

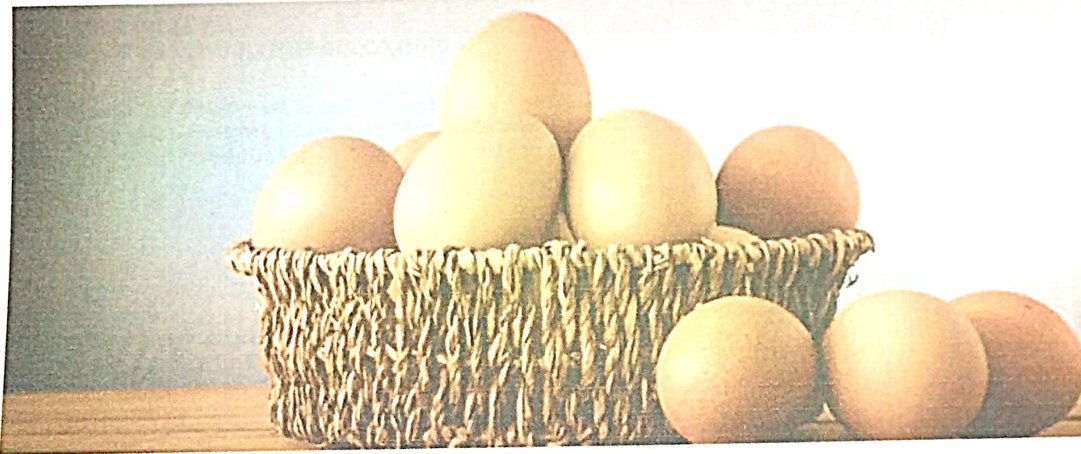
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This is based on the idea that the govt subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat.

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Rationalizing Subsidies

India is self-sufficient in majority of foodgrains and is even a net exporter in some food categories. But its global scores are low in nutrition and hunger alleviation. According to UN India, about 195 million Indians are undernourished, constituting a quarter of the global hunger burden. Almost 47 million, or 4 out of 10 children in India, don't achieve their full human potential because of chronic undernutrition or stunting, according to these studies.

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Ration Shops All Set To Sell Chicken, Mutton And Eggs

The Fair Price Shops currently sells staple food grains like wheat, rice, cereals, sugar and oils at subsidised rates. With an aim of making basic nutrition available to all, they are all set to sell chicken, mutton, fish and eggs as well.

BY MUMBAI LIVE TEAM 2 MONTHS AGO MUMBAI



The Public Distribution System's (PDS) ration shops or the Fair Price Shops sell staple food grains like wheat, rice, cereals, sugar and oils at subsidised rates ensuring that they provide basic nutrition to all the segments of the society. However, the government is now considering to sell fish, chicken, meat and eggs at subsidised rates.

National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has planned this initiative with an intend that even weaker segments of the society should also have access to basic nutrition and food. In the process of expanding its food security scheme, the govt will now give priority to nutrition security.

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The project will be divided into phases and in the first phase NITI Ayog will be experimenting with just one or two product. Notably, The Indian food security system was established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution to distribute food and non-food items to India's poor at subsidised rates. This scheme was first started in February 1944, during the Second World War.

It is considered to be the most important food security network. However, the food grains supplied by the ration shops are not enough to meet the consumption needs of the poor or are of substandard quality. The average level of consumption of PDS in India is only 1 kg per person per month. The PDS has also been criticised for its urban bias and its failure to serve the poorer sections of the population effectively.

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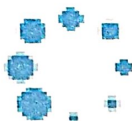
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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

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By Yogima Sharma, ET Bureau | Last Updated: Dec 18, 2019, 03:36 PM IST

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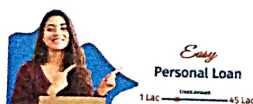
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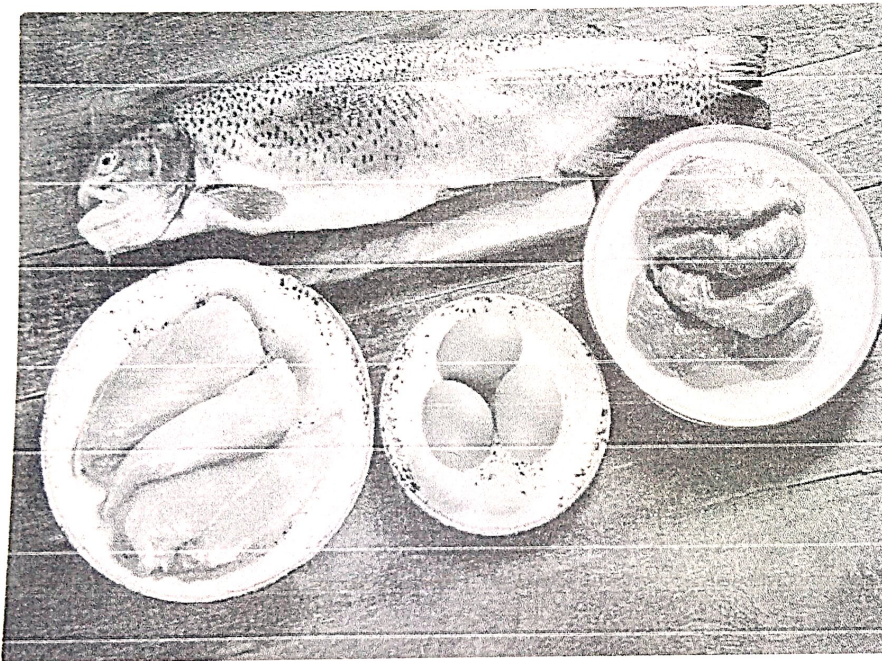
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Moneybhaskar.Com Dec 18, 2019 01:29:15 PM IST

नई दिल्ली. सरकार के थिंक टैंक नीति आयोग एक नए प्रस्ताव पर काम कर रहा है, जिसके तहत आपको राशन की दुकानों पर प्रोटीन रिच फूड- अंडा, मछली, चिकन और मीट- मिल सकता है। पोषण के मामले में देश की रैंकिंग को सुधारने के लिए नीति आयोग सस्ते दाम में इन उत्पादों को मुहैया करने के बारे में योजना बना रही है। इस प्रस्ताव को नीति आयोग के 15 ईयर विजन डॉक्यूमेंट में शामिल किया जा सकता है। इस प्रस्ताव को अगले साल पेश किया जाएगा और इसके 1 अप्रैल, 2020 से लागू होने की उम्मीद है।

सस्ते दामों पर मिलेंगे प्रोटीन रिच फूड

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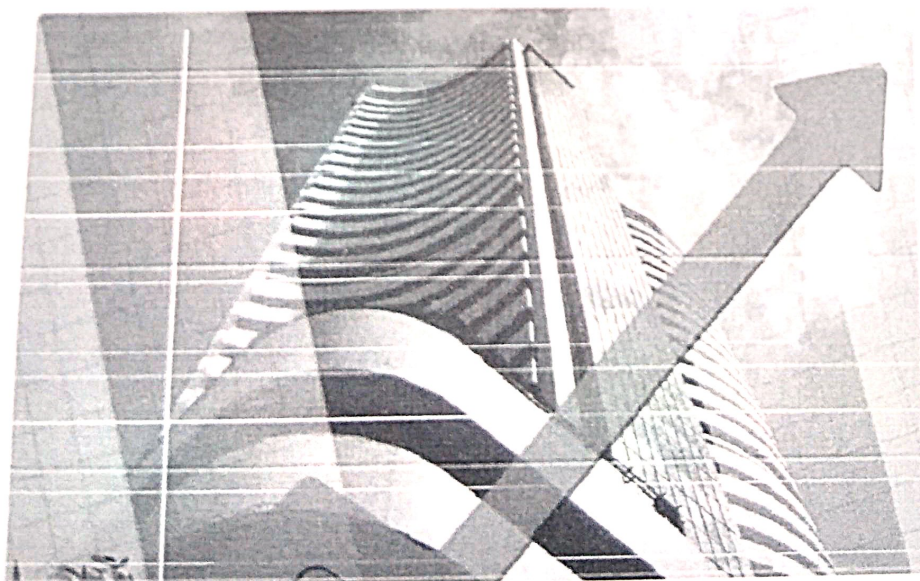


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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

BY YOGIMA SHARMA, ET BUREAU | UPDATED DEC 18, 2019, 03.36 PM IST

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Rationalising Subsidies

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Niti Aayog kick-starts work on 2035 Vision Document

The PMO has directed NITI Aayog to engage best subject experts to draft Vision Document 2035 for an innovative policy formulation for India starting 2020. Exports, rural income, unemployment are the major facets that the experts will have to address.

By Yagya Sharma, ET Bureau | Last Updated: Oct 22, 2019, 08:00 AM IST

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NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant (left) with NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar attending an event

New Delhi: The NITI Aayog has kick-started the exercise for drafting the Vision Document 2035, a 15-year vision for India starting from 2020, with a mandate for a paradigm shift in policy thinking and formulation.

The Prime Minister's Office has directed the Aayog to engage the best Indian and overseas subject experts for consultation while preparing the document, saying business-as-usual approach will not work, a senior government official told ET.

"The directive from above is to think globally and act locally, whereby we are identifying best experts and practices worldwide across a dozen sectors to draft an outcome oriented document with policy prescriptions that can bring about a shift in approach to addressing India's key problems of unemployment, lower exports and stagnation in the agricultural sector," said the official, requesting not to be identified.

While the key chapters in the vision document have yet to be finalised, the government's think tank is holding deliberations on important issues such as using data for improving governance, ways to push rural income, measures to boost Industry 4.0, making India a preferred manufacturing destination, ways to make India an export hub across multiple sectors, skilling and upskilling and ways to address unemployment and underemployment in the country.

"It has been a very conscious decision to have dedicated teams to work on each subject or chapter. Since it is a long-term projection, we will have to take states on board before finalising the document," said the official.

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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

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BY YOGIMA SHARMA, ET BUREAU | UPDATED: DEC 18, 2019, 03.36 PM IST

NEW DELHI: Subsidised eggs, fish, chicken and meat?

Niti Aayog, the government think tank, is working on a proposal aimed at improving India's low nutrition ranking and centred on the idea that the government subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. This is likely to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document is expected to be in place by early next year and will be effective from April 1, 2020. Ilicymakers and individuals.



Big Change:
The end of Five-Year Plans: All you need to know

"Top Niti Aayog officials are looking at widening the list of food items under the public distribution system to include at least one or more. If implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses.

Niti Aayog member Ramesh Chand said increasing incomes should lead to dietary patterns diversifying to nutritive food. "However, unfortunately, India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food," he said, adding that the Vision Document will aim to create awareness among poor protein-rich food to begin with," an official familiar with deliberations said, requesting anonymity.

What's on India's Plate

Indian diet not nutritious enough

Country scores low globally on nutrition

Niti working on subsidy regime for protein-rich food

Eggs, fish, chicken and meat may be considered

4 out of 10 children affected



But total food subsidy already high

So rationalisation will be needed

Rationalising Subsidies

India is self-sufficient in majority of foodgrains and is even a net exporter in some food categories. But its global scores are low in nutrition and hunger alleviation. According to UN India, about 195 million Indians are undernourished, constituting a quarter of the global hunger burden. Almost 47 million, or 4 out of 10 children in India, don't achieve their full human potential because of chronic undernutrition or stunting, according to these studies.

Extending the subsidies to protein-rich items, which are typically costlier, will put a bigger burden on the already large food subsidy bill — pegged at Rs 1.84 lakh crore for 2019-20 — and, therefore, changes may be required in the current format. "Some amount of rationalisation will be needed," said the official quoted earlier.

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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

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Niti Aayog, the government think tank, is working on a proposal aimed at improving India's low nutrition ranking and centred on the idea that the government subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. This is likely to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document.

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Updated : Dec 18, 2019 05:21:58 pm



पीडीएस में अंडे, मछली, चिकन और मांस को शामिल करने के लिए NITI Aayog

Niti Aayog में अंडे, मछली, चिकन और मांस को शामिल करने की योजना है, संभवतः इसके सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से। प्रस्ताव का उद्देश्य वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत की कम पोषण रैंकिंग में सुधार करना है। यह नीती अयोग के 15 वार्षिक विजन डॉक्यूमेंट का हिस्सा होने की उम्मीद है। दस्तावेज 2020 की शुरुआत में होगा और 1 अप्रैल 2020 से प्रभावी होगा।

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NITI Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

Proposal to be part of Vision Document

by Natasha Nadkar

NITI Aayog is planning to supply protein-rich food such as eggs, fish, chicken and meat through the public distribution system (PDS). The proposal is likely to be a part of NITI Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document will aim to create awareness among poor protein-rich food. The Vision Document is expected to be in place by early next year and will be effective from 1 April 2020. NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand believes that increasing incomes should lead to dietary patterns diversifying to nutritive food. However, unfortunately, India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food, he added.

References

1. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/protein-push-niti-aayog-mulls-pds-supply-of-eggs-fish-meat/articleshow/72861907.cms>

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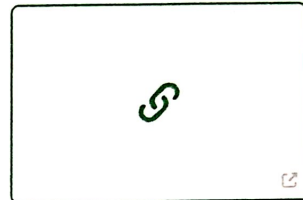
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NITI AAYOG TO INCLUDE EGGS, FISH, CHICKEN, AND MEAT IN PDS

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Highlights:

- Niti Aayog Plans to include eggs, fish, chicken, and meat, possibly through its public distribution system.
- The aim of the proposal is to improve India's low nutrition ranking at the global level.
- This is expected to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document.
- The document will be in place by early 2020 with effect from 1 April 2020.
- NITI Aayog aims to widen the list of food items under the public distribution system and include at least one or more food items.
- If it is implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses.
- The move by NITI Aayog is necessary as India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food
- The Vision Document will aim to create awareness among protein-rich food.

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The Gol think tank Niti Aayog on December 18, 2019, announced that it is considering options to include fish, chicken and eggs in the PDS (Public Distribution System). The move is expected to be included in Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document to be published in 2020 and be effective from April 1, 2020.

NITI Aayog

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Highlights

Significance

NITI Aayog Vision Document

Highlights

The aim of the move is to include one or more of nutritious food items under the food subsidy programme. This will widen the list of food items along with coarse grains, rice, wheat and pulses. The think tank believes that supply oils, spices and sugar under PDS is unhealthy.

Significance

According to the UN, 195 million Indians are undernourished. India constitutes one-fourth of global hunger burden. However, India being self sufficient in food grains, is also a net export of certain food categories. Hence, the problem lies in lack of nutritious food. Hence, NITI Aayog is coming up with subsidy regime for protein rich food.

NITI Aayog Vision Document

Under the direction of PMO (Prime Minister Office), NITI Aayog has already begun drafting a vision document 2035. The document will include ways to increase rural income, making India a preferred manufacturing destination and an export hub, boost Industry 4.0, ways to address unemployment and underemployment in the country, etc.

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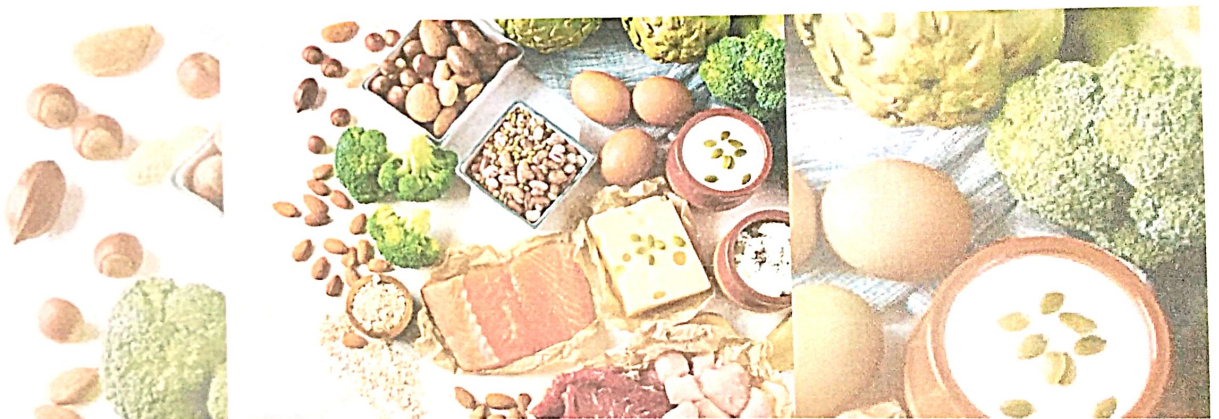


NATION

PDS rations to go healthy, NITI Aayog mulls protein-rich fare

Posted: Jan 03, 2020 07:00 AM (IST) Updated: 1 month ago

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Tribune News Service

New Delhi, January 2

195 m undernourished

- 195 million Indians are undernourished, constituting a quarter of global hunger burden
- 47 million (four out of 10) children don't achieve their full human potential because of chronic malnutrition

With an aim to improving India's nutrition ranking, NITI Aayog is working on a policy document to facilitate sale of subsidised protein-rich vegetarian and non-vegetarian food items through Public Distribution System (PDS).

Sources in the government's top think tank said work in this regard was in progress and a final policy formation on government-

"We have been working on expanding the list of food items to be brought under the PDS to include at least one or more protein-rich food items and make them part of the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses," a senior NITI Aayog official said.

Talking about the dietary pattern in the country, the official said, "Unfortunately, it is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food and the vision document is aimed at making people aware about the benefit of protein-rich food." "In the vision document we are first proposing to rationalise subsidies on majority of food items, which will be self-sufficient in creating fund to subsidise protein-rich food. Even as we are a net exporter in some food categories, India's global scores are low in nutrition and hunger alleviation," said the official.



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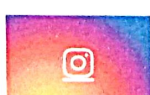
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NATION

PDS rations to go healthy, NITI Aayog mulls protein-rich fare

Posted: Jan 03, 2020 07:00 AM (IST) Updated: 1 month ago

681 0 0 0



Tribune News Service

New Delhi, January 2

195 m undernourished

- 195 million Indians are undernourished, constituting a quarter of global hunger burden

- 47 million (four out of 10) children don't achieve their full human potential because of chronic malnutrition

With an aim to improving India's nutrition ranking, NITI Aayog is working on a policy document to facilitate sale of subsidised protein-rich vegetarian and non-vegetarian food items through Public Distribution System (PDS).

Sources in the government's top think tank said work in this regard was in progress and a final policy formulation was expected soon.

"We have been working on expanding the list of food items to be brought under the PDS to include at least one or more protein-rich food items and make them part of the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses," a senior NITI Aayog official said.

Talking about the dietary pattern in the country, the official said, "Unfortunately, it is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food and the vision document is aimed at making people aware about the benefit of protein-rich food." "In the vision document we are first proposing to rationalise subsidies on majority of food items, which will be self-sufficient in creating fund to subsidise protein-rich food. Even as we are a net exporter in some food categories, India's global scores are low in nutrition and hunger alleviation," said the official.



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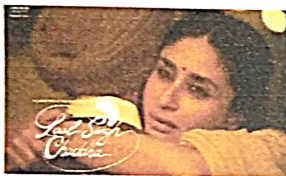
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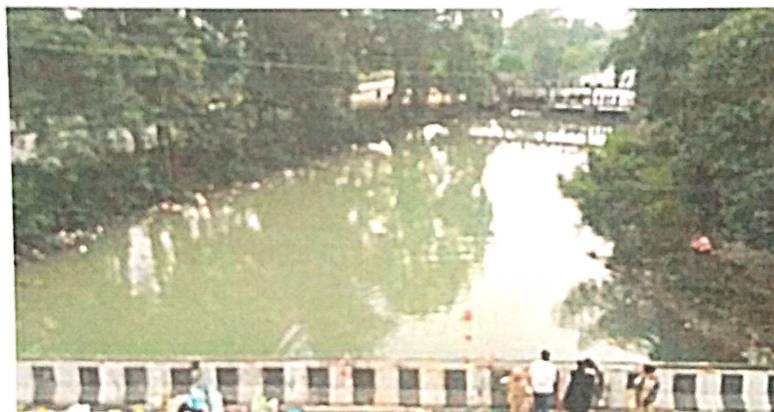
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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

This is based on the idea that the govt subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat.

By Yogima Sharma, ET Bureau | Last Updated: Dec 18, 2019, 03:36 PM IST

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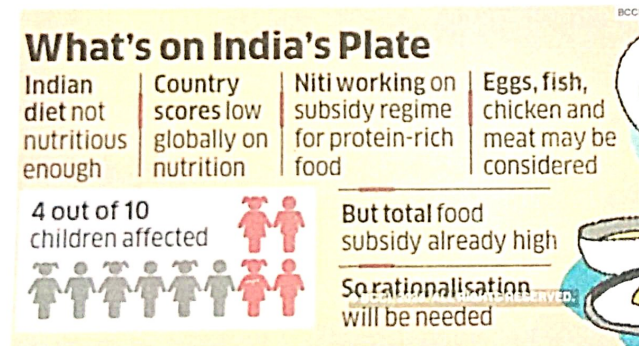
NEW DELHI: Subsidised eggs, fish, chicken and meat?

Niti Aayog, the government think tank, is working on a proposal aimed at improving India's low nutrition ranking and centred on the idea that the government subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. This is likely to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document is expected to be in place by early next year and will be effective from April 1,

2020. Icy-makers and individuals.

"Top Niti Aayog officials are looking at widening the list of food items under the public distribution system to include at least one or more. If implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses.

Niti Aayog member Ramesh Chand said increasing incomes should lead to dietary patterns diversifying to nutritive food. "However, unfortunately, India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food," he said, adding that the Vision Document will aim to create awareness among poor protein-rich food to begin with," an official familiar with deliberations said, requesting anonymity.



Rationalising Subsidies

India is self-sufficient in majority of foodgrains and is even a net exporter in some food categories. But its global scores are low in nutrition and hunger alleviation. According to UN India, about 195 million Indians are undernourished, constituting a quarter of the global hunger burden. Almost 47 million, or 4 out of 10 children in India, don't achieve their full human potential because of chronic undernutrition or stunting, according to these studies.

Extending the subsidies to protein-rich items, which are typically costlier, will put a bigger burden on the already large food subsidy bill — pegged at Rs 1.84 lakh crore for 2019-20 — and, therefore, changes may be required in the current format. "Some amount of rationalisation will be needed," said the official quoted earlier.

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NITI Aayog to include eggs, fish, chicken, and meat in PDS

The move by NITI Aayog is necessary as India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food

Akash Phanindra

Updated: Dec 18, 2019 06:21:58 pm



NITI Aayog to include eggs, fish, chicken, and meat in PDS

18 December 2019 Current Affairs: **Niti Aayog** Plans to include **eggs, fish, chicken, and meat**, possibly through its **public distribution system**. The aim of the proposal is to improve India's low nutrition ranking at the global level. This is expected to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document will be in place by early 2020 with effect from 1 April 2020.

NITI Aayog's proposal:

- ♦ NITI Aayog aims to widen the list of food items under the public distribution system and include at least one or more food items.
- ♦ If it is implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses.

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It will promote activities related to water harvesting, water management, and crop alignment and equip communities and stakeholders to sustainably manage groundwater.

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The scheme will assist State Governments to issue soil health cards to all farmers in the country.

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PM Modi inaugurated COP-13 on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Feb 17, 2020 06:28:07 pm

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 13th Conference of Parties (COP-13) on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) at Gandhinagar on 17 February.



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Mondo Duplantis smashed his own world pole vault record for the second time in a week at the 2020 World Indoor Tour, Glasgow Grand Prix.



India, Norway joins to mitigate marine plastic litter and microplastics

Feb 17, 2020 12:56:22 pm

India, Norway shared their interest to continue and strengthen the mutually beneficial cooperation on environment and climate between the two countries, including on ocean affairs.



Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated India Pavilion at GulFood 2020 in Dubai

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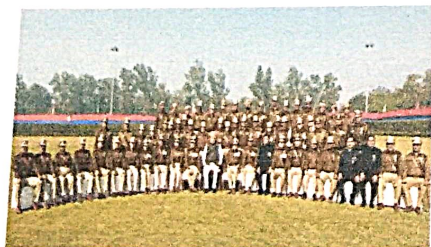
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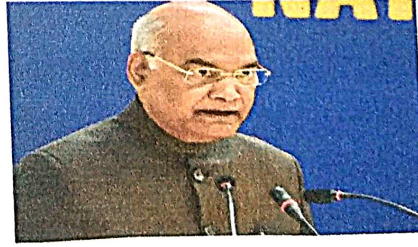
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» May 2019 Current Affairs

» April 2019 Current Affairs

» March 2019 Current Affairs

» February 2019 Current Affairs

» January 2019 Current Affairs

» December 2018 Current Affairs

» November 2018 Current Affairs

» October 2018 Current Affairs

» September 2018 Current Affairs

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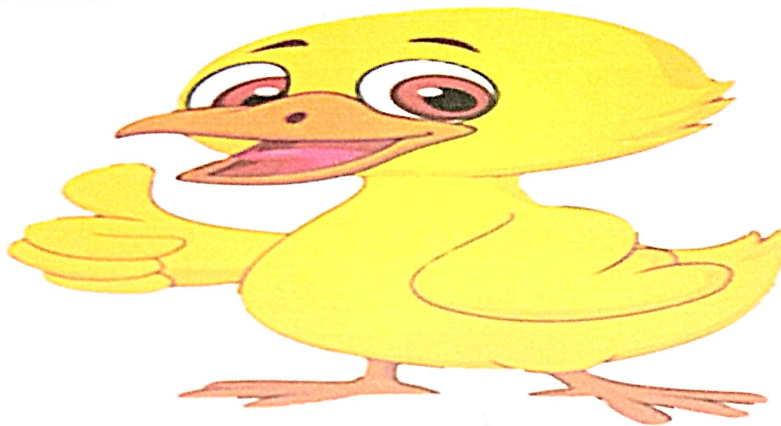
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NEWS

Govt Plans Meat, Chicken and Eggs through PDS

December 31, 2019 - by - Leave a Comment



NEW DELHI:

Indian Government is gradually planning to upgrade its policies from food security to nutritional security. The Government is mulling to distribute, egg, chicken, meat and fish through the Public Distribution Scheme to the poor people at lower affordable rates.

Niti Aayog, is mulling a proposal which aims to improve India's low nutrition ranking and based on the idea that the government subsidise the protein-rich food like- eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. It is hoped to be a part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. It is expected to be formulated by early next year and will be effective from April 1, 2020. This could be a right move of the Government from food security to nutritional security.

Niti Aayog is looking at incorporating the list of food items under the Public Distribution System to include these food items in the food subsidy programme along with other cereals. Though India is self-sufficient in majority of food grains but it ranks low in nutrition and hunger alleviation.

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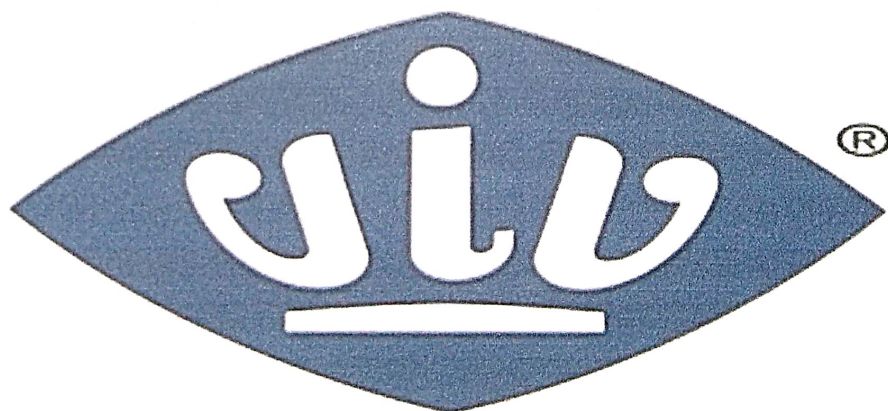
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Print This Page**NITI Aayog plans to subsidise eggs, fish and meat via public distribution system: Report**

The NITI Aayog is working on a proposal for the government to subsidise protein-rich food such as eggs, fish and meat, potentially through the public distribution system. The Economic Times has reported.

This is in a bid to help improve the country's nutrition ranking.

Moneycontrol could not independently verify the report.

The government think tank is likely to include this plan in its 15-year Vision Document, which is expected to be in place by early 2020 and will be effective from April 1, 2020.

According to the report, top officials at NITI Aayog are looking at broadening the list of food items under the public distribution system, as per the report.

The aforementioned protein-rich food items could be added to the existing food subsidy programme that includes rice and wheat, among others.

While India is self-sufficient in the majority of food grains and is also an exporter in food categories, the country's rankings are low when it comes to nutrition and hunger alleviation.

High-protein food items are generally costlier. Hence, this move could also lead to swelling in the food subsidy bill.

The food subsidy bill for FY20 has been pegged at Rs 1.8 lakh crore as compared to revised estimate of Rs 1.7 crore during FY19.


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Protein push: Niti Aayog mulls PDS supply of eggs, fish & meat

Dec 18, 2019



Niti Aayog, the government think tank, is working on a proposal aimed at improving India's low nutrition ranking and centred on the idea that the government subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. This is likely to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document is expected to be in place by early next year and will be effective from April 1, 2020. ICMakers and individuals.

Top Niti Aayog officials are looking at widening the list of food items under the public distribution system to include at least one or more. If implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses.

Niti Aayog member Ramesh Chand said increasing incomes should lead to dietary patterns diversifying to nutritive food. However, unfortunately, India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food, he said, adding that the Vision Document will aim to create awareness among people protein-rich food to begin with, an official familiar with deliberations said, requesting anonymity.

[Economictimes.indiatimes](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com)

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तत्काल प्रकाशन हेतु

23 January 2020

संपर्क

Hiraj Laljani +91 9619167382; HirajL@petaindia.org (<mailto:HirajL@petaindia.org>)

Dr Kiran Ahuja +91 7045556086; KiranA@petaindia.org (<mailto:KiranA@petaindia.org>)

मांस एवं अंडे वितरण योजना के खिलाफ पशु संरक्षण एवं स्वास्थ्य एडवोकेसी समूह ने वीगन उत्पादों को बढ़ावा देने की जबर्दस्त सिफारिश की

दिल्ली- नीति आयोग ने फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन एनिमल प्रोटेक्शन ओर्गेनाइजेशन (FIAPO) जिसका PETA इंडिया भी एक सदस्य है, को आश्वासन दिया है कि उन्होंने जन वितरण प्रणाली के तहत मांस (मछली सहित) एवं अंडों पर सब्सिडी दिये जाने की कोई योजना प्रस्तावित नहीं की है और इस मामले में आने वाली समस्त खबरें पूरी तरह से बेबुनियाद हैं।

इसके पहले PETA इंडिया, FIAPO जो कि भारत के कई पशु अधिकार संगठनों से मिलकर बना एक समूह है, तथा स्वास्थ्य एडवोकेसी समूह- सेंचुरी फॉर हेल्थ एंड री-क्वेशन टू एनिमल्स एंड नेचर (SHARAN) द्वारा नीति आयोग को पत्र भेजकर इस तरह के प्रस्ताव से पशुओं, पर्यावरण तथा मानव स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ने वाले दुःश-परिणामों पर चेतावनी देने तथा वीगन भोजन को बढ़ावा दिये जाने की सिफारिश किए जाने पर नीति आयोग ने यह स्पष्टीकरण जारी किया है।

PETA इंडिया की वीगन आउटरीच कोर्डिनेटर डॉ. किरण आहुजा कहती हैं- “नीति आयोग ने उन समस्त अफवाहों को खारिज कर दिया है जो पशुओं, पर्यावरण एवं मानव स्वास्थ्य हेतु विनाशकारी साबित हो सकती थी। अब मांस एवं अंडों (<https://www.pcrm.org/good-nutrition/nutrition-information/health-concerns-with-eggs>) पर सब्सिडी दिये जाने वाली बात निरधार है तो PETA इंडिया सभी से अनुरोध करता है कि लोग स्वयं के विवेक का इस्तेमाल करें व केवल मानवीय एवं स्वास्थ्य वर्धाक वीगन भोजन को चुनें”

PETA इंडिया जो इस सिद्धांत के तहत कार्य करता है कि “जानवर हमारा भोजन बनने के लिए नहीं हैं”, ने नीति आयोग को भेजे गए अपने पत्र में कहा था कि बहुत से अध्ययनों से यह पता चला है कि जो लोग अत्यधिक अंडों का सेवन करते हैं उनमें सामान्य लोगों की अपेक्षा हृदय रोग होने का जोखिम 19% अधिक होता है जबकि पहले से ही मधुमेह रोग से पीड़ित लोग यदि अत्यधिक अंडों का सेवन करते हैं तो उनमें हृदय रोग होने का जोखिम 83% अधिक होता है। 14 अध्ययनों पर आधारित जर्नल Atherosclerosis में प्रकाशित एक निष्कर्ष में यह बताया गया है कि ज्यादा अंधे खाने वाले लोगों में मधुमेह होने का खतरा 68% अधिक होता है।

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BID TO IMPROVE NUTRITION SECURITY

Protein Push: Niti Mulls PDS Supply of Eggs, Fish & Meat

Think tank working on proposal to subsidise protein-rich food as part of Vision Document

Yogima Sharma
@timesgroup.com

What's on India's Plate

Indian diet not nutritious enough
Country scores low globally on nutrition
Niti working on subsidy regime for protein-rich food
Eggs, fish, chicken and meat may be considered
But total food subsidy already high
Rationalisation will be needed



ILLUSTRATION: ANISHAN BEDIA

New Delhi: Subsidised eggs, fish, chicken and meat?

Niti Aayog, the government think tank, is working on a proposal aimed at improving India's low nutrition ranking and centred on the idea that the government subsidises protein-rich food, including eggs, fish, chicken and meat, possibly through its public distribution system. This is likely to be part of Niti Aayog's 15-year Vision Document. The document is expected to be in place by early next year and will be effective from April 1, 2020.

If implemented, these food items will join the food subsidy programme along with wheat, rice, coarse grains and a few varieties of pulses. Niti Aayog member Ramesh Chand said increasing incomes should lead to dietary patterns diversifying to nutritive food. "However, unfortunately, India's dietary pattern is becoming unhealthy with people moving towards oily, sugary and spicy food," he said, adding that the Vision Document will aim to create awareness among po-

licymakers and individuals.

"Top Niti Aayog officials are looking at widening the list of food items under the public distribution system to include at least one or more protein-rich food to begin with," an official familiar with deliberations said, requesting anonymity.

re protein-rich food to begin with," an official familiar with deliberations said, requesting anonymity.

Rationalising Subsidies >> 9

BUILDING CONSENSUS ON PROPOSED LAW FOR MEDICAL DEVICES Niti Invites J&J Implant Patients

Niti Aayog has invited patients affected by J&J's faulty hip implant to a consultative meeting to build consensus over the proposed law on regulating medical devices, reports Teena Thacker. >> 15

INVESTOR BODY SUGGESTS CREATION OF MULTIPLE GOVT-BACKED FUND-OF-FUNDS

PEs, VCs Want PF Money in Startup Funds

A New Start

Mega pension funds such as CAPERS and CASTRS have allocated about \$28 b and \$23 b, respectively, to PE asset class

Indian pension funds have largely invested in MFs, or have been allowed to invest in infra funds till date

Ask pension funds to allocate 1% of assets to alternative investment funds

Biswarup Gooptu
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: India's private equity and venture capital industry is asking that domestic pension funds allocate 1% of their overall assets to alternate investment funds and is proposing the creation of multiple startup focused fund of funds, backed by the government, to channel such investments. The idea, mooted by the Indian Venture Capital Association (IVCA), the nodal body representing the sector, is also seeking tax breaks as incentives to cre-

ate such pools of domestic capital. The proposal, still in its infancy, was discussed behind two closed-door sessions at the recently con-

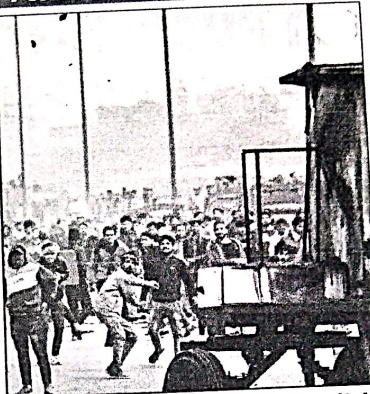
NBFCs Seek Refinance Window, On-Tap Bonds

Cash-starved non-bank lenders have requested the FM to allow a refinance window to be developed exclusively for para banks and permit on-tap issuance of bonds to raise funds, reports Saloni Shukla. >> 10

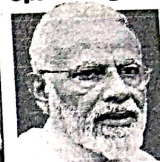
cluded 2019 Global Venture Capital Summit, organised by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, along with the Goa government. Multiple stakeholders, including regulatory authorities, government representatives, IVCA and venture capital fund managers participated in the deliberations. "Pension funds, for instance, are the biggest repositories of capital. Most of the capital raised by venture capital funds in India currently comes from US shores," said Rajat Tandon, president of IVCA.

Govt Considering Suggestion >> 8

PURE POLITICS



CITIZENSHIP LAW Modi Accuses Congress of Spreading Lie



PM Narendra Modi Tuesday accused the Congress and its allies of spreading lies over the amended citizenship law and dared the political party to declare that they will accord Indian nationality to all Pakistanis. "The Citizenship (Amendment) Act neither takes away the rights of Indian citizens nor harms them in any manner," he said at a rally in Jharkhand. >> 2

Protests Erupt in More Areas of Capital

Protests against the amended citizenship Act in Delhi spread to Seelampur and Daryaganj-Rajghat areas. Demonstrations were also reported from other parts of the country. Meanwhile, 10 suspects were arrested for Sunday's arson and violence near Jamia Millia Islamia varsity. >> 2

SC Rejects Plea for Unified Probe into Police Action

The SC Tuesday refused to order a one-stop inquiry into alleged police excesses during the recent student protests in Jamia Millia and Aligarh Muslim University, saying that would be impractical given the "diverse" facts behind the protests. A three-member bench led by the CJI told the petitioners to approach the respective high courts. >> 2

No Going Back on CAA, NRC Date Not Yet Decided: Shah

Home minister Amit Shah said the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) would stand any legal scrutiny and that the "government is firm like rock on its implementation". On National Register of Citizens (NRC), he said no timeline has been fixed for it. He was speaking at the Times Network India Economic Conclave 2019. >> 2

Protesters Flood Assam Streets on AASU's Call

People in different parts of Assam came out in support of a satyagraha called by the A Assam Students' Union (AASU) on Tuesday. Curfew was lifted in Guwahati and broadband services were restored. Curbs on mobile internet services remain in force and the government is likely to take a decision on Thursday. >> 3

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Assam Students' Union (AAU) on Tuesday. Curfew was lifted in Guwahati and broadband services were restored. Curfew on mobile internet service remain in force and the government is likely to take a decision on Thursday. ►►

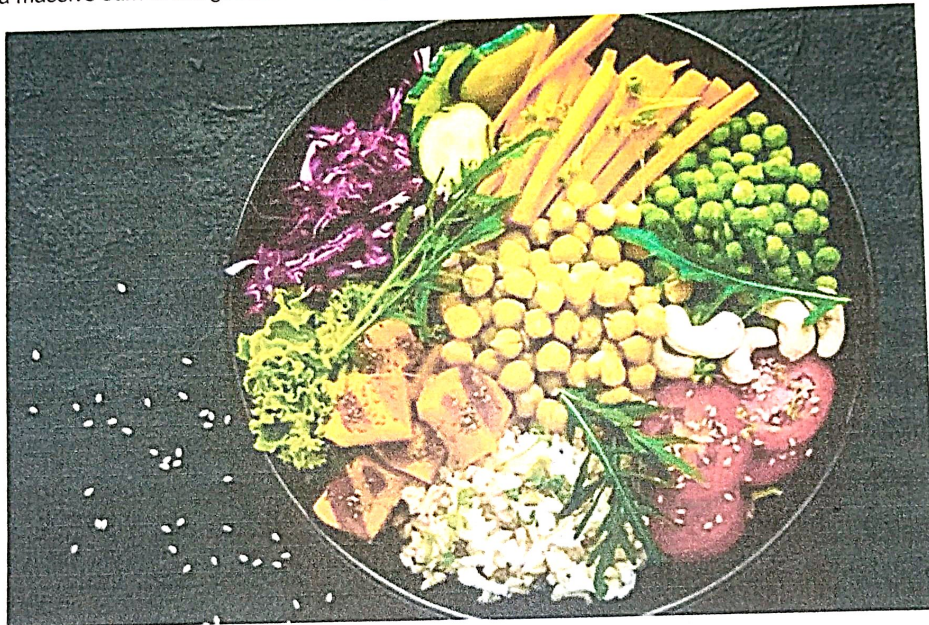
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PDS for proteinaceous foods is a bad idea

By: The Financial Express

Published: December 20, 2019 6:15:52 AM

India already spends nearly 1% of its GDP—the food subsidy bill for FY20 is pegged at Rs. 1.84 lakh crore—and expanding the PDS list like this will add a massive sum to the government's outgo.



The government would be better able to meet nutrition goals if it were to focus on tied direct benefits transfer instead. (Representational Image)

NITI Aayog is mooted a proposal to extend government subsidy on food to protein-rich foods, including egg, fish, and meat, and make them available through PDS. Given that India faces a double burden—housing a quarter of the global hunger burden while facing a growing burden of obesity—and that over 68% of deaths in India among children aged under five years are due to malnutrition, the proposal seems well-intended. However, India already spends nearly 1% of its GDP—the food subsidy bill for FY20 is pegged at Rs. 1.84 lakh crore—and expanding the PDS list like this will add a massive sum to the government's outgo. The government would be better able to meet nutrition goals if it were to focus on tied direct benefits transfer instead.

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IFPRI and J-PAL South Asia studies found that cash transfers are not only less costly to implement but also encourage greater diet diversity. That Indians are moving toward "oily, sugary and spicy food" as opposed to diversifying to more nutritive options is, according to NITI Aayog's Ramesh Chand, one of the major reasons why the proposal is being considered. It is surprising that the

For instance, despite the impact that such campaigns have had on health and nutrition, India has not seriously pursued any since the hugely successful 1980s campaign to promote egg consumption.

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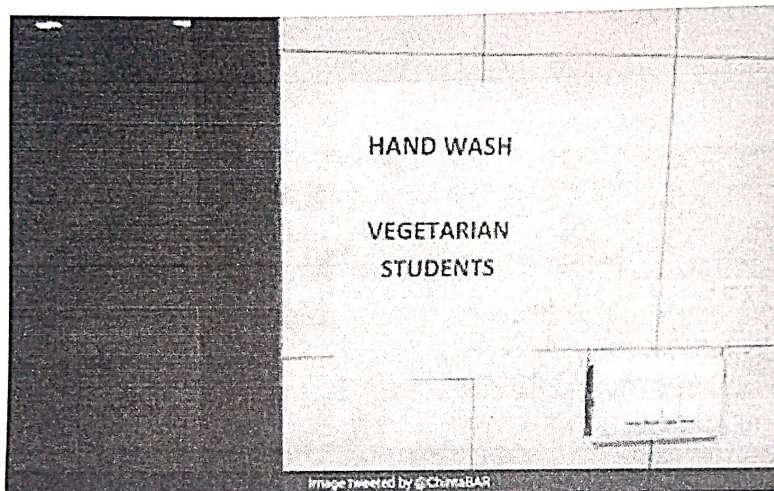
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At IIT-Madras, Row Over Separate Mess Entry For Veg, Non-Veg Students

A student said the posters had been put up near two entrances of the north Indian mess located on the second floor of Himalaya Mess Complex.

📍 South 🧑 Press Trust of India

🕒 Updated : December 14, 2018 07:02 pm IST



According to some students, there has been demand for a separate vegetarian mess.



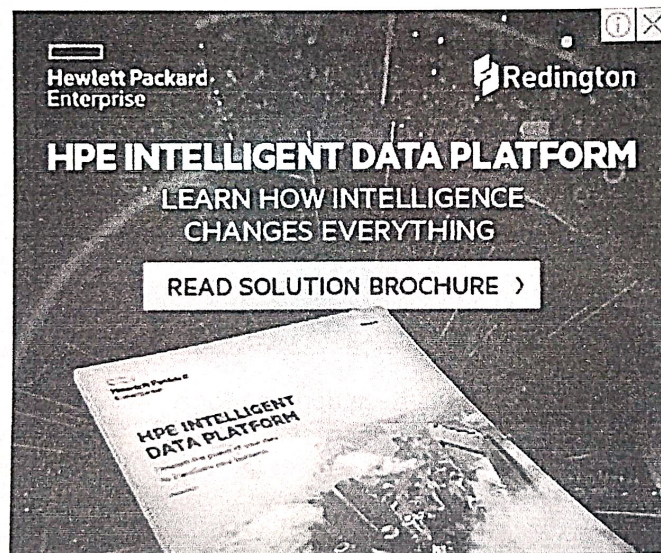
Chennai: Posters earmarking separate entry and exit points and wash basins for vegetarian and non-vegetarian students have been allegedly pasted at a mess of the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, kicking up a row with a section of students alleging discrimination.

While pictures of the posters bearing the name of a local caterer and pasted near the doors of the mess were circulated by some students on the social media, an official pleaded ignorance about them and said if found to be true the handbills will be removed.

A research scholar alleged that what started as a demand for a mess catering to 'pure' vegetarians last year had now become full-fledged untouchability'.

"This is the first time a mess has two separate entrances for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. Not just that, even separate wash basins and separate utensils as well," the student, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said.

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According to some students, there has been demand from a section of students for a separate vegetarian mess ever since the 'beef festival' incident in May last year.

A research scholar was allegedly thrashed for taking part in the 'beef festival' by some students claimed to be Sangh Parivar supporters.

'Untouchability at IIT Madras': Segregation of dining hall for 'pure vegetarian' students sparks row

RR North Indian Students Mess has designated separate entrances and even wash basins for vegetarian and non-vegetarian students.

S Senthilir

Dec 14, 2018 · 05:39 pm



An IIT Madras dining hall has separate entrances for vegetarian and non-vegetarian students. | Via Facebook

"Untouchability continues at IIT Madras!" The Ambedkar Periyar Study Circle, a progressive Dalit organisation, declared on their Facebook page on Thursday. Members of the group at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, were angered by the segregation of vegetarian and non-vegetarian students in a mess on the campus.

The group posted photographs of the mess hall, with separate entrances and food counters for

with separate entrances and food counters for vegetarian and non-vegetarian students, and plastered with signs reading "hand wash, vegetarian students", "entry/exit non-vegetarian students".

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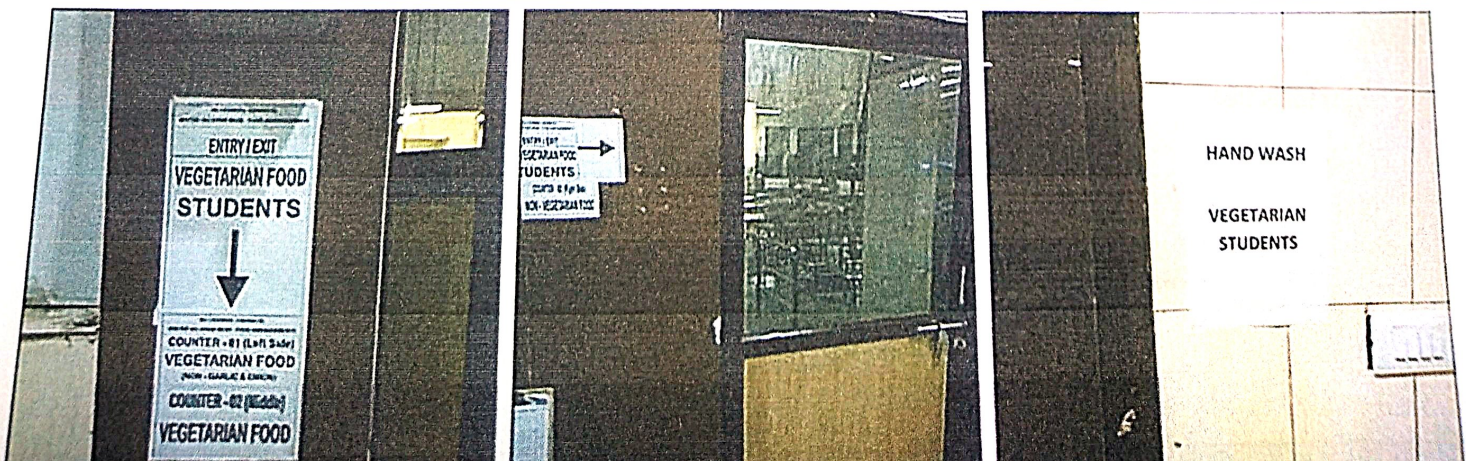
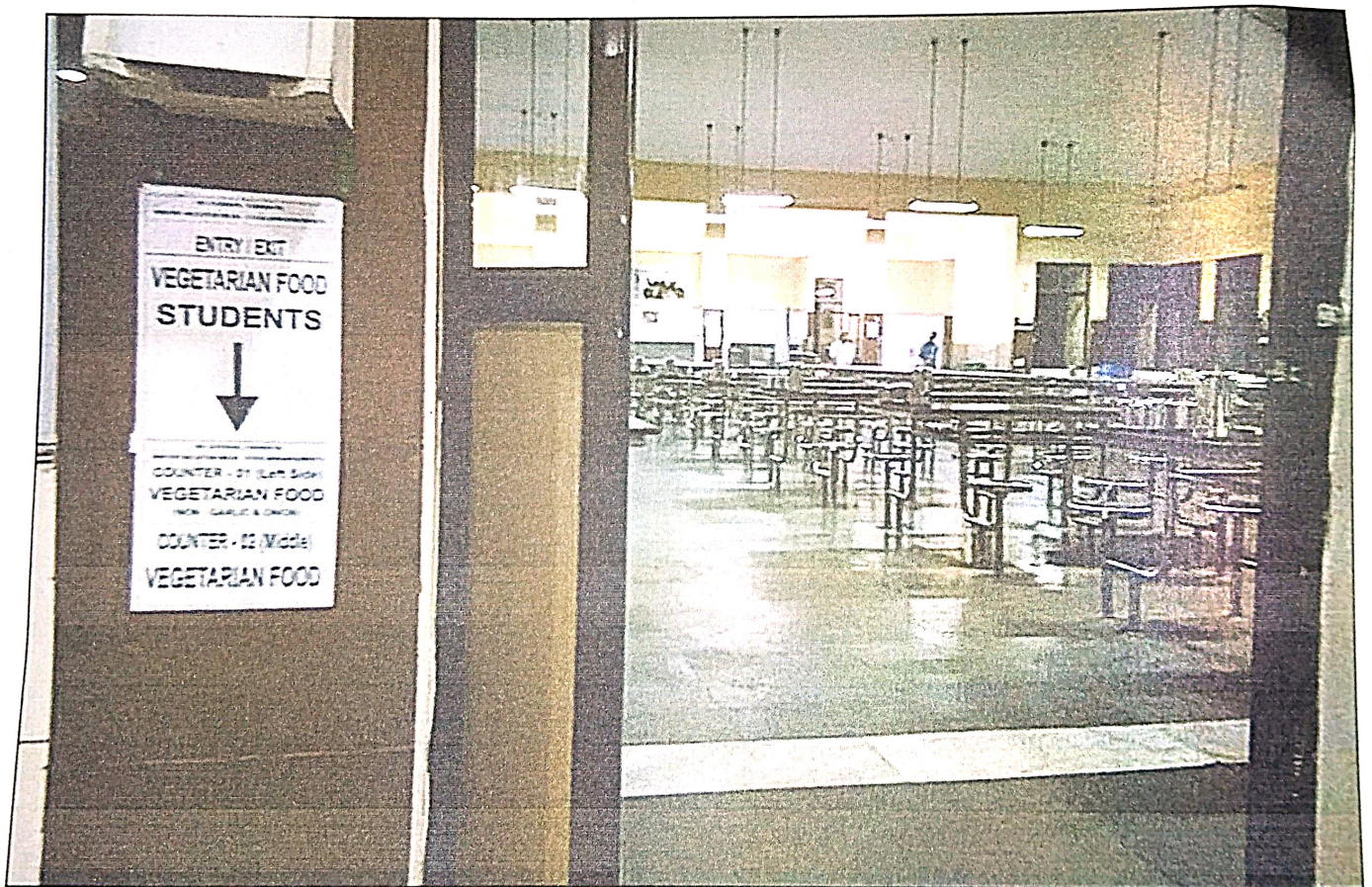
"Upper caste households in India would usually have two entrances, one for the upper castes, the other one in the back for the 'impure' lower castes," the group's Facebook post said. "A mess in IIT Madras is now having the same system. This mess has separate entrances for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. Not just that, separate wash basins and separate utensils as well. What started as a demand for 'pure' vegetarian mess has become full-fledged untouchability. IIT Madras is trying to become a world-class institute, but the culture inside is still regressive in many aspects!"



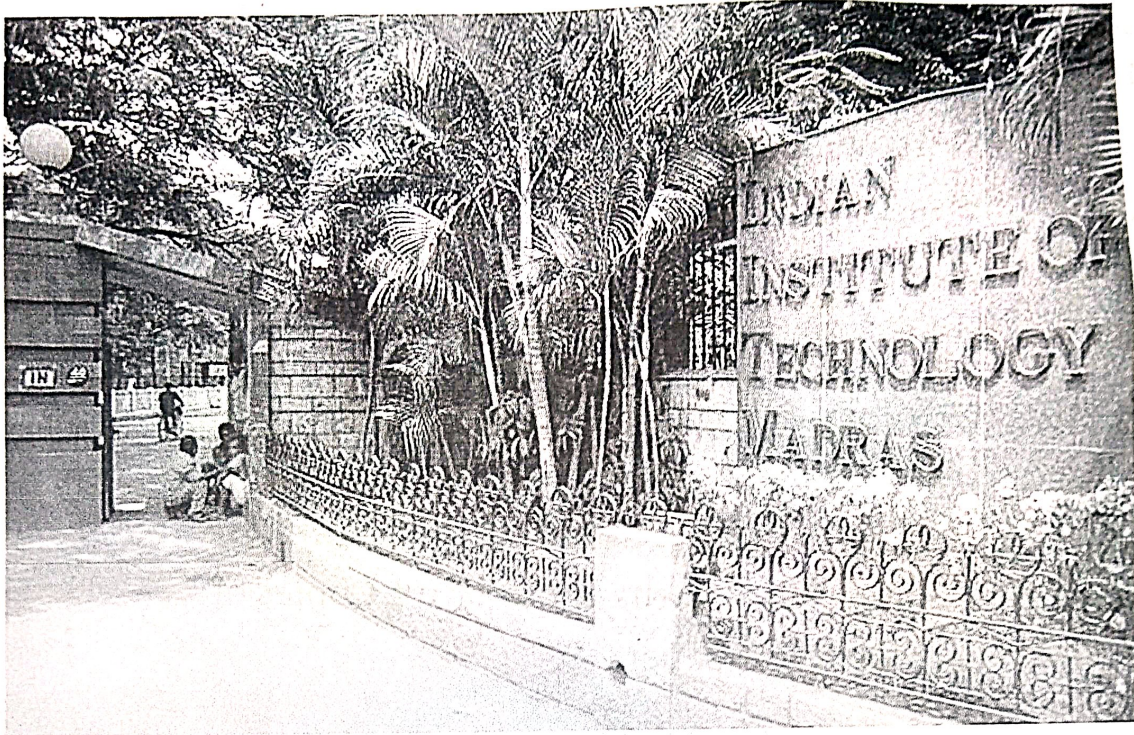
UNTOUCHABILITY CONTINUES AT IIT MADRAS!

Upper caste households in India would usually have two entrances - one for the upper castes and the other one in the back for the "impure" lower castes. A mess in IIT Madras is now having the same system.

This mess has two separate entrances for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. Not just that - separate wash basins and separate utensils as well. What started as a demand for "pure" vegetarian mess has become full-fledged untouchability. IIT Madras is trying to become a world-class institute, but the culture inside is still regressive in many aspects!



Govt. seeks action report on IITs' "tamsic" food



Pheroze L. Vincent

NEW DELHI:, OCTOBER 29, 2014 20:33 IST

UPDATED: JUNE 06, 2016 13:27 IST

RSS volunteer writes a letter to HRD Minister Smriti Irani

The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has forwarded a letter from a Madhya Pradesh based 'swayamsevak' to the directors of all 16 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). The letter from SSK Jain, a grain trader from Katni in MP, is addressed to HRD Minister Smriti Irani, with copies marked to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah. He accuses IITs of giving "kusanskar" or "bad culture of the West to students through food."

He writes, "The children who have started practicing non vegetarianism have saddened their parents by their 'tamsic' behaviour... It is the call of the parents of India that IITs and other institutions segregate their dining halls for vegetarians."

Tamsic refers to foods like meat, onion, garlic and alcohol which are considered dullness inducing in Hindu scriptures. Saatvic refers to others foods which are not prohibited for consumption.

The letter, in Hindi, was forwarded by Undersecretary AK Singh to the IITs with a covering letter, also in Hindi, on October 15. It asks the directors to keep the ministry informed of action taken on the above letter. Copies of both letters are with this paper.

IIT Madras Director Bhaskar Ramamurthi told this paper that the institute already has a separate vegetarian mess. "We have 12 messes that cater to more than 8000 students. There are different messes for Telugu cuisine, North Indian food and so on. A few years back there was a demand from a few students for a vegetarian mess, so one of the 12 messes was made exclusively vegetarian. More than 400 students use this mess," he told *The Hindu* over phone.

Neither Ms. Irani nor Higher Education Secretary Satyanarayan Mohanty responded to queries from this paper. Mr. Jain told this paper that he has admitted his son, who is studying accountancy in Indore, in a dharamshala that serves vegetarian food.