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## AN EFFECTIVENESS OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN RURAL HARYANA: A CASE STUDY OF PALWAL DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

**T**he present paper is an attempt to check the effectiveness of public distribution system in Palwal district of Haryana. Public distribution system is a mechanism to safeguard the society which is living below poverty line (BPL). This study is based on primary survey in Palwal district of Haryana. Only percentage and two way tables are used in the study. Effectiveness of FPS's is checked on the basis of timely delivery, quality, weight, monthly quota as allotted, price chart, information etc.

**KEYWORDS :** public distribution system ,below poverty line (BPL). ,market mechanism .

### INTRODUCTION

The intervention of the state in the free market mechanism through public policy has become an inevitable component of modern welfare government. In order to correct imperfections in market dynamics of distribution positive interventions of the state through public policy in one of the important instruments. Through the system of public distribution, it is attempted to help poor and vulnerable sections of the society from spiraling inflation, chronic and deep rooted poverty and widespread socio-economic

inequalities which have been offshoots of market imperfections. Distribution in the most important and even challenging functions of marketing management. Moreover, it is directly related to the objective of social justice. This challenge becomes more intense and important specially in the distribution of essential commodities because of difference in basic motivation of work.. In case of essential articles, the basic motivation required in service rather than profit. The ultimate objective of any good distribution system in the attainment of consumer satisfaction on price, supply and service front.

This PDS also attempts to achieve more or less the same objectives.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The present study is based on primary survey conducted in Palwal district of Haryana. The district is divided in three zones as based on tehsils and two villages from each zone were selected on the basis of total population of the village 1 village which has maximum population in the tehsil and 2 which have minimum no of population in the tehsil. A sample of 10 beneficiaries ( 5 B P L + 5 A A Y ) w a s interviewed to check the effectiveness of PDS and functioning of FPS's in this area. Therefore a sample of 60 beneficiaries is collected and the responses were recorded with the help of a well structured schedule.



Study Area: the study area is 21st district of Haryana is palwal. It is situated in the southern part of Haryana. It is divided in three 'Tehisls' i.e. Palwal, Hodal and Hathin. It has 4 assembly seats and lok sabha seat is shared with Faridabad district. Total area is 1359km<sup>2</sup>. Total population is 10, 40,493...sex ratio is 879 and population density is 770km/. It is situated on NH-2. Main crops in this area are wheat, rice and sugarcane as irrigation facilities in this district is quite sound.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- i) To study the socio economic condition of BPL and AAY in the district.
- ii) To study problems and prospects of PDS in the district.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A sample size of 60 households were interviewed with the help of a schedule and information from 60 beneficiaries was collected (30BPL and 30AAY). The results of the study are as:

Table no 1(Caste wise distribution of sample households)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
GEN	3	8	11
SC	23	13	36
BC	4	9	13
TOTAL	30	30	60

SOURCE: primary survey

It is clear from the above table that majority of sample of BPL & AAY falls in the category of 'SC' i.e..32 out of 60 households and 17 families out of 60 were in 'BC' category.

Table no 2 (Gender wise distribution of sample households)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
Male	78 (53.06%)	68 (50.37%)	146
Female	69 (46.93%)	67 (49.62%)	136
Total	147	135	282

SOURCE: primary survey

On the basis of data collected from the study area, total population of the sample area was 282 . 146 of them were male & 136 were female. In AAY 53.06% were male and 46.93% were female. In BPL 50.37% were male and 49.62% were female.

Table no. 3 (Education wise frequency distribution of sample households)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
Illiterate	60 (59.40%)	61 (40.93%)	121(48.4%)
Literate(R&W)	23 (22.77%)	36 (24.16%)	59 (23.6%)
Middle	11	19	30
Matric	4	18	22
More	3	15	18
0-6 age	17	15	32
Total	118	164	282-32=250

SOURCE: primary survey

On the basis of the data collected, 59.40% people of AAY beneficiaries were illiterate and 40....% people of BPL were illiterate. Only....% of AAY people were getting studies more than 8th class and .....% of BPL were studying 8th class or more. Children under the age group 0-6 were not taking into consideration of literate & illiterate both.

Table no 4. (Occupation wise distribution of sample households)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
Agriculture	...	3	3
Agri- labour	19	21	40
Non-agri labour	43 (37.39%)	52 (38.52%)	95 (38%)
Self employed	20	18	38
Artistian	5	10	15
Students	19	24	43
Others	9	7	16
0-6	17	15	32
Total	132	150	282

SOURCE: primary survey

43 out of 115 i.e. 37.39% of AAY & 38.52% of BPL people were engaged in non agricultural labour like MNREGA and others and only 3 people were engaged in their own agriculture works.

Table no. 5 (Response of the households regarding regularity of FPS's)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
Regular	17	16	33
Irregular	13	14	27
Total	30	30	60

SOURCE: primary survey

In totality, researcher surveyed the entire 60 households in the study area(30AAY+30BPL). He found that 33 out of 60 replied that they purchase regularly and 27 household response irregularity in purchasing articles from FPS's.

Reasons of irregularity: when the respondents were asked the reason of their irregularity in purchasing of essential goods from FPS's. their perception was as:

Particular	No. of families
Lack of money at allocating time	10
Information not given to them	6
Busy at other place	4
Quality of goods	5
Others	2
Total	27

SOURCE: primary survey

Table no. 6 (Price chart maintained at FPD's)

Particular	AAY	BPL	Total
Yes	12	10	22
No	18	20	38
Total	30	30	60

SOURCE: primary survey

22 out of 60 beneficiaries responded that there is a price chart at Fair Price Shop's and 38 replied no price chart at FPS's.

#### SUMMARY:

- i) Only 12 households out of 60 responded to increase the quantity of kerosene oil 6 litre to 7 litre and remaining 48 out of 60 beneficiaries responded that wheat and sugar should be substituted to kerosene oil because they depend more on dung cakes for energy fuel in rural area.
- ii) Only 20 out of 60 households were satisfied with the quantity of sugar distributed through PDS at FPS's and 32 families responded to increase the quantity of sugar i.e. 2kg to 5kg/ month.
- iii) 21 out of 30 AAY and 24 out of 30 BPL families were not satisfied with the quality of wheat given through FPS's
- iv) Only 17 AAY and 13 BPL families were satisfied with the quantity of food-grains distributed through PDS

PDS can be said successful in the case of kerosene oil and have shown failure in case of both wheat/rice and sugar as it does not meet the domestic requirement of households. The amount of essential goods distributed through FPS's under PDS should be based on the number of members in the family. There should be a fixed time and date of distribution at FPS's.

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