

Ref. No. : AIFPSDF/334/25

Dated :05.04.2025

Minutes of the Meeting where the future of FPS Dealers was to be decided was held on 28-03-2015 at Muktadhara <u>Auditorium, New Delhi from 11 AM to 3 PM.</u>

In the absence of the National President, Shri Kacham Krishnamurthy ji, the National Working President, Shri Onkar Nath jha Ji was handed over the dual responsibility of presiding over and conducting the meeting.

Delegates and Leaders from 13 (Thirteen) States viz, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Kerala, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal attended the meeting and participated in the discussions and put their views regarding the steps to be taken for the betterment of the FPS Dealers in the future.

"We Want Justice for the FPS Dealers" was the **tagline** under which today's meeting was held where distinguished FPS leaders participated in Impactful discussions regarding the future of the FPS Dealers of all Over the Country in the present scenario.

At the very beginning a minute's silence was observed for those Dealers who expired from the last meeting (virtual) to this one.

The National General Secretary, Shri Biswambhar Basu welcomed all who took the trouble to attend the meeting and came all the way from different parts of the Country to Delhi.

While addressing the meeting, the National General Secretary said that 3 (three) planets viz **Shani** (Saturn), **Rahu** (North Node of Moon), and **Ketu** (South Node of Moon) have encompassed our trade and defining the same. He said the Observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding Free Ration instead of Employment to the unemployed is "**Shani**", linking of Bank A/C. for DBT is **Rahu** and assessment made by the Income Tax Department regarding the eligibility of Beneficiaries receiving highly subsidised foodgrains is **Ketu**.

The National General Secretary requested all present to collect xerox copy of Ration Card, Aadhar Card and Mobile Number of 1 (one) Bonafide Beneficiary from each District and send it to the leaders of their States who in turn will send the same to the Federation's Head Office at Kolkata for filing a Special Leave Petition if the Govt. decides to Implement DBT.

The leaders who spoke were united and spoke in one voice regarding the following:-

- 1) DBT-It should be stopped at any cost.
- 2) Corona-The Dealers put their lives at stake to Serve the Beneficiaries during the Pandemic and did not let anyone die due to hunger.
- 3) Margins Increase in margins is required but will have to save the PDS first from the evil eyes of the Government.
- 4) Inplementation of salary system for the FPS Dealers or to ensure a minimum Income Guarantee of Rs. 50,000/- per shop per month.



At the very outset the leaders present from all over the Country were requested not to discuss or speak on the problems of their States but to specifically speak on two points (1) DBT and (2) Mode of Agitation.

2(Two) booklets titled (1) Food Secretaries Conference Public Distribution System (PD, NFSA, BP Division) on 28th February, 2025 (2) Proposed Reforms in TPDS Control Order on different issues were distributed during the meeting against its cost price of Rs.300/- only. (3) Copy of the Questions raised by our Chief Advisor, Hon'ble Prof. Saugata Roy, MP (Lok Sabha) in the Lok Sabha and the reply given by Hon'ble Minister-of-State for Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India, Smt. Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya Ji were also distributed alongwith the booklets. We appreciate the efforts of Prof. Saugata Roy Ji.

The National General Secretary Shri Biswambhar Basu informed the House that our Chief Advisor Hon'ble MP, Lok Sabha, Prof. Saugata Roy today (28.03.2025) sent 3 (three) request letters for getting their appointments:-

- (a) Her Excellency the President of India,
- (b) Hon'ble Union Finance Minister,
- (c) Prof. Roy assured our National General Secretary to remind Hon'ble Home Minister within a day or two so that our livelihood may be ensured.

During our visit to the Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on 27.03.2025, we came to understand that a meeting of the Food Standing Committee on examination of the subject "Modernisation of Public Distribution System-Strengthening Technical Data base under the Chairmanship of Madam TMT. Kanimozhi, Hon'ble MP & Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution was held in her Chamber in the Parliament. The details of which will be sent to you via whatsApp for your perusal during the future course.

After National Working Committee Meeting is over, the 3(three) Members Delegation met Hon'ble Finance Minister, Govt. of India at her office at Parliament and handed over the request letter from Prof. Saugata Roy to fix up an appointment relating to our Margins and it was assured that after the Budget Session, the Hon'ble Finance Minister will kindly discuss about our grievances.

All the leaders of our Federation of different States were requested to contact their local MPs with a request to raise Questions regarding FPS Dealers in the House but no one sent any feedback to the Federation Head Office. However, the National General Secretary contacted all the MPs (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha) and requested them to raise Questions regarding the problems of the FPS Dealers in the House irrespective of their political affiliation in the ensuing Monsoon Session.

It has been resolved that we will fight our battle on 3(three) fronts:

- (1) Questions raised by the Hon'ble MPs in both Houses.
- (2) Agitation by fighting on the Streets for our Right.
- (3) Court Case.



Funds are required for filing of Court Case and it was resolved to collect Fund initially @ Rs 5/- per FPS which should be deposited in our following Bank A/C.

ALL INDIA FAIR PRICE SHOP DEALERS' FEDERATION

AXIS BANK LTD, DUNLOP, KOLKATA BRANCH

A/C No: 913010012901331

IFS Code: UTIB0000236

SBTRS: 236160

The following agitational program was decided upon :-

- (A) During the month of April, 2025, the FPS Dealers will start a **Signature Campaign** (the proforma on Post Card would be sent to all shortly for onward transmission direcilly to Hon'ble Prime Minister at His Office at 152, South Block, New Delhi-110011).
- (B) During May 2025, Organisational Preparatory Meetings in all Blocks, Sub-areas, Thanas, Sub-Divisions & Sub-Controls.
- (C) On 09.06.2025- District level agitational programme.
- (D) 30.06.2025- Stale Level Rally and agitational program.
- (E) 31.07.2025- Parliament March followed by agitational program at Jantarmantar, New Delhi including Gherao of the Residences of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Finance Minister and Hon'ble Union Food Minister.

The Memorandum to be submitted at different levels will be sent from our Head Office, Kolkata to all wherein the State leaders are advised to add their State level problems in consultation with the National General Secretary.

To give more and more publicity, PRESS CONFERENCE should be organised in levels of our organisation.

If Integrated weighing Scale is to be used without an Additional Margin as prescribed in the NFSA:-

- (1) Rs. 17/- per quintal since the introduction of e-PoS devices and @ Rs. 21/- from April 2022 on account of Additional Margins.
- (2) Distribution as of now is being made through electronic weighing scale duly certified by the Metrology Department of respective State Govts. and these have not been abolished or withdrawn. Without allowing additional Margin, Govt. ordered to distribute Ration with integrated Weighing Scale, a Writ Petion, has been moved before the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta. All other State Units may follow the action taken by our West Bengal Unit.
- (3) In case of Network, Server problems arise, Screen-shot of e-PoS should be preserved. If Network, Server problems arise, manual distribution should be made during the period.

(ALL IND	DIA FAIR PRIC	E SHOP DEALERS'	FEDERATION
Regd. No. District East/Society/273-2011 of Govt. of NCT. of Delhi Regd. Office : S-562, School Block, 'AKHAND HINDUSTHAN BHAWAN' Shakarpur, Delhi - 110 092, Mobile : 98110 12241/9871421221 Head Office : AC-164, Prafulla Kanan (East), Kestopur, Kolkata - 700 101, West Bengal Phone : (033) 2591 387 Mobile : 9875308556 / 98301 35530 / 974877700€, mail : gs@aifpsdf.org/besite : www.aifpsdf.org/hatsApp : 9875308556 / 983013553/Facebook : facebook.com@				
	Prof. Saugata Roy Hon'ble M.P. Lok Sabha Chief Advisor Ph: 2290 3272, 2422 0772 Mob.: 9830031220 / 9013180175	Shri Kacham Krishnamurthy President Mobile : 9849024567 8008018012	Shri Biswambhar Basu, B.Com, LLB General Secretary Ph.: (033) 2591-3871 Mobile : 98753-08556 / 98301-35530 / 97487-7700 WhatsApp : 98753-08556 / 98301-35530	Shri Dharani Dhar Borah Treasurer Mobile : 9678270358
Advisory Committee : Shri Pushparaj (Kaka) Deshmukh, Shri Kiranpal Singh Tyagi, Shri Kalici				Gupta, Sardar Inderjit Singh)

- (4) It has been adviced some shadow Zones may be identified where Server/ Network remain down regularly.
- (5) Demand for Govt. employees, a Survey in all the States to be done to ascertain number of Dealers of 60 or above.
- (6) Minimum Monthly Income Guarantee of Rs 50,000/- or benefits of Govt.-employees should be implemented.
- (7) The National General Secretary reminded the House, the recommendation duly submitted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court (Retired) Justice, Shri D. P. Wadhwa to withdraw the Licenses of individual FPS Dealers immediately. At that very moment to resist such ante-individual Dealer recommendation, the National General Secretary filed a Suit in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and after some Hearings, Hon'ble Justice Daljit Singh Bhandari was pleased to pass an order to stay the decision of the Wadhwa Committee.
- (8) The outcome of the meeting held with Hon'ble Home & Co-opration Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji has been discussed in the meeting but neither any action nor any information has been received so far.

The common problems and Demands placed by all who were present and who put their views forward are as follows:-

- Shri Barun Kumar Singh (National Secretary from Bihar) We will not let DBT to be implemented in our State and will follow and support the decision taken by the Federation. Discipline should be maintained.
- 2) Shri Shiv Kumar Garg (National Vice-President from Delhi) We should fight unitedly for our Right. The FPS Dealers who served during Corona pandemic, where many expired but no beneficiary/cardholder was left to die without food were left high and dry afterwards. We should write a letter in local language and ask our MPs to raise Questions regarding our problems in the House.
- 3) Smt. Sarlinda Kharluki (Meghalaya) As was not well equipped with the day-to-day affairs of the Federation, could not say anything despite the guidance of the National General Secretary.
- 4) Shri Ajay Gupta (President, J & K) We do not work efficiently for ourselves but do photo sessions only. We should strengthen the Federation to fight against the implementation of DBT. We should explain the DBT to all the Dealers upto the grassroots level and ask them for their support to fight against it. We can change the Government if it doesn't support us.
- 5) Shri Johny Nellore (National Vice-President from Kerala) There are various problems in PDS. 14,300 Dealers are in Kerala. We are afraid of the DBT which will make us unemployed. Met Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Union Food and Public Dristibution Minister who assured us that DBT will not only be implemented if the State Government recommends. He also said that Margin is State Governments subject. We have decided to ask the State Government to increase our Margins. Rs. 30,000/- as Honorarium plus shoproom rent and salary for three employees. We submitted a Memorandum to the Union Food Minister and NITI Aayog.
- 6) Shri Nagendra Jena (National Vice-President from Odisha) spoke in Odiya. DBT is a big problem for us, we should fight against it.



- Shri Karamjit Singh (National Asst. Secretary from Punjab) DBT will not be implemented in Punjab, All the Dealers abolished in Chandigarh due to DBT.
- 8) Shri Dimple Kr. Sharma (National Vice-President from Rajasthan) Congratulated Shri Johny Nellore who met the Food Minister regarding DBT. We should file a case in the Suprime Court and wait for the Judgement and also should Organise a Histotical Rally. We should also take the beneficiaries in confidence and make them feel that we are fighting also for their rights. We should not back down from the agitation once started and not stop till we achieve our goals.
- Shri Rajesh Tiwari (National Vice-President from UP.) We give number to strengthen our agitation always. DBT should be stopped at any cost. In all the agitational program UP would be 1st.
- 10) Shri Rewadhar Brijwasi (National Vice-President from Uttrakhand) We will fight against the implementation of DBT. Being a hill State problems are many.
- 11) Shri Dharanidhar Borah (National Treasurer from Assam) 36 States are in our Country but only 13 States are Present. Should walk the same path for our betterment Decide on what medicines Should be prescribed to unite all.
- 12) Shri Saurabh Gupta (Media-in-charge from Delhi) DBT should not be allowed to be implemented.
- 13) Shri Gurudev Paswan (Another Media-in-Charge from Bihar) DBT at the present juncture is our main problem and should be stopped.
- 14) Shri Raj Kr. Mittal (National Vice-President from West Bengal) We want Justice but from whom? When we demand or ask for Justice from the Union Government it passes the buck to the State Government and the State Government promises but nothing is done. We have gathered here for an impactful discussion regarding our problems by some very distinguished leaders of PDS but I feel sorry to say that no one could make any impact on anyone. It is true that we have to fight for our Right at every level.
- 15) Shri Girish Tiwari (National Vice-President from U.P.) Declared our agitational program should be organised in all the States according to our schedule and UP will render full strength.

Shri Onkar Nath Jha (Jharkhand), National Working President - Most painful times, the Three planets namely Rahu, Ketu and Shani has swallowed our PDS. He asked If DBT is not being implemented in Kerala, why in other States. Elections are due in Bihar, West Bengal, Kerala etc. PDS Dealers should fight and put forward their Demands, Compassionate + Honorarium Before June. Xerox copy of DRC + Aadhar card of one Bonafide beneficiariy, guarantee for non implementation of DBT Proposal- Rs. 50,000/- per month income guarantee or Central Government employee benefit.

The following Members were allowed to speak after the Leaders of their Respective States requested the President of the meeting:-

(1) Shri Sachchidanand (Bihar), (2) Shri Aman Kumar (J&K), (3) Shri Madan Lal Gujjar (Rajasthan),
(4) Shri Deep Narayan (U.P.) and (5) Shri Raghuvanshi Sharma (Bihar).

Shri Madan Lal Gujjar Ji was requested to get an apporintment from Shri Om Birla Ji, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha as early as possible.



At the end of the meeting the General Secretary put forward some of his observations and suggestions for the members present:

* To establish our Vital Demand to treat the FPS Dealers as Central Govt. employees and to introduce Salary system for the Dealers. In this connection, we should Survey internally, how many Dealers have crossed 60 years. A Distrct-Wise Data may be sent to our Head Office indicating total no of Dealers above 60 years (as on 31th March 2025)

*Under NFSA, the Union Government is providing Ration to 81 crore 35 lakh poor people, but only 80 crore 52 lakh people are getting Ration, which means 79 lakh poor people are not getting Ration.

* With the Start of the pilot project of Smart PDS in Khunti, Jharkhand, the Union Government will get the account of distribution in real time.

* Recently, the salary of MPs was increased by Rs 24,000 per month, but despite the provision of increasing the Margin every three years under NFSA, Ration Dealers have to wander from door to door for a fair Margin.

* Under NFSA, the Government of India is providing Ration to 19 crore 53 lakh 78 thousand 4 hundred 58 families, in which Ration Cards of 4 crore 7 lakh 32 thousand 6 hundred 62 families have been linked to Bank accounts.

* In the last 10 years, the Narendra Modi Government has waived off loans worth 16 lakh crores, out of which 9 lakh crores were of rich businessmen.

* Due to no Census after 2011, 14 crore poor people are being deprived of Ration.

* To fight price rise and to increase the viability of Ration Dealers to some extent, the Government of India is providing "Bharat" brand, Rice and Pulses to Ration Dealers through NAFED, but the bureaucracy is not allowing this scheme to succeed.

* The slogan of Amrit Bharat, Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas is only misleading the middle class, instead of increasing the income of the middle class, the ratio of income and expenditure is equal to the year 1820.

* Knowing fully well that **small Stars cannot stay with the Sun**, we have decided to involve all the State-wise brother organisations in our ongoing movement. No one can deny that our Federation is the legend in PDS. It is shame for us evern in this unprecedented situation, all the FPS Dealers have not united themsetves to fight together against the Central Govt. for their sustenance.

*NITI Aayog suggested realisation of Re. 1 to Rs. 1.50 per kg from the beneficiaries

* 1-10 of every month, Distribution of PDS foodgrains & from11 to 30 for other Govt. Scheme.

*Other items at subsidised rates like Sugar, Edible Oil, and Pulses.



A Sub-Committee was formed for the Court Case purpose:-

- (1) President- National President, Mr. K. Krishnamurthy Ji,
- (2) Convenor National General Secretary, Shri Biswambar Basu
- (3) Cashier National Treasurer, Shri Dharani Dhar Borah,

Members - all the Presidents & Secretaries of all the States.

*35 States MOU signed except Tamil Nadu for Smart PDS

For Immediate implementation of Smart PDS Union Food Ministry has arranged State Consultation, and Training Programs and imparted Training to officials of different States in which it has been evident that on our meeting day/date the Govt. of India, has given training for implementation of DBT in Delhi but it is quite unfortunate that no office-bearer informed the House about the burning issue.

* On 12th March in the Lok Sabha, Hon'ble Union Food Minister has kindly highlightened the issue before the Parliament in a reply of starred Questions.

* All over India e-KYC of PDS Beneficiaries has been completed at around 75.69%.

* In addition, a State-wise detail Statement showing Deleted Ration Cards from 2013 to 2025 (till date) has also been discussed. The House hereby raised a question what action has been taken by the State Governments/ UTs against those Food Officials who issued the cards to the tune of 5,87,22,894.

Organisational discussions:-

- 1) Leaders from Karnataka State were requested to regularise their presence in all the Meetings. In case of any emergency in their State, atleast 1(one) Member should be sent or participate for representation.
- 2) Due to illness of our Senier Vice-Presedent, Shri Prahlad Bhai Modi-he has been requersted to consider attendance of any other Leader(s) from Gujarat on a regular manner.
- 3) Jb. Ramzan Ali Ansari, Sr. Vice-President is also unable to attend all the programmes due to his old age. He may be felicitated as an Advisor of the Federation.
- 4) Participation in Virtual Meetings and attendance in the physical meetings became very much irregular, which is not at all desirable from a State like Maharashtra.
- 5) Telangana President, Shri Nayi Koti Raju & Organising Secratary. Shri Jyotidhar Singh (SONU) and all the Leaders from Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Himachal Pradash, Chattisgarh are very much irregular, their were required to come forward regularly to strengthen the Federation.
- (a) Shri Deben Ch. Boro has been replaced by Shri Sukumar Wayri in the post of Vice- President from Assam.
- (b) Shri Ajoy kr. Gupta, President, J&K, has been nominated as National Vice- President.



For Movement

During our agitational movement a Dress-Code may be maintained, T-shirt & Caps will be made available at reasonable rates from Delhi. In this context, every Leader may Contact:-

Mr. Rajiv of Fabclues, New Delhi,

Mobile 94347 43990

Who will in his turn will deliver the goods directly to your destination

So, every Leader and Dealers are requested to get in touch with Mr. Rajiv and place orders with Mr. Rajiv accordingly and make payments directly.

At the end, a vote of thanks was given to everyone and the meeting was declared closed till the next meeting with the National Anthem.

ONKAR NATH JHA President of the Meeting & National Working President <u>28.03.2025</u> RAJ KUMAR MITTAL Co-Ordinator of the Meeting & <u>National Vice-President</u> BISWAMBHAR BASU National General Secretary Mobile: (+91) 9875308556