

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir,
Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs
Civil Secretariat, Jammu.**

Subject: - Policy for Distribution of Food Grains/Sugar/K.Oil to Nomadic Population (Gujjar & Bakerwals).

Government Order No. 47 -FCS&CA of 2017
D a t e d: - 08 - 03 - 2017

Sanction is hereby accorded to the formulation of Policy for Distribution of food grains/Sugar/K.Oil to Nomadic Population (Gujjar & Bakerwals) in the State of Jammu and Kashmir forming **Annexure** to this order. The same is accordingly notified for general information.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

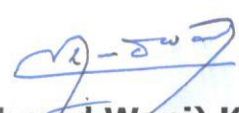
(Shafiq Ahmed Raina) IAS
Secretary to the Government
Department of Food, Civil Supplies
& Consumer Affairs

Dated: 08 -03-2017

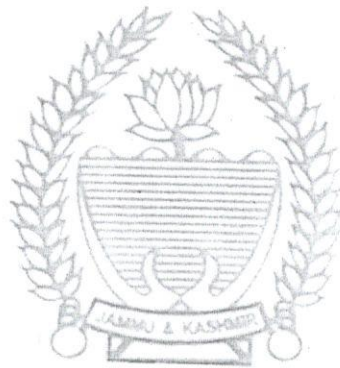
No.FCS&CA/Food/107/2016

Copy to the: -

1. Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, Gujjar & Bakerwal Advisory Board, J&K.
2. Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister.
4. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Governor, J&K.
5. All financial Commissioner/Principal Secretaries/Commissioner/Secretaries/Secretaries to Government, _____ Department.
6. All Deputy Commissioners.
7. Director, Department of Food, Civil supplies and Consumer Affairs, Jammu/Kashmir.
8. Director Information, J&K Jammu.
9. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Minister for Food, Civil supplies and Consumer Affairs for kind information of the Hon'ble Minister.
10. Private Secretary to Secretary to Government, Department of Food Civil supplies and Consumer Affairs.
11. All Assistant Directors, Department of FCS&CA Department
12. Government Order file (w.2.s.c).
13. Monday return file.


(Nisar Ahmad Wani) KAS
Special Secretary to the Government,
Department of Food, Civil Supplies
& Consumer Affairs

POLICY
FOR
DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD GRAINS/SUGAR/K.OIL
TO NOMADIC POPULATION (GUJJAR &
BAKERWALS)
IN
JAMMU & KASHMIR STATE



DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

1. BACKGROUND:

The State of Jammu and Kashmir is inhabited by different communities, some settled, quite a few nomadic. In the latter category the most prominent are pastoral Gujjars and Bakerwals. The former form part of a large conglomerate of tribal communities inhabiting many adjoining parts of the sub-continent.

In Jammu & Kashmir, eight communities vide the Constitution (Jammu & Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1989 and four communities namely Gujjar, Bakerwal, Gaddi and Sippi were notified as the Scheduled Tribes vide the constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 1991. All the twelve (12) Scheduled Tribes (STs) were enumerated officially for the first time during the 2001 census recording a population of 1,105,979. The Scheduled Tribes account for 10.90 percent of the total population of the State and 1.3 percent of the total tribal population of the country.

Out of twelve Scheduled Tribes, Gujjar is the most populous tribe comprising of about 70%, of the total ST Population.

A sub-tribe of Gujjars is known as Bakerwal in Jammu and Kashmir State because of their specialization in rearing of goats. The Bakerwals according to 1981 census, number more than one and half lakh. In physical appearance they are tall, well built and quite beautiful but have a revengeful disposition. Not all Bakerwals are nomads, quite a few are settled farmers. This tribe

has the same sub-castes are goters as the Gujjars have: Jindher, Chohan, Khar etc.

Distribution pattern of Gujjars and Bakerwals in Jammu and Kashmir:

At present the Gujjars and Bakerwals constitute a prominent segment of population of Jammu and Kashmir.

As for the distribution of population is concerned Gujjars, at present are settled all over the State, except the Ladakh region, where a few Bakerwals go during the summer in search of pasturs in the Kargil district.

Gujjarland par excellence has long been the lower slopes and valleys of the Pir-Panjral and the Siwalik hills, where suitable ecological conditions for their nomadic pastoral economy abound, specially during winters.

The important areas of Gujjar and Bakerwal settlement concentration in Jammu District are Jandrah, Jahri, Grota, Golad, Charwal, Samoo, Rathi and Bindi and upper samba hills.

The Gujjars are also highly concentrated in Rajouri and Poonch districts where about 20% of the total Gujjars populations of the State is to be found. Gujjar population is also settled in most of the parallel Valleys which are framed by the off shoots of the Pir-panjal range. The most famous of the valleys, locally known as 'Nalas' are Darhal, Thanamandi, Peeri, Ramgarh and Kotranka etc.

The Gujjars are an ancient element in Poonch district where they still account for about 45% of the population of the District and 18% of the total Gujjar population of the state.

Kashmir Region:

Gujjars are also well distributed in the Kashmir region. Most of them have in any case here to pass through this region in the course of annual transhumance. They are to be found specially during summers on all hills and mountains surrounding the main valley of Kashmir. Some of the side valleys are also homelands of the Gujjar population.

Gujjars are well distributed in the District of Baramulla, Kupwara, Anantnag, Budgam and partially in Srinagar and Pulwama district. In Srinagar the Sindh Nullah and Laar vadi are well known for Gujjar settlements. There is a heavy concentration of Dodhi Gujjars and Bakerwals in Kangan sub-division. Migration during summers higher slopes are mostly occupied by Bakerwals, who annually migrate to this region from Jammu across the Pir-panjal.

There are some exclusive high altitude Gujjars summer settlements at Phiryanwar, Taripura, Dashiabal, Manpaar, Chhan, Panjanoor, Balapura etc.

Seasonal Gujjar settlements are also quite numerous in Uri, Handwara Karnah and Bandipora tehsils of Baramulla district. The main settlements are Sukhdar, Gualta, Urikhas, Gharkote and Punjayan, Jondi, Gujjarmarg and Modichhand etc.

In the Lalab valley of Kupwara district the villages of Wadar, Bahmipura, Hafatrodam, Khadi, Garatwar, HI-hamami,

Gujjarsori, Mahajan-Ferozpur and Qazipur have Gujjar settlements.

In Anantnag and Pulwama districts the main seasonal settlements are Daksum, Pahalgam, Sidau, Killar Dipura besides a number of smaller ones.

Generally speaking, the Gujjar settlements are found mainly in comparatively low altitude ecological zones while the higher altitudes pastures on the mountains surrounding the Kashmir valley are mostly occupied by Bakerwals.

According to 2011 census the total population of Gujjar and Bakerwals accounts to 1177983 (Eleven lac seventy seven thousand nine hundred and eighty three). Out of which about 8 lack are totally sedentarized. However, Dhodi Gujjars (Baniharas) whose total population is 103724 according to 2001 census are leading a seminomadic life. About 90 percent of the Bakerwals are still nomadic and oscillate between winter and summer postures along with their flocks of sheep and goats. Very less population about 10 percent lead a sedentary life.

Scope and application :-

- 1.1 The policy shall remain applicable till census 2021 or unless repealed or substituted with new policy.
- 1.2 It shall be applicable to those Nomadic Gujjar & Bakerwals who migrate from Jammu division to Kashmir division during summer and back during winter months or from one area to another within the division and do not possess any permanent residential houses, at any place.

- 1.3 It shall be implemented in accordance with the provisions of NFSA Act,2013(implemented in J&K State w.e.f. 01.02.2016) and MMSFES, 2016.
- 1.4 It shall have immediate effect from the date of its issuance.

2. Objectives :-

It is issued with following objectives:

- To ensure regular food security/supply in a time bound manner to the members of Gujjar & Bakerwal community who are nomadic/do not have permanent residence/houses and migrate from one area to another for the purpose of rearing their cattle or for work/for finding means of sustenance, at the scale/rate as admissible under PHH category under NFSA & MMSFES.
- To ensure providing of food enroute their respective migratory routes as well.

3. Eligibility:-

- 3.1 All the registered members of the community who migrate from one area to the other area will be eligible for the benefits under the scheme.
- 3.2 They will be entitled for supply of rice/ wheat/ Atta/sugar and K.oil as per scale otherwise admissible under particular category under NFSA/MMSFES.
- 3.3 They will also be eligible for getting extra sugar on eve of Idd/other festival in case released by Government.
- 3.4 They shall be entitled to get the same ration/sugar/K.oil from the FPS nearest to their temporary residences. However they will have to get

registered with the concerned Assistant Director, FCS&CA Department. Who will inturn requisition additional quota of ration accordingly from Director, FCS&CA Department and release the same in favour of concerned FPS dealer well, in time.

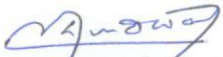
- 3.5 They will be entitled for getting the ration at the same rates at which the rice/wheat is provided to PHH category (As it is also provided in Govt. Order No.128-CAPD of 2015 dated 04.02.2015).
- 3.6 They shall be provided with ration cards clearly indicating on first page-Migratory/nomadic Gujjar & Bakerwal, category.

4. Implementation:-

- 5.1 The Assistant Director, FCS&CA Department concerned and the Director, FC&CA Department, Jammu/Kashmir shall be the implementing agency at field level.
- 5.2 Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District shall be the Nodal Officer for monitoring the implementation of the Policy within their respective areas of jurisdiction.

5. Liability:

The FPS dealer/Assistant Director concerned who fails to provide ration to such genuine families within stipulated time will be liable for disciplinary action as warranted under J&K CCA Rules.


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