

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

1. Public Distribution System is an important government intervention for supply of foodgrains to the poor at a subsidized price. It acts as tool to control open- market prices for commodities that are distributed through the system. Government of NCT of Delhi facilitates supply of food grains to around 72.48 lakh poor people through a network of 2254 Fair Price Shops at a subsidized price on a recurring basis. Delhi Government has so far issued 19.40 lakh National Food Security Smart Cards to eligible families covering total beneficiaries of 72.48 lakh as on 31st March 2017. Almost all the digital Food Security Cards are Aadhar enabled. Delhi was one of pioneer state in implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013 w.e.f. 1st Sept. 2013 soon after enactment of NFSA, 2013 by Government of India.
2. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. Of India, in the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order dated 20th March 2015 has earmarked the targeted beneficiaries for Delhi as 72.78 lakh including 1.57 lakh families under AAY category (Antyodaya Anna Yojana) and the balance beneficiaries under Priority Categories. The National Food Security Act, 2013 is an important legislation which marked Shift in the right to food as a legal right rather than a general entitlement and gave statutory backing to the Targeted Public Distribution System. In terms of the provision of the Act, the beneficiaries are classified into two categories i.e. Priority category (entitlement), and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY; higher entitlement).
3. Department of Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, manages the public distribution system in Delhi. At present, public distribution system in Delhi is for distribution of wheat and rice to all Food Card holders under NFS Act and Sugar to AAY card holders. Govt. of Delhi has taken a number of initiatives to make the public distribution system most efficient and transparent by taking a number of steps like automation and biometric authentication in dispensing food grains through Point of Sale Machines in Fair Price Shops, developing Mobile Application like Ration Card Portability service, Issuing e-Ration Cards, sending SMS to the registered mobile numbers of the beneficiaries. Government has also designated State Grievance Commission as the State Food Commission for effective and timely redressal of grievances of beneficiaries.
5. The food entitlement to various categories of beneficiaries under Targeted Public Distribution System is given in statement 18.1:

Statement 18.1

Food Grains Entitlement of beneficiaries per month and the Rate

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

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

6. The number of fair price shops and total number of ration cards issued by GNCTD in last 07 years is given in Statement 18.2.

Statement 18.2

DETAILS OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN DELHI-2010-2017

S.No.	Years	No. of Ration Cards (in thousands)	No. of Fair Price Shops (FPS)	Licensed Shops for Kerosene
1	2010-11	3226	2474	2365
2	2011-12	3339	2498	2361
3	2012-13	3435	2479	1829
4	2013-14	1779	2396	Nil
5	2014-15	1700	2310	Nil
6	2015-16	1950	2283	Nil
7	2016-17	1940	2254	Nil

7. It may be seen from the Statement 18.2 that the number of Ration Card holders dropped significantly from 34.35 lakh in 2012-13 to 17.79 lakh in 2013-14 due to implementation of National Food Security Act in Delhi w.e.f. September 2013. This is due to exclusion of non-entitled beneficiaries from the total beneficiaries. Mainly due to ceiling of annual income of ₹ 1 lakh & other exclusion criteria under priority Group (PR) and eligibility of AAY beneficiaries. There is no licensed shop for distribution of Kerosene under TPDS in Government of NCT of Delhi since Delhi had become Kerosene Free City in 2013-14.

8. The number of fair price shops in Delhi as on 31st march, 2017 was 2254 and on an average each fair price shops has about 861 ration cards as on 31st March, 2017.

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 2016-17

S.No.	Districts	Ration cards	Per cent	FPS	Percent	Members	Percent
1	North East	298426	15.38	341	15.12	1153865	15.91
2	East	181961	9.37	237	10.51	706082	9.74
3	Central	142320	7.33	156	6.92	503069	6.94
4	South West	274507	14.14	321	14.24	1005771	13.87
5	South	230329	11.87	284	12.59	878897	12.12
6	New Delhi	86825	4.47	127	5.63	317000	4.37
7	West	220260	11.35	273	12.11	826107	11.39
8	North West	325408	16.77	319	14.15	1210979	16.7
9	North	180123	9.28	196	8.69	646615	8.92
	Total	1940159		2254		7248385	

9. It may be observed from Statement 18.3 that the highest number of cards during 2016-17 was in North West District of Delhi, while, highest number of Fair Price Shops is in North East District. The information regarding quantity of cereals and sugar allotted to Delhi and the distribution of the same through the public distribution system in Delhi during 2016-17 is depicted in statement 18.4.

Statement 18.4

DISTRIBUTION OF CEREALS AND SUGAR THROUGH PDS IN DELHI 2015-16 & 2016-17

(In Quintal)

S. NO.	Details	Items							
		Rice		Wheat		Sugar			
		2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17
I	Quantity Allotted								
	OTHER THAN NFS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil			191172.06	190636.97
	NFS (AAY+PRS+PR)	867624.06	925325.83	3334023.49	3566067.22			Nil	Nil
	Total	867624.06	925325.83	3334023.49	3566067.22			191172.06	190636.97
II	Quantity Lifted for Distribution								
	OTHER THAN NFS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil			189915.3	189915.3
	NFS (AAY+PRS+PR)	866405.96	925291.67	3329177.86	3565943.55			Nil	Nil
	Total	866405.96	925291.67	3329177.86	3565943.55			189915.3	189915.3
III	Percentage Distributed								
	OTHER THAN NFS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil			99.34	99.62
	NFS (AAY+PRS+PR)	99.85	99.99	99.85	99.99			Nil	Nil

10. It may be seen from the table above that the cent percent food grains of rice and wheat lifted by the Government were distributed to the beneficiaries under NFS. Distribution of sugar during 2016-17 is also near to 100%.

11. Antyodaya Anna Yojana

The Scheme is for the poorest section of population 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 even at BPL rates. 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. Total 74,494 families are under this scheme.

12.. **Food Grains at BPL Rates to Welfare Institutions**

As per Government of India Scheme, Govt. of NCT of Delhi is providing food grains at BPL rates to destitute people living in welfare institutions such as beggar home, hostels for SC/ST & OBC student, home for street children, neglected and delinquent and abandoned children, juvenile, older persons, nari niketan etc. The food grain would be made available to these welfare institutions, depending on the rates at which the allocation is received from Government of India. Nineteen such institutions are registered with the Department of Food and Supplies, Govt. of NCT of Delhi under this scheme and 4218 inmates are getting benefit under this scheme.

13. **KEROSINE FREE CITY – LPG CONNECTION FOR EWS**

Govt. has decided to make Delhi as Kerosene Free City in the year 2012-13. Under this Scheme Govt. of NCT of Delhi provided free LPG connection with a LPG filled cylinder along with two burner chullah and other accessories to kerosene oil user cardholders. The scheme was launched on 21.08.2012. The total number of kerosene oil users as per e-PDS database in Delhi were 356395. The scheme has since been discontinued since September, 2013 and Delhi has been declared as “Kerosene Free City” in October 2013. Distribution of Kerosene oil in GNCT of Delhi under PDS has been stopped.

14. **DELHI STATE FOOD COMMISSION**

Govt. of Delhi is in the process of setting up of a State Food Commission and making it functional, in terms of the provision of National Food Security Act, to handle the grievance redressal mechanism and to address non-delivery of entitlements to the eligible beneficiaries. The Commission will monitor and review the implementation of NFSA in efficient and transparent manner. Presently State Grievance Commission has been designated to work as Food Commission.

15. **SMS ALERTS REGARDING DISPATCH OF RATION TO FPS**

Recently 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 card holders who have registered in the website, as and when SFA is dispatched from go-down. Any Cardholder can receive SMS pertaining to any FPS, by registering their mobile number on the link: www.nfs.delhigovt.nic.in

16. **POINT OF SALE DEVICE**

The project for installation of e-POS devices in all FPSs implemented through M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) who worked as System Integrator (S.I.) for execution of distribution of ration to all eligible beneficiaries through Aadhar enabled Point of Sale (AePOS) devices. In the month of January, 2018 total of 15,15,769 Card holders were distributed Food grains through e-PoS devices. The online monitoring is available to public on the portal <http://epos.hry.gov.in/dl> along with standard reports available with different parameters like stock register, allotment details, portability details, date-wise transactions detail, sale register, success & failure abstract of UIDAI, commodity allotment etc. The project is running successfully at all fair price shops and proving vital to eliminate bogus ration cards

17. RATION CARD PORTABILITY

For the ease of NFS beneficiaries, Department has introduced Ration Card Portability in Delhi. Under this scheme the beneficiaries can avail his/her entitlement of food grains from any FPS in Delhi. In the month of January out of 15.15 lakh card holders, 1.68 lakh Card holders availed ration through portability. This practice encourages FPS owners to provide better consumer service to attract more consumers through incentives.

18. e-RATION CARD

Facility of e-ration card has been operationlized w.e.f. April, 2015. About 10,40,095 ration card holders till date have availed the benefit by downloading the ration card from their respective places during last two years. This has brought transparency and efficient delivery of the facility of ration card to the beneficiaries.

19. PAHAL

19.1 PAHAL scheme was earlier launched on 1st June 2013. It required the consumer to mandatorily have an Aadhaar number for availing LPG Subsidy. After examining the difficulties faced by consumers, Government modified the scheme and re-launched it on 15-11-2014. Under the modified PAHAL Scheme, LPG Consumer can receive subsidy in his bank account by two methods. Such a consumer is called CTC (Cash Transfer Compliant) once he joins the scheme and is ready to receive subsidy in the bank account. Options are:

- 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, then he can directly receive subsidy in his bank account without the use of Aadhaar number. This option which has now been introduced in the modified scheme ensures that LPG subsidy is not denied to an LPG consumer on account of lack of Aadhaar number.

Present Status of Pahal in Delhi as on January 2018:

Total No. of LPG Consumers	48,15,849
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries(CTC Consumers)	38,83,456
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries seeded with Aadhaar ATC(Number)	36,64,536
Total No. of PAHAL beneficiaries seeded with Aadhaar ATC(%)	76.10%

: