

CHAPTER 18

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The Public distribution system (PDS) in Delhi is established under the Department of Food & Civil Supplies. Delhi was the first state to implement the National Food Security Act, 2013 w.e.f. 1st Sept. 2013 soon after enactment of NFS Act, 2013 by Government of India. Department of Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs of Delhi is to ensure food security for the state through timely and efficient procurement and distribution of food grains.

- 1.2 The Public Distribution System in Delhi distributes 5 kg food grains (4 Kg wheat and 1 Kg Rice per person per month) to all food card holders and 01 kg sugar to only Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) card holders under the NFS Act, 2013. Also under the scheme One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) average number of 5,21,994 migrants received ration in 2022-23. F&S Department has distributed dry ration/food grains free of cost to needy persons of vulnerable section of society & economically weaker sections who don't possess ration cards especially migrant laborers, construction workers, unorganized workers and domestic help to mitigate their sufferings and hardships arising out of lockdown announced in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. Each beneficiary were provided food grains equivalent to same entitlement as under NFS Act 2013.
- 1.3 Keeping in view the importance and need for promotion of consumer awareness and protection of their rights and Consumer Dispute Redressal, Government has designated Delhi Public Grievance Commission as the State Food Commission for effective and timely redressal of grievances of beneficiaries. Many reform measures are taken by GNCTD to make the PDS more transparent like issuing SMS alerts to the beneficiaries and setting up helpline numbers i.e. 1967 & 1800-110-841 for attending complaint / grievance from public.
2. **Entitlement of beneficiaries:** The beneficiaries are entitled to food grains under different categories as per statement 18.1.

STATEMENT 18.1

FOOD GRAINS ENTITLEMENT OF BENEFICIARIES PER MONTH AND THE RATE

S. No.	Commodity	Category	Quantity	Rate (Per kg)
1	Wheat	AAY	25 Kg/Per Card	2.00
		PR	4 Kg/Member	
2	Rice	AAY	10 Kg/Per Card	3.00
		PR	1 Kg/Member	
3	Sugar	AAY	1 Kg/Per Card	13.50

Note: AAY- Antyodaya Anna Yojana, PR- Priority Household category.

3. STATUS OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN DELHI

3.1 Public Distribution network of GNCTD comprising of around 2000 Fair Price Shops (FPS) across the Delhi catering to 72.78 lakh populations through 17.80 lakh digital food security cards as on 31st March 2022. These Food Security Ration Cards are Aadhar enabled. The Department of Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs has been undertaking verification of beneficiary data from time to time as mandated under NFSA. The number of Fair Price Shops and the total number of Ration Cards issued by GNCTD in the last 9 Years is given below in statement 18.2

STATEMENT 18.2

DETAILS OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN DELHI: 2013-14 to 2021-22

S. No.	Years	No. of Ration Cards (in lakh)	No. of Fair Price Shops (FPS)
1	2013-14	17.79	2396
2	2014-15	17.00	2310
3	2015-16	19.50	2283
4	2016-17	19.41	2254
5	2017-18	19.41	2210
6	2018-19	17.17	2057
7	2019-20	17.50	2029
8	2020-21	17.77	2000
9	2021-22	17.80	2009

The number of fair price shops in Delhi in March 2022 is 2009 and on an average, each fair price shops have about 886 Ration Cards in March 2022. District-wise distribution of ration cards and fair price shops is presented in statement 18.3

STATEMENT 18.3

DISTRICT-WISE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN DELHI -2021-22

S. No.	Districts	No. of FPS	Percent (%)	No. of ration cards	Percent (%)	No. of beneficiaries	Percent (%)
1.	CENTRAL	132	6.57%	134429	7.55%	525285	7.22%
2.	EAST	208	10.36%	162976	9.15%	675959	9.29%
3.	NEW DELHI	99	4.88%	84550	4.75%	339043	4.66%
4.	NORTH	161	8.02%	160685	9.02%	632909	8.70%
5.	NORTH EAST	318	15.84%	278296	15.63%	1174208	16.13%
6.	NORTH WEST	303	15.09%	311137	17.47%	1282365	17.62%
7.	SOUTH	256	12.75%	220655	12.39%	925345	12.71%
8.	SOUTH WEST	296	14.74%	236010	13.26%	946317	13.00%
9.	WEST	236	11.75%	191796	10.77%	776563	10.67%
	Total	2009	100 %	1780534	100 %	7277994	100 %

It can be seen from above Statement that the highest number of card holders were reported during 2021-22 in the North West District, whereas, the highest number of fair price shop are reported in the North East District of Delhi.

- 3.2 The information regarding the quantity of food grains and sugar allotted to Delhi and the distribution of the same through the public distribution system in Delhi during 2020-21 and 2021-22 is depicted in statement 18.4

STATEMENT 18.4

DISTRIBUTION OF CEREALS AND SUGAR THROUGH PDS IN DELHI DURING 2020-21 & 2021-22

(Quantity in '000 MT)

S. No.	Details	Items					
		Wheat (NFS)		Rice (NFS)		Sugar(Other than NFS)	
		2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22
1.	Quantity allocated/lifted	352.49	355.73	91.20	92.00	0.82	0.82
2.	Quantity distributed	351.51	351.60	90.95	90.97	0.80	0.75
3.	Percentage of Quantity Distributed	99.74	98.8	99.74	98.8	98.43	91.3

4. **Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)** is a step in the direction of making TPDS aim at reducing hunger among the poorest segments of the BPL population. In order to make TPDS more focused and targeted towards this category of population, the “Antyodaya Anna Yojana” (AAY) was launched in December, 2000 for the poor families who are unable to get two square meals a day on a sustained basis throughout the year and their purchasing power is so low that they are not in a position to buy food grains round the year. Under the Scheme, the poorest of poor who are at the starving threshold are being provided 35 kg of food grains (25 kg wheat and 10 kg rice) per month, wheat @ ₹ 2/- per kg and rice @ ₹ 3/- per kg. Under this scheme, 1 kg sugar per household per month @ ₹ 13.50/- per kg is also being provided to AAY card holders. As on 31st March 2022, total 68,670 families consisting of 2,80,940 members were beneficiaries under this scheme in Delhi.

5. Food Grains at BPL Rates to Welfare Institutions/Hostel Scheme

As per Government of India Scheme, Govt. of NCT of Delhi is providing food grains at BPL rates to destitute people living in the government owned / run welfare institutions and SC/ST & OBC hostels such as Bal Niketan, Children Home for Girls - I & II, Short Stay Home for Women, Widow Home for Women, After Care Home for Women, Observation Home for Girls, Nari Niketan, Balika Greh. The food grain is

made available at subsidized rates to these welfare institutions and hostels as per the allocation received from Government of India.

6. Technology Based Reforms To TDPS Undertaken By NCT of Delhi

(i) SMS Alerts Regarding Dispatch of Ration to FPS

In order to computerize Supply Chain Management of PDS operations, Specified Food Articles (SFA), off take module has been implemented in Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation. SMS alert is being sent to Vigilance Committee headed by the Hon'ble MLA of the area, Concerned FSO, Inspectors and Ration Cardholders who have registered their mobile numbers in the website, as and when SFA is dispatched from the godown. Any Ration cardholder can receive SMS pertaining to concerned FPS, by registering their mobile number on the link: www.nfs.delhigovt.nic.in.

(ii) E-Ration Card

Facility of e-ration card has been operationalized w.e.f. April 2015. About 17,96,830 Ration cardholders have availed the benefit by downloading the ration card from their respective places. This has brought transparency and efficient delivery of the facility of ration card to the beneficiaries.

7. PAHAL

PAHAL scheme was earlier launched on 1st June 2013. It required the consumer to mandatorily have an Aadhar Number for availing LPG Subsidy. After examining the difficulties faced by Consumers, the Government modified the scheme and re-launched it on 15.11.2014. Under the modified PAHAL Scheme, LPG Consumer can receive a subsidy in his/her bank account by two methods. Such a consumer is called CTC (Cash Transfer Compliant) once he / she join the scheme and is ready to receive a subsidy in the bank account. There are two options are available for getting subsidies as under:

- Option I (Primary): wherever Aadhaar number is available it will remain the medium of cash transfer. Thus, an LPG consumer who has an Aadhaar Number has to link it to the bank account number and to the LPG consumer number.
- Option II (Secondary): If LPG consumer does not have an Aadhaar number, and then he can directly receive the subsidy in his/ her bank account without the use of Aadhaar number. This option has been introduced through the modified scheme which ensures that LPG subsidy is not denied to an LPG consumer on account of non-availability of Aadhaar Number.

Status of PAHAL in Delhi as on 31st March 2022:

Total No. of LPG Consumers	5153511
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries (CTC Consumers)	4232378
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries seeded with Aadhar ATC (Number)	3969656
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries seeded with Aadhar ATC (%)	77%

8. Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

In order to address the food needs of PDS beneficiaries during the pandemic COVID-19 additional 5 kg of food grains (4 kg wheat and 1 kg rice) per beneficiary member per month and 1 kg dal per household per month was allocated by the Government of India to be provided free of cost to all NFS beneficiaries under PMGKAY (Phase-I & II) during April 2020 to November 2020. This scheme was again implemented by Govt. of India from May, 2021 to March, 2022 under PMGKAY (Phase-III, IV & V) wherein only 5kg food grains per beneficiary was provided free of cost to all NFS beneficiaries. During FY 2021-22, 99.6% foodgrains were distributed to the entitled beneficiaries out of total quantity lifted from Govt. of India.

9. Mukhya Mantri Corona Sahayata Yojana (Non-PDS Scheme)

F&CS Department has distributed dry ration/food grains free of cost to needy persons of vulnerable section of society & economically weaker sections who don't possess ration cards especially migrant labourers, construction workers, unorganized workers and domestic help to mitigate their sufferings and hardships arising out of lockdown announced in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. Each beneficiary was provided food grains equivalent to same entitlement as under NFS Act 2013 which is 5 kg food grains (4 Kg wheat and 1 Kg Rice per person per month). The scheme was dubbed as Mukhya Mantri Corona Sahayata Yojna. In the financial year 2020-21, under the Mukhya Mantri Corona Sahayata Yojna, 25261391 Kg of wheat and 6363118 Kg of rice were distributed to approximately 63.63 lakh beneficiaries. The distribution of food grains was made from 588 designated distribution location/Schools.

During the lockdown/curfew restrictions during the 2nd wave of Covid-19 pandemic in FY 2021-22, F&S Department distributed 5kg foodgrains /dry ration (4kg wheat & 1kg rice) free of cost to approximately 41.07 lakh needy persons of vulnerable section of society.

10. Market Intelligence Cell

The Marketing Intelligence Cell of Food Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, collects the rates of 22 essential commodities from three designated retail markets i.e. Yusuf Sarai (high value), Clock Tower (middle value), Shadara (lower value) and one wholesale market at Naya Bazaar, KhariBaoli through

a mobile app, i.e., Price Monitoring System, by Geo-Tagging the exact location for reporting the same to Government of India, Hon'ble LG, Hon'ble CM, Minister of GNCTD and Higher Authorities.

Further, wholesale rates of fruits and vegetables are collected from Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC), Azadpur Mandi & tabulated and conveyed to various Govt. Agencies through daily, weekly and monthly reports. For better price monitoring & evaluation, rates/prices of 22 essential commodities are collected on daily basis by the deputed field staff and also daily & weekly rates from Kendriya Bhandar. The GOI has introduced a portal of pulses and edible oil which is being monitored by this Branch. It is pertinent to mention here that this Branch has no jurisdiction on control of prices of essential commodities and vegetables.

11. One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)

Government of NCT of Delhi implemented ONORC w.e.f 19.07.2021 with installation of e-PoS devices at all Fair Price Shops for transparency & accountability in the operation of Public Distribution System. Since implementation, ration is being distributed in Delhi through e-PoS devices after biometric (Aadhar) authentication of beneficiaries. This scheme provides Intra-State and Inter-State portability of Ration Cards and enables migrant beneficiaries to access PDS benefits under NFS Act, 2013. As per IMPDS Portal of GoI which is for ONORC transactions, Delhi has the highest number of ONORC transactions which is around 70% of the entire Nation's transactions since the implementation of the scheme in Delhi. For information related to ONORC/portability of ration cards, a dedicated toll free no. 14445 has been enabled.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

➤	Delhi was the first state to implement the National Food Security Act, 2013 w.e.f. 1st Sept, 2013 soon after enactment of NFS Act, 2013 by Government of India.
➤	The Public Distribution System in Delhi distributes 5 kg foodgrains (4 Kg wheat and 01 Kg Rice per person per month) to all food card holders and 01 kg sugar to only Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) card holders under the NFS Act, 2013.
➤	The number of fair price shops in Delhi in March 2022 is 2009 and on an average, each fair price shops have about 886 Ration Cards in March 2022.
➤	Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) is a step in the direction of making TPDS aim at reducing hunger among the poorest segments of the BPL population. As on 31st March 2022, total 68,670 families consisting of 2,80,940 members were beneficiaries under this scheme in Delhi.

➤	As per Government of India Scheme, Govt. of NCT of Delhi is providing food grains at BPL rates to destitute people living in the government owned / run welfare institutions and SC/ST & OBC hostels such as Bal Niketan, Children Home for Girls - I & II, Short Stay Home for Women, Widow Home for Women, After Care Home for Women, Observation Home for Girls, Nari Niketan, Balika Greh.
➤	In order to address the food needs of PDS beneficiaries during the pandemic COVID-19 additional 5 kg of food grains (4 kg wheat and 1 kg rice) per beneficiary member per month and 1 kg dal per household per month was allocated by the Government of India, provided free of cost to all NFS beneficiaries under PMGKAY (Phase-I & II) during April 2020 to November 2020. During FY 2021-22, 99.6% foodgrains were distributed to the entitled beneficiaries out of total quantity lifted from Govt. of India.
➤	Delhi has the highest number of ONORC transactions which is around 70% of the entire Nation's transactions since the implementation of the scheme in Delhi.