

Problems and Prospects of Public Distribution System in Tumakuru District of Karnataka. State, India – A Case Study

Shilpashree T, Pallavi.S.Kusugal.

Research Scholar, Research Guide.

Department of Studies and Research in Economics

Tumkur University, Tumakuru.

ABSTRACT; Public distribution system (PDS) evolved as a system of management of scarcity and for distribution of food grains at an affordable price over the years. According to Prof. Kindleberger, 'Poverty is elsewhere, threads to prosperity are everywhere. This type of poverty is a very crucial situation; it has more in rural areas. India, one of the developing countries, most of the population lives in a condition where they haven't consumed proper nutrient food, so it turns into backwardness (compared to urban areas) and decreases their economic welfare. PDS is one of the instruments that convert people to remove their backwardness and increase their economic welfare.

Hence, here this paper focuses on PDS functions that help to solve problems and prospect development of PDS with special reference to Tumakuru district and this paper is based on secondary data.

Keywords; TPDS, Bio-metric system, Corruption, complaint.

Karnataka state, India.

Introduction.

The Public Distribution System is owned and run by Government authority because the ownership transfer to private sector; they want to maximize their profit through PDS, but PDS's main objective is to maximize the social welfare of the poor people in the society.

Public Distribution System (PDS) purchases food grains from farmers in the open market at a minimum support price and distributes such commodities to poor people at an affordable price so it helps to farmers and poor people also. So PDS protects farmers and poor people's welfare also; Government could hope to give indirect protection to all poor people.

There is a close link between Food Security, human rights, Rural health, Social – Economic development, and public distribution system (PDS). It covers almost the whole population in India. PDS distributes commodities worth more than Rs. 30,000 crores annually to about 160 million families and also PDS becomes the largest network in the world. According to the World Food Programme, 'nearly 50% of the world's population lives in India.

. According to Ashok Gulati, chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, "No promises on 'inclusiveness' and long-term food security will be sustainable unless growth in agriculture is propelled to more than 4% per annum." According to the above opinion of Ashok Gulati, this is a serious problem in this system; some major action is taken to avoid it.

Objectives

- 1) To study the role of PDS programmes.
- 2) To examine problems and prospects of PDS.
- 3) Suggest for improving PDS functions in study area.

Collection of the data

This article based on Primary data and Secondary data collected from various Journals, Books, and Government publications, visit Food office of Tumakuru, Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Survey.

Statement of the problem

‘Necessary food’ is play very important role in people’s healthy life and their long live also but large number of poor people lived in rural area they didn’t have proper nutrient food and necessary food so they physically became weak so they didn’t able to work hard that time their income decrease, it negatively influence on rural area people’s welfare finally Rural area became underdeveloped according to the above situation PDS is important institution it distribute nutrient food and also necessary food to the needed people and made them as physically and economically strong.

Tumakuru District of Karnataka is one of the large district now we discuss through PDS programmes.

History of Public distribution System.

PDS has evolved from the late 1930s into its current form. This system is an old system this is a problem because it don’t concenter present generation needs, it wants to modify; following table tells that developments related to PDS;

The below table explain the overall development of public distribution system.

Table no 1, Time line of PDS; 1940’s to present 2016

Evolution of PDS	Time line	Details
PDS	1940	Launched as general entitle scheme
Revamping of PDS	1991	It was felt that the rely vulnerable area and people not getting the desired benefits of PDS
TPDS	1997	PDS was revamped to target poor house holders
Antyodaya Anna Yojana	2000	Scheme launched to target the ‘poorest of the poor’.
PDS Control Order	2001	Ongoing case in supreme court contending that ‘right to food’ a fundamental right
National Food Security Act	2013	Act to provide legal right to food to the poor
Token system or biometric system in PDS	2016	System introduced to decreasing corruption in distributing of grains

Source; functioning of the public distribution system (Dec2013) –sakshiBalani

Table no1 explain about the history of PDS. Start from 1940 it modify year by year i.e., in 1991 Revamping of PDS was established, in 1997 TPDS, In 2000 AAY, In 2001 PDS control act ,in 2013 national security Act ,bio-metric system on 2016.

Process for identification of BPL families.

The main problem arise from criteria of selection the BPL families, this below table explain that process for identification of BPL families,

Table no – 2, Process for identification of BPL families

Authority	Role	Details
National Sample Survey Organisation.	Conduct sample survey of consumer expenditure every five years.	Consumer expenditure is the expenditure of a household on some basic goods and services. The expenditure on this basket of goods is the basis for the poverty line.
Planning Commission	Estimates state – wise poverty, i.e., the number of people below the poverty line.	Uses NSSO household expenditure data.
Central Government	Allocate the food grains to each state based on state-wise poverty estimates of planning commission and population projections of the register General of India as of March 2000.	The number of BPL families has been calculated using 1993-94 poverty estimates by planning commission. This number has not been revised despite the release of new poverty estimates by the planning commission in 2004-05 and 2011-12.
Ministry of Rural Development	Comes out with criteria for inclusion and exclusion from BPL list as part of its BPL census.	Criteria for classification of BPL families, as per BPL census 2002, include parameters like size of land holding, clothing owned, food security, means of livelihood etc.
State Governments	Identify eligible householders.	Bases on above criteria.

Source; Department of food and Public distribution; Planning commission; Ministry of Rural Development.

This above table explain that selection of BPL families states from NSSO survey, this survey report considered by Planning commission this approval by Central government and Ministry of Rural Development then finally State government identify eligible householders.

Technology –based reforms to TPDS undertaken by some states.

The following table shows highlights some IT-based reforms implemented by states and the challenges they address:

Table no -3, Technology – based reforms to TPDS undertaken by some states

Types of reforms	Benefits of reforms	States implementing reforms
Digitalisation of Ration cards.	- Allows for online entry and verification of beneficiaries data. - Online storing of monthly entitlement of beneficiaries, number of departments. Off take of food grains by	Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, etc.

	beneficiaries from FPS etc.	
Computerised allocation to FPS.	• Computerises FPS allocation, declaration of stock balance, web-based truck challans, etc. • Allows for quick and efficient tracking of transitions.	Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, etc.
Issue of smart cards in place of ration card.	• Secure electronic devices used to store beneficiaries data. • Stores data such as name, address, biometrics, BPL/APL category and monthly entitlement of beneficiaries and family members. • Prevents counterfeiting.	Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, etc.
Use of GPS technology.	• Use global positioning system (GPS) technology to track movement of trucks carrying food grains from state depots to FPS.	Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu
SMS based monitoring.	• Allows monitoring by citizens so they can register their mobile numbers and send/receive SMS alerts during dispatch and arrival of TPDS commodities.	Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh.
Use of web-based citizen's portal.	• Publications grievance redressal machinery, such as toll free number for call centres to register complaints or suggestions.	Chhattisgarh,

Source; functioning of the public distribution system (Dec2013) –sakshiBalani

This above table explain that Digitalization, Computerisation, using smart cards, GPS technology, SMS alert in PDS these are tells the Technology bases reforms in PDS this are available on some states.

Compliant against corruption.

Corruption is a very big problem in India, all sector of the economy facing a problem of corruption in recent days. Corruption is a main obstacle to Development, this is necessary to remove corruption for India become Development.

This corruption is arise in the PDS also this effect to common people of the society, and the poor people. 240 samples are considered for research on three taluks of Tumakuru district. This are discuss with a help of a below Table.

Table no-4, Compliant against corruption

Complaint against Corruption												
Food Office					L P L	Don't Compliant to anyone.				No-Idea		
Taluks	SC	ST	OBC	OTH	ST	SC	ST	OBC	OTH	SC	ST	OTH
Tumakuru	15 (6.25)	13 (5.41)	15 (6.25)	17 (7.08)	1 (0.41)	5	6	5	1	1	0	0

	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(2.08%)	(2.5%)	(2.08%)	(0.41%)	(0.41%)		
Madhugiri	16 (6.66%)	8 (3.33%)	13(5.41%)	8 (3.33%)	0	4 (1.66%)	11 (4.58%)	7 (2.91%)	12 (5%)	0	1 (0.41%)	0
Turuvekere	19 (7.91%)	20 (8.33%)	20	15 (6.25%)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.41%)		5 (2.08%)
TOTAL	50 (20.83%)	41 (17.08%)	48 (20%)	40 (16.66%)	1 (0.41%)	9 (3.75%)	17 (7.08%)	12 (5%)	13 (5.41%)	2 (0.83%)	1 (0.41%)	5 (2.08%)

Source; field survey.

This above Table explain that in Tumakurudistrict three taluks (Tumakuru, Madhugiri, Turuvekere) response of the beneficiaries about the corruption of the PDS system. more than 70% of the selected beneficiaries complaint to Food office, more than 20% of the beneficiaries Didn't compliant to anyone.

This are shows that PDS beneficiaries are illiterate, they have lack of knowledge, some people misguiding them and soon.., government must take this matter seriously and made implement to remove the corruption.

About Bio-metric System.

Bio –Metric System is a recent programme of PDS, Government introducing is to decrease the corruption. This system works as thumb impression of the beneficiaries collected then fixed quantity of the commodity released to such beneficiaries; this is a one of the important programme to decrease corruption. 240 samples are considered for research on three taluks of Tumakuru district. This are discuss with a help of a below Table.

Table no- 5,About Bio-metric System.

	Bio metric system decreases the corruption.							
	YES				NO	NO-IDEA.		
Taluks	SC	ST	OBC	OTH	OBC	SC	ST	OTH
Tumakuru	20 (8.33%)	20 (8.33%)	20 (8.33%)	18 (7.5%)	0	0	0	2 (0.83%)
Madhugiri	20 (8.33%)	19 (7.91%)	20 (8.33%)	20 (8.33%)	0	0	1 (0.41%)	0
Turuvekere	19 (7.91%)	20 (8.33%)	19 (7.91%)	15 (6.25%)	1 (0.41%)	1 (0.41%)	0	5 (2.08%)
TOTAL	59	59	59	53	1	1	1	7

	(24.58%)	(24.58%)	(24.58%)	(22.08%)	(0.41%)	(0.41%)	(0.41%)	(2.91%)
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Source; Field survey.

This Table explain that in Tumakuru district three taluks (Tumakuru, Madhugiri, Turuvekere) more than 95% of the selected beneficiaries reply that Bio- Metric System decrease the corruption in PDS, this type of programmes comes to existence, corruptions are removed completely.

Suggestions

Most of the population faced the problem of hanger at poor countries and also India. In India large number of population works hard every day for earn money to buy the food related commodities, related to its PDS play a very meaningful role. but it have some problems, to improve the current system of PDS the following are some suggestions that are,

- 1) PDS fair shops should digitalization.
- 2) PDS fair shops should adopt advanced technology that are Computerization using smart cards, GPS technology etc.
- 3) PDS beneficiaries can register their mobile numbers and send receive SMS alerts during dispatch and arrival of PDS commodities and also use of web-based citizen's partial such as toll free number for call centres to register complaints or suggestions.
- 4) Advanced technology in PDS adopt in some states but this reach to all states of the country.
- 5) Government conduct survey every year and also discuss with the poor people related to problem, prospects of PDS.
- 6) Government more focus on reduce poverty made them physically, economically strong and it contributes to economic development of the country also.
- 7) So government more priority to technology based reforms to PDS programmes like Digitisation, computerisation, Introduced Bio-metric system this type reforms comes as broadly.

Conclusion

Hence in the conclusion the public distribution system (PDS) is best instrument to overcome the poverty and to reduce income inequality among people. So government has to strengthen and made more powerful institution to made Public Distribution System(PDS) best tool.

Government institution, Government spends more income on PDS to improve the welfare of the poor people. India one of the developing country large numbers of the population. Tumakuru is a one of the agro-base and developing district, this district require reforms of PDS. So government focus more to Technological based reforms.

These studies mainly focus on problem and prospects of PDS. FOOD is a main thing it necessary to people of all sector of the country the stability of the economy based on the food availability and distribution, the main reason to terror and valance activity is availability of food, Food is a basic and necessary thing anyone can't live without food. So PDS became good instrument to decrease poverty.

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