

**CM's due letter to Union Food Minister**

Due to recent landslides in North Cachar Hill, the rail and road connectivity with Tripura has been cut off from the rest of the country which affected the induction of PDS foodgrains in the State.

2. As a matter of fact, 100% of the State's present requirements of the PDS food grains are met through rail network. But due to collapse of the railway track of Lumding Badarpur section coupled with cutting off surface communication, the availability of PDS foodgrains in the State has been severely affected. As on 17.06.2022, about 6100 MT issuable PDS Rice is available with FCI in the State whereas the State present monthly requirement under regular PDS Scheme & Pradhan Mantri and Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) is about 32000 MT. With present available Stock, the demand of the State under PDS and PMGKAY can be met only for 05 days which is matter of serious concern.
3. As the extent of damage of rail tracks at Lumding-Badarpur section of NF railway is very severe, it may take months for resumption of normal rail traffic movement, on the other hand, due to extreme damage of NH-06 in Meghalaya State, the movement of vehicular traffic has also been disrupted. This being the situation, alternative arrangement bringing the PDS foodgrains into the State is not made right in time, there is every possibility that the State may face acute PDS food grains crisis in the coming days.
4. In view of the above, I earnestly draw your kind attention to advise the FCI to initiate induction of foodgrains into the State through Ashuganj River port of Bangladesh. The route was also earlier used for induction of foodgrain in the State during the year 2016. The Sate Govt. shall render all possible support to the FCI for managing the shipment of cargo.