

CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department has been rationalizing the distribution of PDS commodities allotted by Government of India to the APL, BPL and AAY categories of population through Fair Price Shops. Under the Public Distribution System, Rice Wheat, sugar, kerosene are regularly distributed.

In order to eliminate bogus cards, bio-metric smart cards is being issued to all eligible card holders. Surprise inspection and periodic raids are being conducted by the Food Cell Police to eliminate smuggling, illicit movement of essential commodities and to watch the supply of essential commodities to the eligible families properly. Further Onam Chanada and Deepavali Bazaar are being conducted every year as a market intervention activity through Civil Supplies Corporation (PAPSCO), thus reducing the escalation of price in the market. Financial Assistance is being released to M/s. PAPSCO, an implementing agency of this Department, to compensate the loss incurred in running Fair Price Shops and to conduct Deepavali Bazaar and Onam Chanda. It is proposed to issue 5 groceries at subsidized rates as a measure of market intervention. Under the Scheme Consumer Protection and Consumer Education, World and National Consumer Day are being celebrated to create consumer awareness among the public. Further for the sake of the poor families and to provide smoke free kitchen, this department has issued one LPG connection with stove and one cylinder at free of cost to the eligible BPL families.

As per the guidelines of UIDAI under the aegis of Planning Commission, the Aadhaar Project was inaugurated in the U.T. of Puducherry on 24.12.2011 with a target of about 12 lakhs population. As of now, around 9,00,000 Aadhaar enrolments have been generated. Once the Aadhaar cards issued this will facilitate integration of various services with easy access and will avoid duplication and false claim. That can also arrest drain of scarce resources to thereby ensuring flow of benefit to the targeted group.

The Smart Card Project will be completed and the PDS items will be issued under Bio-metric system to all the card holders. Further during this Five Year plan it is proposed to implement a new scheme for distribution of five groceries items to the card holders

ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2007-11

- Under the Scheme Expansion of Food Cell, regular inspections were conducted for curtailing black marketing and adulteration, prosecuting defaulters under the Essential Commodities Act. The Food Cell Police is an enforcement agency of this Department. During 2007-2011, the Food Cell Police had conducted inspections and raids and booked 131 cases. During this period two flying squads were formed in Food Cell. Their duty is to patrol at the border areas round the clock and ensure that no Essential Commodities are illegally transported across the border.
- Under the Public Distribution System, the main object is to distribute the essential commodities to the public through Fair Price Shops. During the years 2007-11, subsidy had been released to M/s. PAPSCO for supply of rice to APL, BPL and AAY families, transportation charges had been extended for the distribution of APL, BPL and AAY rice. From September 2010 onwards single boiled rice have been issued to the Card holders. During this Five Year period Electronic Weighing machines were provided in all the Fair Price Shops.
- Onam chanda had been conducted in Mahe region and Deepavali Bazaar have been conducted in Puducherry and Karaikal regions. Two Kgs. of free sugar had been issued to all the card holders during festival season as a good will gesture during Onam festival at Mahe and Deepavali festival at Puducherry and Karaikal regions. The above said activities are conducted every year and continued during the year 2011-12 also.
- In order to create awareness about the consumers problems relating to deficiency in service, unfair trade practice, adulteration, short weighing and misleading Advertisement, etc. this Department is conducting National Consumer Day and World Consumer Right Day Celebrations every year during the period 2007-11. Affected Consumer was advised to approach the District Forum and State Commission to redress their grievances. Financial Assistance was also granted to Voluntary Consumer Organisations to create awareness among consumers through street play, van programme, Demonstration Seminars etc. Further cash awards also distributed to the best V.C.Os.

- Financial Assistance is granted for the loss incurred by PAPSCO for running Fair Price Sops, for conduct of Deepavali Bazaar and Onam Chanda every year as a market intervention activity to reduce undue escalation of price in the market during the festival seasons. In order to ensure smoke free kitchen of BPL families this Department is implementing a scheme viz. “Supply of LPG connection with stove and a Gas cylinder to BPL families at free of cost”.
- During the year 2007-11, under this scheme 1,00,723 families were issued with Free LPG connection.

LIKELY ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2011-12

- It is proposed to book 20 cases under the Essential commodities Act .
- Under the Public Distribution System, single boiled rice have been issued to all card holders. Issue of Smart Cards under Bio-metric System have commenced to eliminate Bogus cards. Two Kgs. of free sugar had issued to all card holders at free of cost due to Deepavali and Puducherry and Onam in Mahe.
- National and World Consumer Day Celebrations have to be conducted in remote villages to create Consumer Awareness.
- Financial assistance will be issued to compensate the Loss in running FPS by M/s. PAPSCO. Deepavali Bazaar has been conducted to control the price hike during the festival time.
- It is proposed to issue 1242 Free LPG connections to the eligible Card holders.

PROPOSED TARGETS FOR 2012-13

- It is proposed to conduct surprise inspection, raids in the border areas and it is proposed to book 20 cases. It is also proposed to complete the issue of Bio-Metric Smart Card to all card holders in this Union Territory and thus eliminate all the Bogus cards.
- Under the Scheme Consumer Protection and Consumer Education National and World Consumer Days will be celebrated in remote villages to educate the people about the consumer awareness, malpractices and defects in measurements, etc.

- It is proposed to issue Grant-in-aid M/s. PAPSCO for conducting Deepavali Bazaar and also proposed to release Financial assistance to compensate the loss incurred in running Fair Price Shops by M/s.PAPSCO. Presently there is no storage facilities in Puducherry. The vegetables are being purchased on daily basis from remote places. As such controlling sudden escalation of price through market intervention becomes difficult. Hence it is proposed to release Financial Assistance to M/s.PAPSCO for construction of Cold Storage Godown and Storage Godown. It is also proposed to release Grant-in-Aid to PAPSCO to purchase seven lorries in order to the movement of PDS items.
- The Scheme Free Supply of LPG Connection to BPL families to issue LPG connections to the eligible BPL families will be wound up after 2012-13.
- It is proposed to implement a new scheme distribution of five essential commodities every month to all card holders at subsidised rate.
- Presently the distribution of PDS items is continued with lorries owned by PAPSCO, and lorries hired by Pondicherry Fair Price Shops Employees Cooperative Society. It is proposed to purchase 7 lorries during the year for distribution of PDS commodities. This will enable the department to regulate the distribution by monitoring through GPRS system installed in the lorry and painting the lorry with a peculiar color so as to distinguish the other lorries and the lorries carrying the PDS items.

OUTLAY AT A GLANCE

Sector : CIVIL SUPPLIES

No. of Schemes : 5

Department : CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(₹ in lakh)

Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12 Approved Outlay	:	10787.00
Annual Plan 2007-10 Actual Expenditure	:	3450.03
Annual Plan 2010-11 Actual Expenditure	:	1191.35
Annual Plan 2011-12 Approved Outlay	:	1742.16
Annual Plan 2011-12 Revised Outlay	:	1290.00
Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17 Tentative Outlay	:	19444.00
Annual Plan 2012-13 Proposed Outlay	:	3318.00

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Annual Plan 2010-11	Annual Plan 2011-12	Twelfth Plan 2012-17 (Tentative Outlay)	Annual Plan 2012-13
		Actual Expdr.	Approved Outlay	Proposed Outlay	Proposed Outlay
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)
1.	Expansion of Food Cell	26.10	26.40	150.00	27.96
2.	Expansion & Strengthening of Public Distribution System.	1035.79	1595.55	18541.20	2854.74
3.	Consumer Protection & Consumer Education Programme.	24.00	25.21	117.80	25.30
4.	Financial Assistance to PAPSCO	47.25	55.00	595.00	370.00
5.	Supply of LPG connection with Stove and Gas Cylinder to BPL family at free of cost	58.21	40.00	40.00	40.00
Total		1191.35	1742.16	19444.00	3318.00