

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE**  
**(Health-IV Branch)**

In continuation of office order no. PS/SHFW/2020/225, dated 21.03.2020, Wheat under NFSA Act, 2013 is being distributed to the targeted beneficiaries through ePos devices and all these beneficiaries are required to put finger prints on these machines for their biometric authentication. However in order to ensure proper implementation of precautionary measures to break the chain of likely spread of COVID-19 in the State of Punjab, it is felt necessary to immediately suspend such biometric authentication. As such to ensure better prevention of spread of novel Corona Virus (COVID-19), the following directions are issued under Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 to Department of Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs.

The biometric authentication of NFSA beneficiaries through ePoS devices at Fair Price Shops (FPS) during distribution of wheat shall remain suspended/discontinued till 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2020.

**Dated:, Chandigarh**  
**1<sup>st</sup> April, 2020**

**Anurag Agarwal, IAS**  
**Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab**  
**Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare**

**No. 14/7/2020-4HB-IV/Spl.III**

**Dated, Chandigarh 01.04.2020**

Copy of the above is forwarded to following :

1. Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab for information.
2. Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab Department of Food and Civil Supplies for further necessary action.

  
**Secretary Health & Family Welfare**