

No. 5-4/2011 ND/Tech
Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 21.06.2011

To,

1. The Secretaries of all State/UTs, Women & Child Development
2. The Directors (ICDS) of all States/UTs

Subject:- Mandatory use of Double Fortified Salt (DFS) in National Programmes - ICDS

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the prevalence of nutritional anemia among the vulnerable groups continues to be high and is a major cause of concern for maternal and child health in our country. As you would appreciate, a combination of different approaches including dietary diversification, fortification, supplementation and horticulture interventions are necessary.

2. One of the useful fortification strategies is the use of Double Fortified salt (DFS) i.e salt with both iodine and iron. Suitable composition of DFS has been developed by National Institute of Nutrition in our country. The cost of DFS per kg will be little higher than the cost of iodised salt. However, considering the fact that a family of five may not require more than 1.5 - 2 kg maximum of salt per month, the increase in expenditure due to DFS will not be unaffordable. And, if compared with the additional benefits it is expected to bring to the family, it may be worth while to make this little additional investment.

3. In our earlier letter dated 31st March 2005 and another letter dated 21st May 2010 (No. 1(10)/ 2004 ND/Tech), we had advocated the use of Double Fortified salt in programmes such as the Integrated Child Development Scheme. There have so far been sporadic efforts with the use of DFS in a few States only.

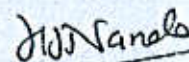
4. The Government has now decided as under:

' to begin with, Ministries dealing with food and nutrition programmes like ICDS and Mid day meal programme will make use of iron fortified iodised salt (double fortified salt) mandatory in those programmes, in an appropriate manner' .

5. The National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad has already transferred the technology for manufacture of DFS and has signed an MOU with manufacturers listed at Annex 1. The production of DFS will be picking up as the demand increases. The States can coordinate with the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) which facilitates procurement through small Enterprises. The required level of production of DFS in the country may take one or two years and hence, change over to use of DFS mandatorily, vis-a-vis iodised salt under ICDS, may be attained at the earliest possible.

6. In view of the above, you may make necessary arrangements for use of DFS and inform the steps taken to ensure its use at the Anganwadi Centres.

Yours faithfully



(H.S. Nanda)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

List of Salt Manufacturers with DFS Technology

Sri. Rajkumar Routray
Chairman Cum Managing Director
Prince International Health Care (P) Ltd.
A/2 Bhagbanpur Industrial Estate
Patrapara
Bhubaneswar - 751 019
Orissa

M/s. Christy Friedgram Industry
A-2, A-3, SIDCO Industrial Estate
Andipalayam
Tiruchengode - 637 214
Namakkal Dt.
Tamilnadu

Dr. A. Ashok IAS
Managing Director
Andhra Pradesh Foods (A Govt. of A.P. Enterprises)
IDA, Nacharam, Hyderabad - 500 076

Managing Director
Ankur Chemfood Products (Guj.) Ltd
P.O. Box No. 9, Plot No. 355
Ward 12-B, Tagore Road
Gandhidham (Kutch) - 370 201
Ph. 2836-220957, 222434
Fax. 2836-233686
E-mail. info@ankurfoods.com / info@ankurchemffod.com

Sri. Ganesh Iyer
Manager - New Products Development
TATA Chemicals Limited
Leela Business Park
Andheri-Kurla Road
Andheri (East)
Mumbai - 400 059

Sri. N.Ananth
DGM (Operations)
GHCL Limited
No. 83/41, Kotapati Enclave,
Ground Floor, Kutchery Road
Mylapore
Chennai - 600 004

Smt. K.Padmavathi
Proprietor
Sri. Venkateswara Salt Industries
Beside Vijaya Milk Dairy
Venkateswarapuram
Nellore - 524 005