



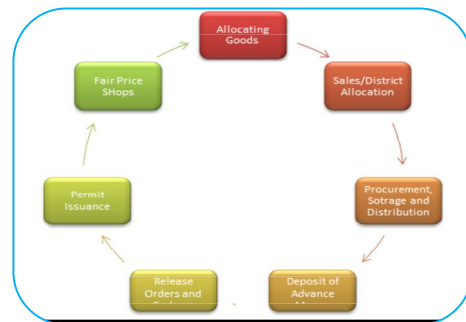
INDIA REJUVENATION IN TERMS OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITH REFERENCE TO CHHATTISGARH.

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ABSTRACT :

India rejuvenation is a term recently used to express the real development of our country, in all the spheres, i.e. economically, socially, culturally, politically, industrially, educationally, technologically, health-wise, infrastructure-wise, agriculturally, man-power management, many poverty alleviation programmes and schemes etc. The authors would like to focus on the achievements of Public Distribution system in Chhattisgarh, which has been appreciated by the Central Government and has been declared the ideal model for the country.



KEYWORDS : politically, industrially, educationally, technologically, health-wise.

INTRODUCTION :

The Public Distribution System (PDS) in India is one of the major welfare schemes in India. It provides social safety nets and food security to households by entitling eligible households to selected commodities at subsidized prices. Although the PDS is functioning for over 50 years, India has still the highest prevalence of malnutrition in the world, with 214 million undernourished people. Recently, the effectiveness of the PDS has also been questioned. Hence, this study analyses the effectiveness of the PDS as a social safety net measure in addressing food insecurity. According to International Food Policy Research Institute's Global Hunger Index for 2010, India is ranked a poor 67th in battling hunger. It is among 29 countries with the highest level of hunger, stunted children and poorly fed women.

Let us try to pin-point the achievements of the state, Chhattisgarh in this regard. On 13th August 2017, the Newspaper Haribhoomi page no. 8, published the following points which are worth mentioning here. This is how the state Chhattisgarh has become the role model of PDS in the country.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Chhattisgarh is the first state, who passed the Food Security Act and Nutrition Security Act in the Vidhansabha in the year 2012 and ensured food for all poor people in the state.
2. Along with the PDS, the production of paddy is being actualized on the basis of Minimum Support Price. There is a total number of 12000 plus fair price shops through which more than 58 lacs poor people are the beneficiaries getting one (01) kg rice for one (01) rupee. Due to this there is no migration at all.

3. Priority-wise the family having Blue card gets 7 kg per member for Rs. 01 (one) and the families having Yellow card get 35 kg per family for one rupee per month.
4. In the tribal area 2 kg of salt is given to each family and in the non-scheduled area, one kg salt is provided per family free of charge.
5. Ration card has been prepared under the food act for all beneficiaries.
6. For the sake transparency in the ration distribution and paddy production, the system has been computerized since 2008.
7. In the year 2017-18 it has been declared by the state government that about 8000 handicapped persons will be provided rice free of charge.
8. If there is any complaint against the system, the citizens can dial on the toll free number 18002333663 or dial 1967 and get the solutions.

PROBLEMS:

1. Corruption from top to bottom level.
2. Collapsed monitoring system.
3. Shortage of food materials.
4. Strict rules and regulations on the PDS.

SUGGESTIONS

* Majority beneficiaries in the study regions have given their views on maintaining proper monitoring system to keep track of the transport system which carry PDS materials from Food Corporation of India (FCI) godown to distribution centers (PDS).

* Around 80 per cent suggested for strengthening of monitoring system through consumer representative participation and recommended to place monitoring reports in the public domain for maintaining transparency.

* All the respondents from the study regions expressed to increase the quantity of food grains under PDS. Around 47 per cent people suggested that supply should be in different spells in a month which help the consumers to buy maximum quantity entitled to them based on availability of money. Sixty nine percentage of study population suggested to update the BPL status in order to avoid inclusion and exclusion errors in the scheme.

* Attempts to include more commodities under 'food subsidy cover' should be considered.

* The beneficiaries have to be allowed to buy the PDS materials any day in a month subject to their time, availability and money.

* The timing of the PDS centers has to be changed according to the convenience of the customers, preferably in the evening so that beneficiaries may not lose their wage.

* Proper announcement has to be made about the day-to-day stock and dates of distribution.

* BPL survey has to be conducted periodically for updating the BPL status to avoid inclusion and exclusion errors.

CONCLUSION

The overall conclusion of the study is that, AAY is the important program which is helping to the poorest of the poor people. Most of the respondent suggested that, there should be more numbers of items for distribution i.e. wheat, salt, detergents, cooking oil, pulses and some economic support to buy green vegetables. in spite of all these things, they need basic literacy at least to understand about the Government program. So, the fact is that, working of AAY is quite well in urban and rural area of Raigarh, district.

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