

F. No.1(3)/2018-Comp.Cell(E-348552)
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Food & Public Distribution

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Dated: 23/08/2024

To,

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary
Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department
All States/UTs.

Subject: Advisory on enabling partners in a queer relationship to be treated as a part of the same household for the purposes of ration card - reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that several concerns have been brought to this department's notice that persons in queer relationship often face discrimination in access to goods and services including the issue of ration cards and other social welfare entitlements. In this regard, with a focus to ensure that there is no discrimination in access to goods and services to the queer community which are available to the public at large, the following guidelines are issued for your action:

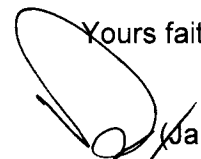
- The existing Ration Card Management System of your state should provide for the registration of members in the households in terms of (i) Gender - with options of Male, Female, Transgender and **Others** and (ii) Relationship with the Head of Household (which includes options of "others")
- In order to enable partners in a queer relationship to be treated as a part of the same household for the purposes of ration card the following procedure may be followed:
 - As per provisions of RCMS, one of the partners may apply as Head of Household by stating the gender as either male, female, transgender or **others** and entering "self" in the relationship column.
 - the partner may be included in the above household by entering relationship with the head of the household as "**others**" and mentioning their gender as male, female, transgender or **others**

2. All States and Union Territories are hereby requested to take cognizance of this directive and implement the necessary measures to ensure that partners in queer relationship are not subject to any discrimination in the issuance of ration cards. All the concerned officials at all levels may be sensitized in this regard.

3. You are requested to acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

4. This advisory is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,


(Jai Patil)

Joint Director (PD)
Tele-011-23383046

Copy to - Shri Ankit Srivastava, Under Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.