

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY EFFECTS ON PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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Abstract

The Public Distribution System is the largest food distribution network in the world. It distributes food grains at a ridiculously low cost. In India, the public distribution scheme began as a Universal Program in the mid-1960s in response to food shortages. The International Food Policy Research Institute has classified the status of hunger into five category as low, restrained, grave, alarming and tremendously alarming. India get falls into the category of alarming status. The most important frontage contributing to this development is a non availability of basic requirements of food in India. The food security has lifted up to that is food security is the spinal yard of national wealth and well beings. Public distribution scheme was inefficient, with significant amounts of food not reaching targeted recipients and significant wastage, resulting in increased costs for marginal benefits. Food safety in India was a critical for developing industry standards that will improve the efficacy and efficiency of the public distribution system. The study is effectively analyzed the food security and safety through this study.

Keywords: *food security, food safety, public distribution*

The Public Distribution System is the largest food distribution network in the world. It distributes food grains at a ridiculously low cost. In India, the public distribution scheme began as a Universal Program in the mid-1960s in response to food shortages. It has been entirely dedicated to the poor since 1997, supplying maize, rice, sugar, and kerosene at significantly reduced prices to those living below the poverty line. The goal was to help very poor families purchase food grains at a reasonable price in order to improve their nutritional conditions and achieve food stability. The proposed scheme employed a two-tiered subsidized price structure: one for families living below the poverty line (BPL) and another for those living above the poverty line (APL).

The understanding of food anxiety has been originated to be harsher in low-income communities, and for those who already practiced in health facilities for poor health. While factors causative to scarcity are important when bearing in mind food insecurity, it is not the only determinant. Other influences include policy, the distribution of food across populations, countries, and regions, unbalanced political conditions, and climate change persuaded adverse environmental conditions including cruel droughts, lack of water, and soil degradation and soil erosion.

Why We Need Food Security?

The International Food Policy Research Institute has classified the status of hunger into five category as low, restrained, grave, alarming and tremendously alarming. India get falls into the category of alarming status. The most important frontage contributing to this development is a non availability of basic requirements of food in India. It has been observed that the use of food, in terms of nutrition and quantity, is lacking far behind. According to the study conducted by National Institute of Nutrition, the minimum per capita food grain requisite for an adult is 182.5kg/year whereas in India, the accessibility is only 173.6kg/year and as far as the protein compulsion is worried, the daily ingestion should be 50mg but the situation appeared to stay sluggish, the per capita daily ingestion is only 10mg.

India's Food Security has lifted up to that is food security is the spinal yard of national wealth and well beings. The health of any nation is directly linked to food security at any cause. Food security may be defined as ease of use of food and access to it to all its masses. A family is considered food secure if none of its members are in danger of falling into poverty or going hungry. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, food protection occurs when all individuals have corporeal and monetary investments in sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and balanced existence at any point in time. There is direct relationship between the levels of food expenditure and abject poverty. In India, nearly 30 million people have been added to the rank of starving in the mid 1990s and 40% of children are undernourished. At the worldwide 852 million people are become hungry due to abject poverty and 2 billion people lack food security sporadically because of varying degree of poverty. 600 million children died of hunger in each year and 17000 in each day. In India about, 320 Indians go to bed without food every night and recent data is very much terrifying and condition is going even not as good as. Uprising for food have been taken in many countries of the world.

Food storage is becoming increasingly difficult to manage. Agriculture development for small and marginal farmers is the most important aspect of rural food security. Diversification of agricultural production for food, including cereals, pulses, edible oil-producing plants, vegetable, power, and timber-producing plants, as well as medicinal and fodder crops, is critical to meeting food demands and increasing farmer income to ensure food security for their communities. Natural vagaries like too much of rainfall, drought, and unavailability of water for irrigation, undulating topography, soil erosion, and soil type such as degradation of soil, acidic and alkaline soil affect the food security in India.

The income levels of farmer families govern the access to food affordability. Food distributions are a big problem. The public delivery system is not working properly. Food insecurity is unavoidable for low-income families. Globalization may and may not assist to food security. However, there are people who feel that globalization will absolutely help food security due to trade but its matter of debate. We will have to aim at food security in increasing countries through greater than before and stabilized food production on economically and environmentally sustainable methods. Diversification in agriculture is extremely required. We cannot pay for to hunger, malnutrition and famine. All of us including government policies seriously needed to revamp to meet the present man made demand and fill the space of existing system due to ensure food security to every citizen of the country.

Effectiveness of the Public Distribution System

Eight papers looked into the dependability of the public transportation system in depth. Any of these findings concluded that the public distribution scheme was inefficient, with significant amounts of food not reaching targeted recipients and significant wastage, resulting in increased costs for marginal benefits. According to experts, only 1 kg of rice distributed through the government's public distribution scheme reached those in need in Tamil Nadu for every 5.43 kg distributed; sugar distribution was much less effective, with only 1 kg motivated by those in need for every 8.21 kg distributed. They discovered that up to 100 percent of wheat was diverted in certain circumstances, with rice and wheat diversion and provision varying across all states. According to Khera, households are unable to exercise their full right to commodities and are thus forced to buy a large portion of their food on the open market. On the other hand, a positive

pattern was observed in the state of Bihar, where 90 percent of food grains were diverted away from those in need in 1993; by 2001, this figure had decreased to only 12.5 percent of diverted food grains. Nair announced similar results in Kerala. This was attributed to improved direction and connectivity in both states.

Strengthening of Public Distribution System

The key difficulty in the strictly controlled performance of the public distribution system is the addition of blunders and the keeping out of blunders. Aadhaar cards might be used to identify the actual poor households, thereby eradicating the inclusion of errors. The use of Aadhaar would also help in eliminating the copy and specter beneficiaries. Technology based step ups would help in dipping the leakages. The current system of labor-intensive recording the beneficiary is prone to corruption and tampering. The computerizations of records will decrease this problem. End-to-end computerization may aid in the prevention of large-scale grain diversion to open markets and the monitoring of food grain deliveries from state depots to beneficiaries.

The majority of ration shops have been discovered to be more happily located in urban areas of towns than in backward areas and slums, where the majority of the poor reside. The poor are always forced to walk long distances to obtain their fair share of grains. Because the urban middle class is strongly enticed to enroll in the neighborhood ration shops, the state of ration shops in metropolitan areas increases the likelihood of inclusion errors. If ration shops are limited to slums, the urban middle class will be unable to relocate to slums to purchase grains.

The public distribution scheme in India provides cereals such as wheat and rice to the poor. Various surveys, however, have revealed that the poor frequently prefer unsavory grains such as ragi, maize, Jowar, and Bajra. These cereals are not only rich in carbohydrates and protein but are also less inspired by the rich and urban middle class. If uncouth breakfast cereals are sold in the shops under public distribution system, then the rich will mechanically stop using ration shops. The current system of centralized public distribution system where the centre events the grain and then contract out it to each state is highly useless. The centralized public distribution system further adds to the unbearable managerial cost of transporting the grains from Food Corporation of India to the state depots. It would be better if the states are given the power to procure and distribute grains on their own at the minimum support price and CIP fixed by the centre.

The public distribution system is an essential component of government agriculture and food welfare policy. However, it is plagued by inefficiencies that limit its ability to efficiently deliver food to those in need. The passage of the NFSA in 2013, which provided legislative immunity to the public delivery mechanism, was one positive reaction. As the assessment shows, structural changes aimed at improving the preparedness and sustainability of the public distribution system and the NFSA are critical to their effectiveness. While the public distribution system will never be able to eliminate starvation or childhood morbidity or mortality in India, if implemented successfully, it will significantly reduce hunger levels. Combining the public distribution system with other interferences, such as those promoting openness and accountability, it may become necessary to accept each citizen's right to healthy food while also promoting good health.

Conclusion

The evaluation is the first of its kind to examine India's public distribution system's victory in the fight against food poverty. Furthermore, the report noted a scarcity of published literature on India's public distribution system, NFSA, and food safety. This increases the likelihood of missing

out on available interferences that could improve India's food delivery network. In general, the study emphasizes the significance of ongoing research in the field of food safety in India, which is critical for developing industry standards that will improve the efficacy and efficiency of the public distribution system.

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