** a ) In the non-DCP States, fortification at the point where rice is produced and collected may be explored. The role of FCI and the Department of Food and Public Distribution for its successful implementation is critical and needs to be emphasized; and (b) In the 15 DCP States, rice fortification to be continued and scaled up with the support of State Governments.
- FSSAI to focus on Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and create demand generation for fortified products.
- FSSAI should focus on creating a robust Quality Control and Assurance for fortified rice.

5. The Minutes of the Meeting is placed at DFA, for your kind reference.

Vedeika  
(Young Professional)

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25/01/2019 11:04 AM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 76**

25/01/2019 11:38 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 77**

29/01/2019 9:29 AM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 78**

30/01/2019 10:43 AM

VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(MEMBER)

**Note # 79**

Approved. Minutes may be issued immediately and communicated to the DOF. Also it should be ensured that the SFC Note be revised accordingly and our views for the scheme to be implemented on a pan-India basis with GOI funding may be communicated to them

30/01/2019 12:05 PM

RAJIV KUMAR  
(VICE-CHAIRPERSON)

**Note # 80**

30/01/2019 12:32 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 81**

30/01/2019 3:48 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 82**

31/01/2019 11:31 AM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 83**

20/03/2019 3:46 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 84**

25/03/2019 5:41 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 85**

This is in reference to the Pilot Scheme for Rice Fortification under PDS. The Scheme got administrative approval from Government of India for a period of 3 years beginning from 2019-20. The Scheme would be funded by Government of India in the ratio of 90:10 in respect of North-Eastern, Hilly, and Island States and 75:25 in respect to rest of the States. The Administrative Approval Order and the updated note on rice fortification Scheme is attached in Correspondence.

2. The Department of Food and Public Distribution has shared the Operational Guidelines for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Rice Fortification with NITI Aayog and other relevant stakeholders and has requested for comments on the same. The Operational Guidelines is attached in the Correspondence.

3. NITI Aayog has prepared the comments on the Operational Guidelines and the same is placed as DFA.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(Young Professional)

26/03/2019 1:36 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 86**

The comments on the operational guidelines for the fortification of rice and its distribution under public distribution system is attached.

26/03/2019 2:07 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 87**

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27/03/2019 2:50 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 88**

Please issue the comments to DoFPD.

28/03/2019 12:31 PM

ARVIND CHANDRASHEKHAR BETIGERI  
(SR CONSULTANT)

**Note # 89**

This is in reference to the Operational Guidelines Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System" shared by Department of Food and Public Distribution had shared the Operational Guidelines on dated 10.04.2019 and requested NITI Aayog for comments on the same. The Office Memorandum and the Draft Operational Guidelines are attached as correspondence, for your kind reference.

2. NITI Aayog has examined the Draft Guidelines. The Operational Guidelines are very comprehensive and detailed and there is an in-principle agreement with the Guidelines. The main observations are as follows:

1. DOFPD should coordinate with FSSAI to define the technical specifications for fortified rice including fortified rice kernel (FRK) used to fortify rice and include it in the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. This will enable policy makers to make policy decisions related to introducing fortified rice through public sector programs like PDS, MDM and ICDS.
2. It is suggested that the quality parameters pertaining to fortified rice should be included as an additional parameter under schedule of specifications mentioned under the "Uniform Specifications for Grade A & Common Rice". This will facilitate state governments to procure fortified rice adhering to the FCI specifications and quality norms.
3. Developing comprehensive Plan for Training and Capacity Building is crucial especially related to quality control and assurance.
4. It is suggested that indicators may be defined for the monitoring and periodic evaluation of the Scheme.
5. DoFPD may consider conducting a midline evaluation to understand if the Scheme is in the right path and suggest corrective measures, if any.

3. The Comments are attached as Draft, for your kind perusal.

Vedeika

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29/04/2019 1:10 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 90**

For kind perusal, please.

29/04/2019 4:36 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 91**

May kindly modify as per our discussions today and putup in the form of DFA.

01/05/2019 4:36 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 92**

For further action please

02/05/2019 10:11 AM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 93**

02/05/2019 11:49 AM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

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**Note # 94**

04/06/2019 1:10 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 95**

This in reference to the comments on the Operational Guidelines. The comments have been modified after the discussion with the Director, WCD and have been shared with the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

2. The OM along with the comments is placed as DFA.

Vedeika  
(Young Professional)

TATA Trust in partnership with FSSAI had organised a regional workshop on fortification to sensitise States on fortification of milk, wheat flour, rice, and double fortified salt and edible oil. The workshop was held in Kerala on 30th May, 2019 which covered 4 States/ UTs- Karnataka, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands. The workshop had invited representatives from Departments of Women and child Development, Food and Civil Supplies and School Education, State representatives from concerned Departments as well as representatives from the Industry manufacturing rice and wheat flour.

2. NITI Aayog was invited as well. The invitation is attached in correspondence. Ms. Nina Badgaiyan, Consultant and Ms. Vedeika Shekhar, Young Professional, NITI Aayog attended the workshop. The approved travel plan is attached as DFA.

Vedeika  
(Young Professional)

04/06/2019 6:00 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 96**

Page: 28

06/06/2019 3:09 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 97**

17/07/2019 11:07 AM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 98**

This is in reference of rice fortification under PDS. A Meeting was held between the between the VC, NITI Aayog and the Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on July 1st, 2019. It was suggested by the Hon'ble Minister that a note to be prepared by NITI Aayog on full expansion of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS.

2. Accordingly NITI Aayog has prepared a note on full full expansion of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS and shared it with the Department of Food and Public Distribution. The note is attached as DFA for reference.

Vedeika Shekhar  
(Young Professional)

14/08/2019 2:35 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 99**

14/08/2019 5:24 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

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**Note # 100**

This is in reference the OM, File No.15-1/2017-BP-II(Pt.), dated 30.01.2019 regarding the request by Department of Food and Public Distribution for comments on the Expenditure Finance Committee note on universalization of the "Scheme of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) and

Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). The OM, Draft EFC note on proposed universal Scheme on Rice fortification under PDS and OWS, and the detailed note on the proposed Scheme are placed in correspondence.

2. The proposed Universal Central Sector Scheme is a continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS with the same components of the Pilot Scheme, i.e. institutional, costing (at 60p/kg), supply chain structure, capacity building, IEC strategy, quality control and assurance, and monitoring and evaluation. NITI Aayog has already shared its comments on the SFC note and Operational Guidelines of the Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification Scheme.

3. The Scheme would be a Central Sector Scheme i.e. 100% funded by the Government of India. The Scheme has been proposed to be implemented from 2023-24. The total cost of the Scheme is estimated to be around Rs.2359 crores per annum.

4. NITI Aayog has prepared the comments on the draft EFC note and the team even consulted Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog on the same. The main highlights of the comments are as below:

- **It is recommended that to launch the Universal Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS by 2020-21**. The Scheme maybe implemented in phases, covering High Burden Districts on anemia (as per NFHS IV) in the first year,i.e. 2020-21 and pan-India roll out by 2021-22.
- A roadmap and annual targets maybe developed for its phased implementation
- It is recommended that flexibility in the modality of FRK procurement maybe given to the States/UTs- procurement of rice millers from Rice Millers or procurement of rice millers from the State/UTs.
- It is recommended that Third Party evaluation should be conducted to assess the baseline and impact assessments of the outcomes.

5. Detailed comments is placed as DFA, for your perusal and approval.

26/09/2019 5:14 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 101**

26/09/2019 5:33 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 102**

27/09/2019 5:02 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)**Note # 103**

File routed through Sr Adviser (Yogesh Suri) for CEO's approval. Rice fortification is an important and cheap route to addressing widespread Anaemia prevalence and needs to be supported.

28/09/2019 11:42 AM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)**Note # 104**

The comments of G&R vertical are as under:-

1. Given the incidence of anaemia and micronutrient deficiency and the fact that the pilot projects in select districts have exhibited encouraging results, the proposal deserves full support of NITI Aayog. However, we may need to expedite the project to enable universal roll out by 2021-22 instead of 2023-24 proposed by the Department of Food and PD. Prior to this, the pilot project may be expanded to cover all aspirational districts and districts suffering from high incidence of anaemia and micronutrient deficiency by 2020-21 itself. .
2. One of the major bottleneck in universal expansion appears to be limited availability of FRK within the country as supply at current level of production capacity is 10,000 tonnes whereas requirement at full scale implementation for 35 million tonnes (of supply of rice under PDS, MDM, ICDS, etc.) is about 3.5 lakh tonnes. Nevertheless, this need not constraint towards early universalisation of the project as we can always resort to imports of FRKs. A phased plan for meeting FRK requirements through imports and quickly expanding domestic production may be chalked out by DFPD in coordination with Department of Commerce, DPIIT, FSSAI (FFRC), concerned industry associations and other stakeholders.
3. In the pilot project, the sharing pattern envisaged was 90:10 for NE States & Sikkim and 75:25 for other States. However, in the proposed EFC note, 100% cost is to be borne by the Centre. This may need to be re-examined.
4. Under National Food Security Act, 2013, issue prices (Rs.1/2/3 per kg for coarsegrains/ wheat/ rice) were to be frozen for a period of 3 years and a revision could be made after July 2016. However, for various reasons, the prices have remained frozen. It is high time that the Department takes a thorough review of issue prices which can potentially save Rs.50,000 crore a year of food subsidy (actual allocation Rs.1.84 lakh crore for 2019-20). At least for non-AAY beneficiaries, the issue prices could be raised to about Rs.8-10 per kg, which is also broadly in line with the actual issue prices prevailing for APL families prior to enactment of NFSA.
5. While revision of issue prices under NFSA is a decision to be taken separately from the current proposal of fortification of rice, it is proposed that, to begin with, the cost of fortification of about Rs.0.60 per kg may be passed on to the beneficiaries.

With this, the entire cost of Rs.2,359 crore need not be borne by the Centre or the States/ UTs. It may be mentioned that economic cost of rice for 2019-20 is estimated at Rs.36 per kg while issue price is just Rs.3 per kg. Increasing issue price by Rs.0.60 per kg should not be that difficult and can be borne by the consumers.

6. This being an important initiative as part of Poshan Abhiyan, it is proposed that a system of concurrent evaluation may also be put in place. Besides, to begin with, a quick assessment of districts where pilot project is running, may be undertaken which can provide useful inputs for expanding the project on the national scale.
7. Views of State Governments may also be taken before expanding the project on the national scale.

This being an EFC note, appraisal may have to be done by PAMD. Accordingly, the file may need to be sent to Adviser (PAMD) before it goes to CEO for approval.

May pl see before sending the file to Adviser (PAMD).

28/09/2019 6:25 PM

YOGESH SURI  
(SENIOR ADVISER)

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Note # 105

03/10/2019 6:38 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

Note # 106

04/10/2019 12:01 PM

S.K.SAHA  
(ADVISER)

Note # 107

04/10/2019 12:50 PM

VED PRAKASH GARG  
(RA)

Note # 108

07/10/2019 6:10 PM

SANURA FERNANDEZ  
(YP)

Note # 109

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The undersigned discussed the comments of G & R vertical at Note#104 with Advisor (Health/WCD) and Advisor (G& R). Based on discussions the point at no. 4 has been deleted and point 5 of note 104 has been suitably modified.



The consolidated comments of PAMD/WCD (at note #100) /G&R/DMEO are put below ;

**No. N-14053/04/2019-PAMD**  
**Government of India**  
**NITI Aayog**  
**Project Appraisal & Management Division**

Sansad Marg, New Delhi  
Dated: October , 2019

**Note for Expenditure Finance Committee**

**Subject: Expenditure Finance Committee Note on Universalisation of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) - Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**

**PART I: Project Profile**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>As Proposed</b>
Title of the Scheme	In-principle approval for the “Scheme of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS)” to address anaemia and micronutrient deficiency in the country
Nature of the Scheme	Central Sector Scheme
Proposed Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Universalisation of the Scheme to be implemented from 2023-24 onwards and proposed to be an on-going scheme</li><li>• Presently a pilot project is being implemented in 15 districts for a period of three years (2019-20 to 2021-22)</li></ul>
Project Cost	Total cost of Universalisation of the Scheme by 2023-24: Rs. 2359 crore (inclusive of other expenses like CPMU, SPMU, MIS, third party evaluation etc.)
Cost of rice fortification	Incremental cost of producing fortified rice: Rs. 0.60 per kg
Scheme Financing	100% funded by Government of India
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food Corporation of India (FCI) and States/UTs will be responsible for fortification of rice procured during MSP operations</li><li>• States/UTs will be responsible for distribution of fortified rice as part of PDS</li></ul>
Objective	Universal distribution of fortified rice through PDS in States/UTs to address anaemia and micronutrient

## 2. Approval sought

- i. Approval of EFC is solicited for universal roll out of the Scheme for Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under PDS all over Inida, involving an estimated cost of Rs. 2359 crore for implementation from the year 2023-24. This scheme is proposed to be 100% funded by the Government of India.
- ii. It is proposed that the incremental cost of the Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under PDS, is to be added as an incidental expenditure in Provisional Cost Sheet for procurement of Paddy at the rate of the cost at 60 paisa per kg+ administrative charges in term of rice under food subsidy. The budget will be accordingly provided to the State/ FCI as subsidy under National Food Security Act, 2013.

## 3. Background

The current proposal is for seeking in-principal approval for the Universalisation of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under PDS and OWS to put in place a new road map for addressing the problem of anaemia and micro-nutrient deficiency in the country. Presently, a pilot project on Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) is being implemented in 15 selected Districts for a period of 3 years beginning from 2019-20. Universalisation of this Scheme will be in continuation of the recently approved Pilot Scheme and has been proposed to be implemented from 2023-24 onwards.

### PART II: Comments of NITI Aayog

#### PAMD Comments

1. The problem of anaemia is widespread in India across young children, women and men. The EFC memo states that around 58.5% of young children (6-59) months, 53% of women in the reproductive age group and 22.7% of all men aged 15-49 years of age suffer from anaemia. Strategies to address anaemia and micronutrient malnutrition in Indian population being addressed through PDS/MDM/ICDC etc. include dietary diversification, food fortification, nutrition and health education, supplementation etc. The EFC memo states that 65% of the population consumes rice as a staple food across all population groups in India. Fortification of rice is a cost-effective strategy to increase vitamin and mineral content of diets and is expected to address the gap in nutritional needs. NITI Aayog fully supports the proposal.
2. The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) that came in to force in July 2013 seeks to provide food and nutrition security by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices. States/UTs will be responsible for distribution of fortified rice as part of PDS and Food Corporation of India (FCI) and States/UTs will be responsible for fortification of rice procured during MSP operations.
3. In order to ensure efficient utilization as well as distribution of food-grains it is imperative that the distribution of food-grains under NFSA is undertaken under PPP mode. This shall ensure cost-effective procurement without leakages, timely distribution

as well as proper storage to avoid deterioration of food-grains. Existing systems adopted by FCI/ other state agencies suffers from various issues such as leakage, inclusion/exclusion errors and high cost of transportation/storage. It is necessary to radically overhaul the existing systems to ensure efficiency and positive impact to the beneficiaries. This can be achieved by adoption of public private partnership (PPP) models in procurement as well as public distribution system. Private players should be engaged for procurement, transportation and storage of identified quantum of food grains for operational purposes as well as for maintenance of buffer stock in identified areas or at state/national level. Similarly distribution of food grains under TPDS can be undertaken through private players procuring food grains/ or through other specialised agencies to ensure efficiencies and economies of scale This shall ensure long term sustainability through lower dependence on/requirement of subsidy as well as for better service quality to beneficiaries. Engagement of private players shall also ensure use of automated systems/technologies for better assessment of required quantum of food-grains, procurement of optimal quantities and inventory management. **Therefore it is recommended that PPP models are formulated and adopted for suitable impact and efficient use of public resources.**

4. Presently, 350 lakh MT of rice is being distributed in the country under TPDS/OWS. To fortify this entire quantity of rice allocated before lifting, a minimum supply of about 3.5 lakh metric tonnes of Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) would be needed. However, the present supply of FRK in the country is around 10,000 MT. Initiatives to augment the supply of FRK in a short time to meet the requirements of the proposed scheme are required. The Department may furnish its plan to meet the huge deficit in supply of FRK and ensure timely provision of fortified rice to the beneficiaries.
5. The EFC memo states that the incremental/operational cost of production of fortified rice is 60 paisa per Kg of fortified rice. Cost estimates of producing 350 LMT of fortified rice would annually be about Rs. 2359 crore in the year 2023-24 which is inclusive of other expenses such as CPMU, SPMU etc. The cost of Rs. 0.60 per kg. is proposed to be added as an incidental expenditure in Provisional Cost Sheet for procurement of Paddy. However, the base date/year of the cost estimates has not been indicated.
6. It is suggested that Universalisation of the Scheme may be taken up in phases and may be started within a year of functioning of the pilot project i.e. from 2020-21 onwards. The experiences from the pilot project may be recorded concurrently and used to improve the implementation of the Scheme in all States/UTs. Aspirational Districts and those with a relatively poorer performance in health and nutritional indicators may be given preference in terms of implementation of the scheme.
7. As per para 4.1 of the EFC memo, for the blending of fortified rice, the miller is required to make investment in procurement of additional equipment. The Department should ensure that the Millers receive adequate support in procuring, setting up and for operation of the blending machine. The quality of the final product, i.e. the blended rice may be examined to ensure it meets all the standards laid down by FSSAI.

#### **SMD Comments (WCD)**

8. It is recommended that to launch the Universal Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS by 2020-21 . The Scheme may be implemented in phases, covering High Burden Districts

on anaemia (as per NFHS IV) in the first year, i.e. 2020-21 and pan-India roll out by 2021-22.

9. A roadmap and annual targets may be developed for its phased implementation
10. It is recommended that flexibility in the modality of FRK procurement may be given to the States/UTs - procurement of rice millers from Rice Millers or procurement of rice millers from the State/UTs.
11. It is recommended that Third Party evaluation should be conducted to assess the baseline and impact assessments of the outcomes.

### **(G & R Vertical)**

12. Given the incidence of anaemia and micronutrient deficiency and the fact that the pilot projects in select districts have exhibited encouraging results, the proposal deserves full support of NITI Aayog. However, we may need to expedite the project to enable universal roll out by 2021-22 instead of 2023-24 proposed by the Department of Food and PD. Prior to this, the pilot project may be expanded to cover all aspirational districts and districts suffering from high incidence of anaemia and micronutrient deficiency by 2020-21 itself.
13. One of the major bottleneck in universal expansion appears to be limited availability of FRK within the country as supply at current level of production capacity is 10,000 tonnes whereas requirement at full scale implementation for 35 million tonnes (of supply of rice under PDS, MDM, ICDS, etc.) is about 3.5 lakh tonnes. Nevertheless, this need not be a constraint towards early universalisation of the project as we can always resort to imports of FRKs. A phased plan for meeting FRK requirements through imports and quickly expanding domestic production may be chalked out by DFPD in coordination with Department of Commerce, DPIIT, FSSAI (FFRC), concerned industry associations and other stakeholders.
14. In the pilot project, the sharing pattern envisaged was 90:10 for NE States & Sikkim and 75:25 for other States. However, in the proposed EFC note, 100% cost is to be borne by the Centre. This may need to be re-examined.
15. There is already a case for revision of central Issue prices under NFSA which have been frozen at Rs. 1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice for a long time. To begin with, it is suggested that the cost of fortification of about Rs.0.60 per kg may be passed on to the beneficiaries. With this, the entire cost of Rs.2,359 crore need not be borne by the Centre or the States/ UTs. It may be mentioned that economic cost of rice for 2019-20 is estimated at Rs.36 per kg while issue price is just Rs.3 per kg. Increasing issue price by Rs.0.60 per kg should not be that difficult and can be borne by the consumers.
16. This being an important initiative as part of Poshan Abhiyan, it is proposed that a system of concurrent evaluation may also be put in place. Besides, to begin with, a quick assessment of districts where pilot project is running, may be undertaken which can provide useful inputs for expanding the project on the national scale.
17. Views of State Governments may also be taken before expanding the project on the national scale.

### **DMEO Comments**

18. For better monitoring of the scheme, following is the list of output and outcome indicators which may be tracked over time.

S. No.	Output	Indicator	Target	Achievement
1.	Fortification of rice	1.1 Total volume of rice fortified (in MT)		
2.	Distribution of fortified rice	2.1 Total volume of fortified rice distributed through PDS (in MT) 2.2 Total volume of fortified rice distributed through OWS		
3.	Beneficiaries targeted	3.1 Percentage of NFSA beneficiaries distributed fortified rice out of total beneficiaries		
4.	Capacity Building	4.1 Number of Millers provided training 4.2 Number of Fair Price Shop (FPS) owners provided training 4.3 Number of state Project Monitoring Units (PMUs) set-up		
5.	Awareness Generation	5.1 No. of Community information campaigns organized		

S. No.	Outcome	Indicator	Target	Achievement
1.	Reduction in under nutrition	1.1 Percentage reduction in number of young children who are under-nourished 1.2 Percentage reduction in number of women who are under-nourished 1.3 Percentage reduction in number of adolescent girls who are under-nourished		
2.	Reduction in anemia	2.1 Percentage reduction in number of young children with anemia 2.2 Percentage reduction in number of women with anemia 2.3 Percentage reduction in		

		number of adolescent girls with anemia		
3.	Reduction in low birth weight	3.1 Percentage reduction in number of kids born with low birth weight		
4.	Reduction in stunting	4.1 Percentage reduction in number of children who are stunted		

Submitted for approval

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14/10/2019 6:31 PM

VED PRAKASH GARG  
(RA)

**Note # 110**

The comments of PAMD, SMD (WCD and G&R) and DMEO detailed in Note# 109 May kindly be approved.

15/10/2019 12:42 PM

S.K.SAHA  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 111**

16/10/2019 12:46 PM

YADUVENDRA MATHUR  
(SPECIAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 112**

Approved.

17/10/2019 1:13 PM

AMITABH KANT  
(CEO-NITI)

**Note # 113**

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18/10/2019 8:28 AM

YADUVENDRA MATHUR  
(SPECIAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 114**

18/10/2019 4:57 PM

S.K.SAHA  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 115**

The copy of the approved comments of SMD/PAMD/DMEO - appraisal note as contained in Note # 109 above has been retained in PAMD. The appraisal note note has been issued by PAMD today and a copy thereof has also been given to WCD division.

21/10/2019 1:54 PM

VED PRAKASH GARG  
(RA)

**Note # 116**

21/10/2019 6:35 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 117**

22/10/2019 12:02 PM

ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)

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**Note # 118**

30/10/2019 10:06 AM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 119**

This is in reference to the Letter to Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog by Mr. R.S Sondhi, Managing Director, Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Limited regarding Mass Vitamin Fortification using synthetic Vitamins. The letter is attached as Correspondence, for reference.

2. The letter includes a brief note on natural vitamins and Amul's stand point on Mass Vitamin Fortification using synthetic Vitamins, based on technical literature reviews on various studies on effects of synthetic vitamin supplementation on humans. The summary of the note and their stand point is as follows:

- Milk fortification with vitamin A and D (fat soluble) is not sufficient (only 10% is sold as market milk by organized sector) and problem will not address the issues of deficiencies. (WHO does not consider milk as good vehicle for Vit A fortification)
- Synthetic fortification can have toxic effects which are a reversible in the long run that is if there is continuous exposure .
- Synthetic vitamins are look alike of natural vitamins
- Synthetic vitamins are crystalline in nature (not dissolve and get accumulated and pose health risk) and natural ones in fruits and vegetables are amorphous in nature. However fortification with beta-carotene or pro vitamin carotenoids does not result in toxicity Vitamin D through Dietary supplementation is not justifiable as overexposure has toxic effects which can damage heart lungs and kidneys
- Vitamin A fortification in margarine vegetable oils, sugar, rice and cereals is found to be efficacious

- In absence of Quality Assurance Program and testing of added Vitamin A&D in various foods at the factory level/ plant level, it is risky to start mass fortification.
- Vitamin A&D in Milk should be voluntary and regulated and not mandatory Promote natural vitamins rather than synthetic vitamins in fortification.

3. In view of the above note, it is suggested that in order to give any policy recommendation on Mass Vitamin Fortification, the Study maybe reviewed and evaluated by a technical organisation like Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) or any technical committee of scientists from the concerned field.

4. Submitted for approval please.

**30/10/2019 3:25 PM**

**VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)**

**Page: 36**

**Note # 120**

**31/10/2019 12:00 PM**

**NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)**

**Note # 121**

Notes on prepage for kind perusal please.

2. MD, Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (GCMMFL) has written a letter dated 3.10.2019 addressed to VC, NITI Aayog w.r.t. some issues regarding Mass Vitamin Fortification of Milk using synthetic Vitamins.

3. This proposal has been discussed with Member, (H&N), NITI Aayog who has proposed that since this is a very technical issue, the same may be forwarded to ICMR for their comments and advice.

4. For kind approval of para 3 above before proposal is formally sent to ICMR.

**01/11/2019 1:55 PM**

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)**

**Note # 122**

Yes.

**01/11/2019 3:31 PM**

**ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)**

**Note # 123**

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**01/11/2019 5:01 PM**

**ANAMIKA SINGH  
(DIRECTOR)**

**Note # 124**

**13/11/2019 11:00 AM**

**NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)**

**Note # 125**



21/11/2019 3:14 PM

VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(MEMBER)

**Note # 126**

21/11/2019 5:11 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 127**

This is in reference the OM, File No.15-1/2017-BP-II, dated 14.11.2019 regarding the request by Department of Food and Public Distribution for comments on draft SFC Note on Revision in Pilot Scheme for "Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System". The Revised SFC note is attached in correspondence.

2. The current SFC note has the following revisions:

- i. Based on the rate of FRK quoted by different States for the Pilot Project, the **average price for FRK is indicated to be Rs. 68.79 per kg** instead of the earlier derived estimated FRK cost of Rs. 55.04 per kg.
- ii. Keeping in mind the revised cost of FRK at Rs. 68.79, the incremental cost of fortified rice is now rounded off to be Rs. 0.73 per kg as against the provisional approved rate of Rs. 0.60 per kg.
- iii. It is also proposed that **F CI will carry out a scientific study on the shelf life of fortified rice** and the added minerals and vitamin potency in the FRK after its storage period. A provision of **Rs.1.54 crore** has been proposed for this study.
- iv. As the establishment of the Central Project Monitoring Unit and State Project Monitoring Unit for 15 States is still under process, **there will be lesser expenditure on this component and the saving of Rs.2.60crore** is estimated, from Rs.5.07crore.

3. In view of the above, the **total estimated outlay of the Pilot Scheme from 2019-2022 is revised to Rs.174.64crore, from the existing Rs. 147.61crore.**

(Incremental cost of producing fortified rice is Rs.28.09cr + Study on shelf life at Rs.1.54cr – CPMU/SPMU cost at Rs.2.60crore)

4. **NITI Aayog's Comments:**

The revised SFC note on the Pilot Scheme for "Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System" has rightly taken into account the high prices of FRK quoted by the States in their tender. The comments on the revised draft SFC note are as follows:

1. The Scheme has a component on Monitoring and Evaluation “ ***Third party evaluation involving a baseline and end-line would also be conducted*** ”. Therefore, it is suggested that DoFPD may initiate baseline survey in all the Pilot Districts against which the endline will be evaluated.

2. While the revised SFC note rightly takes into account the high initial prices of FRK, however, it is expected that the Pilot Scheme will be rolled out in all the 15 Districts by its second year that will significantly enhance the demand of FRKs. In view of this, it is expected that the price of FRKs is likely to reduce on reaching economies of scale. Thus, it is recommended that the estimated incremental cost of fortified rice needs to be evaluated at the end of first year and the budget estimates maybe revised accordingly.
3. It is recommended to expedite the establishment of Central Project Monitoring Unit at the Ministry level and the State Project Monitoring Unit in those States where the Scheme has been initiated. Timeframe of the establishment may be provided.

5. The comments are attached as DFA, for perusal.

Vedeika

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27/11/2019 12:29 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 128**

If agreed, for further action pl

27/11/2019 1:05 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 129**

May pl recast the comments and put up . We support the SFC.

29/11/2019 5:18 PM

ALOK KUMAR  
(ADVISER)

**Note # 130**

Ms. Vedika, YP prepared the OM for communicating the comment of NITI Aayog to Ministry of Consumer Affairs. As she informed that it has been soon to Director, WCD by her. Accordingly the OM signed by the undersigned and send to Ministry of Consumer Affairs and signed OM is attached the file.

02/12/2019 12:48 PM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 131**

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04/12/2019 10:49 AM

ANAMIKA SINGH

(DIRECTOR)

**Note # 132**

In reference to Note #119, the DO Letter from Dr. V.K.Paul, Member, Health, NITI Aayog has been sent to Shri Balram Bhargava, Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research requesting to evaluate Amul's comments and provide guidance on the issue. The DO Letter has been attached as DFA.

10/12/2019 6:39 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 133**

19/12/2019 3:03 PM

NINA BADGAIYAN  
(CONSULTANT)

**Note # 134**

This is in reference to the draft EFC note that was prepared on the "Universalisation of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under the Public Distribution System and other Welfare Schemes".

2. It has been conveyed by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, dated 9th October, 2019 that the proposal for the Universal roll out of the Scheme from 2023-24 is premature without studying the output/outcome and evaluation of the Pilot Project. Thus, it was directed that the proposal for "in-principle approval" for universal roll out may be sought after the completion of the pilot project in the 15th Finance Commission cycle.

3. The OM from the Ministry of Finance is attached as DFA. Submitted for Vice-Chairman's perusal.

Vedeika Shekhar

27/12/2019 4:31 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

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**Note # 135**

The proposal for Universal roll-out of Rice Fortification Scheme was examined by the EFC Committee and presently they have advised that the same may be taken up after the results of the Pilot Scheme are evaluated by Department of Food.

2. The comments of Department of Expenditure are placed at correspondence. Put for information and perusal of VC, NITI at this stage.

10/01/2020 4:24 PM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 136**

13/01/2020 9:49 AM

अलोक कुमार | ALOK KUMAR

(सलाहकार|ADVISER)

**Note # 137**

15/01/2020 12:05 PM

विनोद कुमार पाँल|VINOD KUMAR PAUL  
(सदस्य|MEMBER)

**Note # 138**

15/01/2020 12:15 PM

अलोक कुमार|ALOK KUMAR  
(सलाहकार|ADVISER)

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**Note # 139**

03/02/2020 11:43 AM

अनामिका सिंह|ANAMIKA SINGH  
(उप सचिव|DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 140**

10/06/2020 1:35 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 141**

12/06/2020 3:51 PM

NEENA BHATIA  
(SENIOR SPECIALIST)

**Note # 142**

11/08/2020 2:40 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 143**

Page: 42

22/10/2020 10:37 AM

NEENA BHATIA  
(SENIOR SPECIALIST)

**Note # 144**

This is in reference to rice fortification. It was desired by CEO, NITI Aayog that he may write DO letters to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs on the importance of rice fortification to encourage them to initiate rice fortification in their States, especially in their Aspirational Districts.

2. Accordingly, a DO Letter was prepared. [DO Letters from CEO to different Chief Secretaries of different States/UTs is attached](#) in correspondence. The [annexure](#) that was enclosed along with the DO Letter is also attached.

3. Vice-Chairman also accepted to communicated with Chief Ministers of different States/UTs on the importance and benefits of rice fortification to sensitise the leaders on the same. [DO Letter from VC to CM's](#) of different States/UTs is placed in correspondence.

05/11/2020 7:33 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 145**

This is in reference to the Meeting held under the Chairmanship of CEO, NITI Aayog to discuss strategies to scale up rice fortification, on 2nd November,2020.

2. The Minutes of the Meeting has been prepared and has been approved by CEO, NITI Aayog. The same has been shared with the participants. [Approved Minutes is attached in correspondence.](#)

06/11/2020 7:38 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(YP)

**Note # 146**

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09/11/2020 10:47 AM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 147**

This is in reference to the [Meeting that was held on November 2nd, 2020 under the Chairmanship of CEO, NITI Aayog](#) with the participation of Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution (DoFPD), Ministry of Consumer and Public Distribution, CEO FSSAI, FCI and different development partners to discuss the way forward on scaling up of rice fortification in India.

2. The following action points emerged from the Meeting:

- DoFPD to closely supervise the progress of the Pilot Scheme in the selected 15 Districts and ensure coverage in a timely manner.
- DoFPD to prepare a proposal/Scheme to initiate rice fortification in 112 Aspirational Districts and share the same expeditiously with Stakeholders
- FSSAI and Development Partners to take up the role of awareness generation, citizen engagement and handholding of interested States/UTs on this work.

3. Following the Meeting, a Status update was taken from DoFPD and FSSAI on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The updates received from both Departments are detailed out below against the action points from the Meeting:

S.No.	Action Points from 2 <sup>nd</sup> November Meeting	Status/ Progress Achieved
1	DoFPD to closely supervise the progress of the Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Andhra Pradesh (April'20), Gujarat (Feb'20), Maharashtra</li></ul>

	<p>Scheme in the selected 15 Districts and ensure coverage in a timely manner.</p>	<p>(Feb'20), Tamil Nadu (Oct'20) and Chhattisgarh (Nov'20) have initiated distribution of fortified rice under the Scheme in their selected districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kerala (Dec'20), Uttar Pradesh (Dec'20), Karnataka (Jan'21), Odisha (Jan'21) and Jharkhand (Jan'21) have planned to start the distribution shortly.</li> <li>• Approval process is still pending in Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Assam and Punjab</li> </ul>
2	<p>DoFPD to prepare a proposal/Scheme to initiate rice fortification in 112 Aspirational Districts and share the same expeditiously with Stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (DoFPD) is trying to formulate a plan to distribute the Fortified Rice under TPDS, ICDS and MDM Schemes covering 112 Aspirational Districts. Several meetings were held with FCI and other stakeholders to take necessary action for implementation of Rice Fortification in these Aspirational Districts</li> <li>• A phased plan is proposed to distribute fortified rice throughout ICDS, MDM and PDS, starting from 112 Aspirational Districts. It is proposed to be completely funded by Government of India as part of food subsidy. In order to scale up the supply of fortified rice in the country, the following roadmap in 3 phases envisaged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase I: Covering ICDS/MDM/PDS in 112 Aspirational Districts by 01.04.2021.</li> <li>• Phase II: Covering 250 malnourished districts 2021-2022.</li> <li>• Phase III: Try to cover the entire</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		TPDS by August, 2022
3	FSSAI and Development Partners to take up the role of awareness generation, citizen engagement and handholding of interested States/UTs on this work.	Inputs received from FSSAI are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 movies created to promote the central rice scheme in 18 languages. The same has been shared with DoFPD as well for further dissemination.</li> <li>• Printed danglers and posters shared with of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and will be sharing UP as well soon.</li> </ul>

4. Based on the inputs received from DoFPD, they are is still in process of formulating a plan to distribute Fortified throughout the country, starting with 112 Aspirational Districts which maybe completely funded by Government of India as part of food subsidy. They have shared the timelines of the 3 phases to scale up rice fortification: (i) Covering ICDS/MDM/PDS in 112 Aspirational Districts by 01.04.2021; (ii) Covering 250 malnourished districts 2021-2022; (iii) Try to cover the entire TPDS by August, 2022.

5. As decided in the Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020, DoFPD is yet to share the Scheme/ proposal with NITI Aayog. [The inputs received from DoFPD is attached in correspondence, for reference.](#)

Submitted for perusal please at this stage.

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10/12/2020 5:02 PM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 148**

NITI would need regular follow up with of DoFPD on their commitments in the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020. Status for perusal at this stage.

11/12/2020 6:32 PM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 149**

15/12/2020 7:51 PM

अमिताभ कांत | AMITABH KANT  
(मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी | CEO-NITI)

**Note # 150**

Pl. regularly follow up and let me know.

16/12/2020 9:30 AM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 151**

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17/12/2020 11:38 AM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 152**

15/01/2021 12:21 PM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 153**

This is in reference to the OM vide No.15-1/2017-BP-II (pt), dated 02.01.2021 regarding the request by Department of Food and Public Distribution for comments on the Draft EFC Note on “Supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Mid-day Meal Scheme (MDM) in all States and Union Territories” that is to be implemented in a phased manner.

2. The draft EFC note proposes rolling out fortification of rice with Iron, Folic Acid and Vitamin B12, in TPDS under NFSA, ICDS and MDM in all States and UTs in phased manner from 2021-22. It is a continuation of the Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification under PDS, launched in 2019 which was designed to cover 15 Districts.

The envisaged 3 phases and the costing details for the proposed initiative are mentioned below:

Phase	Coverage	Timeline	Costing Breakup (Incremental cost + Administrative cost)	Total Costing*
Phase 1	ICDS/MDM/TPDS in 112 Aspirational Districts (90lakh MT of Rice)	01.04.2021	657 crore + 65.70 crore	722.20 crore
Phase 2	250 Malnourished Districts (180 lakh MT of rice)	2021-22	1314 crore + 131.40 crore	1445.40 crore
Phase 3	Covering the entire TPDS across all States/UTs (350 lakh MT of rice)	15.08.2022	2550 crore + 255 crore	2810.00 crore
<b>Grand Total of covering TPDS across all States/UTs from 2021-</b>				<b>2810.00 crore/ annum</b>



3. The total incremental cost towards procurement of fortified rice, when the blending operations are done at rice mill level, for supplying under TPDS/ICDS/MDM above is estimated to be approximately Rs. 2810 crore annually in the first year of the initiative. **The proposed initiative is a Centre Sector Scheme, implemented by Department of Food and Public Distribution through FCI/State Agencies and will be fully funded by Government of India.** It is proposed that the annual additional cost of rice fortification will be subsumed in the annual food subsidy bill of DoFPD. The draft EFC also proposes to consider fixing the Central Issue Price of Fortified Rice for TPDS/ ICDS/ MDM at Rs.4/kg.

4. WCD Division of NITI Aayog has examined the draft EFC note. The comments on the same are mentioned briefly below:

- The Draft EFC recommends a third party evaluation of the proposed initiative. However, as monitoring and evaluation is crucial to understand the efficacy and impact of the proposed initiative, **it is suggested that a baseline maybe undertaken in the randomly selected Districts to measure the impact of rice fortification. A national level dashboard maybe developed for smooth monitoring of the proposed initiative in a timely manner.**
- **Comprehensive Operational Guidelines** will be necessary to detail out the action plan for various components of the proposed initiative like capacity building of different relevant stakeholders, quality control and assurance, IEC and demand generation and so on.
- DoFPD may pursue with FSSAI to expedite on **defining the technical specifications for fortified rice including fortified rice kernel (FRK)** and including it in the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.
- **Efficient tracking mechanism** including barcoding of fortified rice bags may be explored by DoFPD to ensure better its tracking and last mile delivery to the FPS.
- DoFPD may pursue with FSSAI to **scale up and strengthen the NABL accredited labs** in the States for smooth quality control and assurance of the proposed initiative.
- **The 250 malnourished Districts may be re-worded as High Burden Districts as the same nomenclature was used for POSHAN Abhiyaan as well.** POSHAN Abhiyaan was rolled out in a phased manner where it was first implemented in 315 High Burden Districts on stunting based on NFHS-4 data. 250 High Burden Districts on stunting based on NFHS-4 data is attached as annexure, for reference.

5. With these comments, **in-principal approval has been accorded to the draft EFC note** .

6. Detailed comments of the WCD Division, NITI Aayog on the draft EFC note is placed as DFA, for your kind perusal. The comments may be approved by Additional Secretary and accordingly share the same with the PAMD division, NITI Aayog for their comments on the draft EFC note. Consolidated comments of WCD and PAMD division, NITI Aayog may be then shared with DoFPD after approval of competent authority.

7. Comments submitted for approval please.

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(ASSOCIATE)

**Note # 154**

From pre page, it is observed that as a Pilot Project/Scheme was centrally sponsored, now it is proposed to convert into central sector scheme. The EFC proposal examined by Ms. Vedeika and the comments of the WCD Division is attached as a DFA. If DFA is approved, the same will be communicated to PAMD for preparing the appraisal note on the scheme by them.

Submitted for consideration and approval of DFA.

15/01/2021 2:10 PM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 155**

15/01/2021 3:23 PM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 156**

15/01/2021 4:16 PM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 157**

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15/01/2021 4:38 PM

अनामिका सिंह | ANAMIKA SINGH  
(निदेशक | DIRECTOR)

**Note # 158**

12/05/2021 5:38 PM

RAMVINAY PRASAD SINGH  
(SR RESEARCH OFFICER)

**Note # 159**

**Subject: Status update by WFP: Implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme for Distribution of Fortified Rice through the Public Distribution System in 15 States in India**

1. FR ( [page 726-749/c](#) ) is a Status Update Report from WFP regarding implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme for Distribution of Fortified Rice through the Public Distribution System in 15 States in India.
2. *Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Distribution of Fortified Rice through PDS* : In 2019, the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India has launched a three-year pilot on the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Distribution of Fortified Rice through the PDS in 15 Districts across 15 States. The Pilot Scheme focuses on 15 Districts, one per state in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Kerala, Karnataka,

Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

3. In 2020-21, the annual distribution of rice is:

Programmes	Rice Distribution
Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)	310.2 lakh MT
Mid-day meal (MDM)	23.55 lakh MT
Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)	10.6 lakh MT
<b>Total Rice distribution</b>	<b>344.35 lakh MT</b>

4. So far, distribution of fortified rice through the PDS is taking place in 6 States out of 15 States:

- i. **Gujarat**
- ii. **Maharashtra**
- iii. **Chhattisgarh**
- iv. **Uttar Pradesh**
- v. **Tamil Nadu**
- vi. **Andhra Pradesh**

Distribution is expected to start soon in Odisha, Kerala, and Jharkhand.

#### 5. Detailed Status of the Implementation of the Pilot Scheme:

State	District	Status
Andhra Pradesh	Vizianagram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiated</li> <li>• Scheme operationalised since April 2020, FRK @ Rs71-73.90/kg</li> <li>• So far 1.10 lakh MT of fortified rice has been produced and 43,000 MT distributed across 2 constituencies of the district. It plans to initiate distribution of fortified rice throughout MDM, ICDS and PDS by June,2021.</li> <li>• <b>Technical partner: TATA Trust</b></li> </ul>
Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiated</li> <li>• Fortified rice now scaled-up to entire district under the pilot scheme, since February 2020, FRK @ Rs.60.84 /Kg +GST</li> <li>• To date, 40,000 MT of fortified rice has been produced and distributed to 7.5 lakh beneficiaries</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical Partner: TATA Trust</li> </ul>
Chhattisgarh	Kondagaon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiated</li> <li>• Producing and distributing fortified rice since November 2020, FRK @ Rs.59/kg.</li> <li>• To date, 29,462.72 MT of fortified rice was produced, and 13,111.39 MT distributed</li> <li>• Technical Partner: WFP</li> </ul>
Tamil Nadu	Trichy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiated</li> <li>• 23 out of 43 rice millers have been providing fortified rice for PDS distribution since Oct 2020.</li> <li>• Till date 85,522.543 MT of fortified rice have been produced and 79,797.93 MT have been distributed</li> <li>• Baseline used: NFHS-4</li> <li>• Technical Partner: Nutrition International</li> </ul>
Uttar Pradesh	Chandauli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortified rice is being distributed under the pilot scheme since January 2021, FRK @Rs.68.44/kg</li> <li>• About 52,000 MTs of fortified rice is produced and 13,932 MT has been distributed.</li> <li>• Technical Partner: WFP</li> </ul>
Gujarat	Narmada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiated</li> <li>• Distribution began in Feb 2020, FRK procurement @ Rs 90/kg.</li> <li>• So far 13,405.84 MT of fortified rice has been produced. 11,289.40 MT has been distributed.</li> <li>• Technical Partner: PATH and Vendanta</li> </ul>
Kerala	Ernakulam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 MT fortified rice produced but not distributed due to high iron content in the rice; <b>guidance from FSSAI requested.</b></li> <li>• FRK identified @ Rs.69/kg.</li> <li>• Technical Partner: WFP.</li> </ul>
Jharkhand	East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated.</li> </ul>

	Singhbhum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Rice millers in process of installing blending machines</li> <li>• The state will implement the pilot scheme in 4 blocks of the District.</li> <li>• Technical Partner: PATH and WFP (Technical)</li> </ul>
Madhya Pradesh	Singaruli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not started.</li> <li>• CM had asked for an opinion from the community on the fortified rice- NI conducting a consumer survey</li> <li>• Tender was finalised for supply of 696 MT FRK @Rs 60/kg +GST</li> <li>• Technical Partner: Nutrition International</li> </ul>
Karnataka	Yadgir, Mandya, Mysore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated</li> <li>• District yet to be identified. FCI is the main supplier to PDS. There is very limited production of rice in the state</li> <li>• Technical Partner: PATH</li> </ul>
Odisha	Malkangiri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated</li> <li>• 5,613 MT of fortified rice (FRK@ Rs.59.9/kg) has been produced and supplied to FCI, however not used under the pilot scheme</li> <li>• Technical Partner: WFP</li> </ul>
Punjab	Ludhiana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated</li> <li>• Not distributing fortified rice under the pilot scheme as it is a 100% wheat PDS state but has agreed to provide FR to FCI</li> </ul>
Telangana	Jayashankar Bhupalapally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated</li> <li>• Had previously floated tender for FRK procurement but was unsuccessful due to high quotations. Tender refloated.</li> <li>• Technical Partner: PATH</li> </ul>
Assam	Dhubri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not started as it is stuck due to administrative issues</li> <li>• Technical partner: PATH</li> </ul>
Uttarakhand	Udham Singh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not initiated</li> </ul>

	Nagar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quotation of FRK tender procurement</li> <li>• Technical Partner: WFP</li> </ul>
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## **6. Challenges in the implementation of the Pilot Scheme:**

- i. **Inadequate FRK Supply to cover all of PDS, MDM and ICDS** : Current capacity of FRK production is 30,000 MT/year, against an annual demand of 3.5 lakh MT. However, with more rice millers willing to setup FRK plants in the near future, the situation of inadequate numbers of FRK suppliers is expected to be resolved soon.
- ii. Lack of well-defined monitoring mechanism by Department of Food and Public Distribution
- iii. Lack of standardization at NABL Laboratory level
- iv. Lack of compliance towards quality control/quality assurance protocols during the process of production of fortified rice by rice millers.
- v. Lack of will, capacity and supervision by State FPD Departments;
- vi. COVID-19 and elections/ transfer of officials further delaying the process.

## **7. Way Forward Suggested by the Report:**

- i. Scale up of distribution of fortified rice in ICDS/MDM in all States in 2021-22
- ii. Government should consider providing a **subsidy to support rice millers** and small cooperatives for establishing fortification related infrastructure
- iii. **Strengthen quality control protocols** at the rice mills and FCI, through development of technical capacities and sensitisation of millers and State officials
- iv. **High GST on fortified rice kernels (18%)** and high cost of premix is another factor which inhibits investment of private organisations in fortification market. Government may consider lowering the GST band applied on fortified rice as it is largely meant for supply in food subsidy scheme.
- v. Building the capacities and infrastructure to support NABL labs in the country
- vi. Instituting mechanism for **monitoring and evaluating** the quality aspect of the scheme.

## **8. NITI Aayog's Role in facilitating the implementation of the Pilot Scheme:**

As the country is suffering from the negative impacts of the pandemic on the nutrition of the vulnerable population and as NFHD-5 has demonstrated deteriorated nutritional outcomes (Stunting, wasting, anaemia, and underweight), the importance of fortification cannot be over emphasized as a very critical strategy to improve the nutritional outcomes of these population.

8.1. Organise a Meeting under the Chairmanship of VC/CEO with all the Pilot State Participants, DoFPD, FSSAI and Development Partners to:

- To learn from the success stories of those which implemented the Pilot Scheme
- To expedite the distribution of Fortified rice in those 9 States where the distribution has not yet started.
- Implementing the distribution of fortified rice atleast in the Aspirational Districts on a priority basis.
- Resolving the other issues like instituting monitoring and evaluation mechanism, strengthening the capacity of NABL labs, GST on FRKs etc.

8.2. VC may send D.O. Letters to the Chief Ministers of those States which have not initiated the pilot Scheme to expedite the process soon.

Submitted for consideration please.

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27/05/2021 3:12 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 160**

Status of fortification in 15 districts may be verified from Ministry.

27/05/2021 5:52 PM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 161**

Reference to above

2. Please share the report received from WFP with DoFPD for vetting and their comments.

27/05/2021 6:26 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 162**

This is in reference to the proposal received from Nutracare International, manufacturer of salt, wheat and rice premix.

2. The proposal includes a information the condition of anemia in the country and the importance of fortification as well as information on the premises the company manufactures.

3. As these documents does not include any specific proposal on combatting anemia in the country, it maybe suggested to meet them and

understand their activities and how they can contribute through fortification to address problems of anemia.

4. Submitted for further directions please.

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07/06/2021 3:54 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(ASSOCIATE)

**Note # 163**

**Subject: D.O. letter from Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution**

1. FR ( [page 771-772/c](#) ) is DO No 15-1/2017-BP-II (Pt.) (E-337997) Dated 12.07.2021 from Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution regarding fortification of rice and its distribution under PDS.

2. Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System" was launched for a period of three years beginning in 2019-20 with total outlay of Rs 174.64 Cr in 15 districts of 15 States Governments. So far six States- Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Chattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh have started distributing fortified rice under the scheme in their identified districts.

3. NITI Aayog played a key role in roll-out the above mentioned pilot schemes. VC, NITI Aayog, Member (H) and CEO held various consultation with the Ministries, States/UTs and development partners in this regard. Later, NITI Aayog has shared a note on Universalisation of Rice Fortification under PDS and offered comments on Draft EFC on Universalisation of Fortification of Rice and its Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). ( [Note#109](#) ) VC and CEO, NITI Aayog wrote DO letters to all States Governments/UT Administrations on the importance of rice fortification to encourage them to initiate rice fortification in their States. ( [page 390/c](#) and [page 388/c](#) ).

3. For scaling up fortification, DoFPD has proposed EFC for supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), ICDS and MDM in all States/UTs in a phased manner. However, before going ahead with the EFC, Hon'ble Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution desired a presentation on this initiatives of fortification of rice, duly considering inter alia scientific validations, alternatives etc. A copy of draft presentation sent by DoFPD may be seen at [page 773-778/c](#).

4. Secretary, DoFPD has requested NITI Aayog to present a unified strategy after taking into account the study reports of various institutions and to conceptualize an evaluation design for outcomes of this nutritional intervention. Finally, a request for presentation by NITI Aayog for the Hon'ble Minister has been made.



5. On 23.07.2021, a meeting under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Shri Piyush Goyal, MFPD was organised and CEO, NITI Ayog made a presentation ( [page 801-821/c](#) ) for universalisation of rice fortification. Member(Health) and Member (Agri) pitched for rice fortification as an effective instruments for combating anemia. AS (H&N) was present in the meeting. Higher Officials of MoFPD, FCI, FASSAI etc were deliberated on the issue of rice fortification in the meeting.

6. Submitted for information and further direction please.

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28/07/2021 10:44 AM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

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**Note # 164**

Seen. Thanks.

May closely follow up on Fortification pilot in 15 districts.

28/07/2021 4:34 PM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 165**

04/08/2021 2:25 AM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 166**

17/08/2021 5:29 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(ASSOCIATE)

**Note # 167**

**Brief Note on Action Taken on Report of WFP on Implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme for Distribution of Fortified Rice through the Public Distribution System in 15 States in India**

1. The report ( [page 726-749/c](#) ) was received on 10 May 2021 and moved on e-file after examination in the WCD Vertical. AS(H&N) directed to take comments of Ministry of Food and Public Distribution (MoFPD) on the report. ( [Note #159 onwards](#) ) MoFPD told that the report is made on the basis of data received by the ministry.

3. Hon'ble VCH wanted to use the report for universalization of fortification and subsequently a meeting under Chairmanship of Sh. Piyush Goyal, Minister of Food and Public Distribution, was organised on 23.07.2021 on this. Member (H) and CEO, NITI have requested for universalization of rice fortification to the Hon'ble Minister. A copy of presentation is at [page 801-821/c](#) .

4. Subsequently, Hon'ble PM has announced universalization of rice fortification in Independence Day Speech on 15.08.2021.

5. Submitted for information please.

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17/08/2021 6:36 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 168**

Briefed VC. An action plan to efficiently implement this plan, with learning from better performing States may be prepared to feed into forthcoming EFC from DFPD.

18/08/2021 11:14 AM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 169**

18/08/2021 3:05 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 170**

This in reference to [Report on the status of the implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification](#) prepared by WFP.

2. The report is very detailed and provides insights into various progress and challenges faced by the Districts/States on the implementation of the Pilot Scheme.

3. On the basis of the Report, the following strategy are proposed:

i. Meeting with the States along with other stakeholders on fortification like DoFPD, FSSAI, and the Development partners. A status update at the District level will be taken from DoFPD regarding the progress on the pilot scheme on the following format:

State/ District	Progress on Pilot Scheme	Capacity Building	Quality Assurance & Control	Information, Education & Communication	Monitoring & Evaluation	Challenges to implementation of the Pilot Scheme

ii. A detailed implementation action plan will be developed for the pan India expansion of rice fortification with GAIN. GAIN has been chosen as the

development partner because it has been chosen as the focal point for all the development partners by BMGF.

4. Submitted for approval.

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23/08/2021 4:03 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(ASSOCIATE)

**Note # 171**

Reference to above:

2. For development of action plan of universalization of fortification, we may collaborate with GAIN as it is country coordinator for rice fortification for all development partners.

3. A meeting of all pilot States along with DOFPD, FSSAI and the development partners may be organized to understand issues and challenges in implementation.

4. Submitted for consideration please.

23/08/2021 6:09 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 172**

Ascertain status of EFC and action plan from MoFPD for universalisation of rice fortification with Iron, Folic Acid, Vitamin B-12.

23/08/2021 6:42 PM

राकेश सरवाल | RAKESH SARWAL  
(अपर सचिव | ADDITIONAL SECRETARY)

**Note # 173**

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23/08/2021 6:59 PM

HEMANT KUMAR MEENA  
(DEPUTY SECRETARY)

**Note # 174**

13/09/2021 1:54 PM

VEDEIKA SHEKHAR  
(ASSOCIATE)

**Note # 175**

07/10/2021 11:32 AM

**HEMANT KUMAR MEENA**  
**(DEPUTY SECRETARY)**