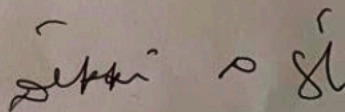


**CLARIFICATION ON NEWS ITEM CARRIED IN THE ENGLISH  
DAILY, THE SHILLONG TIMES DATED 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

As per the news item referenced above, the Assam Police had seized rice from a godown in Assam. The rice is claimed to have been allocated to Continental Milkcoase Ltd. by FCI Shillong through the Social Welfare Department.

In this regard, it is hereby clarified that the Government of India allocates rice under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) to different States. The Directorate of Social Welfare in turn allocated the rice to the approved manufacturer (Continental Milkcoase Ltd) which was lifted from the FCI godown. The manufacturer then processes it into a variety of ready to eat fortified food products in the factory which is supplied to the Anganwadi Centres under the Nutrition Programme. There has been no instance of non-supply of food items so far, and complete indented quantities have been received. The Directorate of Social Welfare has been sending random samples of the food items for lab analysis and quality testing from time to time to ensure that the food items supplied is not of sub-standard quality and conforms to the nutritional norms.

The Department is awaiting official letter from the concerned I.O/Assam Government for enquiry and further appropriate action against the supplier.



(Shri. D. D Shira)  
Director of Social Welfare  
Meghalaya, Shillong