

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMERS AFFAIRS
(FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH)

DRAFT NOTIFICATION

The 20th August, 2018

No. 2FD(513)2016-2254 . In exercise of powers conferred by section 40 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (Central Act No. 20 of 2013), the State Government is pleased to make the following amendment in the Punjab Food Security Rules, 2016 published in the official gazette on April 22nd, 2016, namely:

In the said rules, after rule 29 the following clause is inserted:-

“30. Manner of Social Audit. - (1) In order to ensure transparency in the Public Distribution System under the Act, the State Government shall make available all records to the general public, for conducting social audit in the rural areas and urban areas, as the case may be, the records relating to allotment, storage and distribution of ration commodities for public distribution at a fair price shop, for the distribution cycle, -

(i) from the 1st April to the 30th September; and

(ii) from 1st October to the 31st March,

shall be placed before the Gram Sabha or at Ward level, in the presence of the elected representative(s) of the local authority concerned, as the case may be, by the fair price shop owner and the Food Inspector concerned, on the 26th day of January and 15th day of August each year, respectively, for the social audit.

(2) After the audit of the relevant records at the Gram Sabha in the rural area and in the urban areas, as the case may be, the report of each local authority alongwith their recommendation, shall be submitted to the Block Level Vigilance Committee. The Block Level Vigilance Committee after examining the aforesaid report (alongwith relevant recommendations), shall forward the same to the District Level Vigilance Committee, alongwith its observations, if any, for further necessary action.

(3) The District Controller, Food, Civil, Supplies and Consumer Affairs of the district concerned, after compiling the reports so received from the rural and urban area, after necessary examination at the district level, shall take a necessary decision thereon, and shall further send the complete report (alongwith the action taken at its own level), to the State Government for information and further necessary action.

(4) The aforesaid report alongwith recommendations, shall consist of the views or grievances or suggestions, as the case may be, received from the general public, with relation to the functioning of the fair price shops, which shall be made public alongwith social audit report and action taken thereon, on the portal of the department, for the purposes of transparency, on the issues concerning the, -

- (i)** updation of list of beneficiaries from time to time;
- (ii)** availability of stocks with the fair shop from time to time;
- (iii)** distribution of stocks by the concerned fair price shop as per eligibility.
- (iv)** prices of food grains to be distributed;
- (v)** opening and closing timings of fair price shop;
- (vi)** awareness and effective redressal of grievance(s) and the mechanism there for;
- (vii)** use of technology, for proper identification of beneficiaries, and their target; or
- (viii)** any other issue relating thereto.”

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Department of Food, Civil Supplies and
Consumers Affairs.