

TARGETED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN HARYANA PRADESH: AN ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

Haryana Pradesh is a state in India that is both regional and growing. Even though the state was granted statehood in 1966, it has been developed since its independence. In the state, a targeted public distribution system is being established with excellent results, which is also helping to raise the people's living standards. An attempt has been made to analyse the Targeted Public Distribution System in this chapter. The financial richness of the agencies involved in Targeted Public Distribution System implementations, as well as the significance and importance of targeted public distribution system (TPDS)

KEY WORDS: Targeted, Distribution, Sustainable, Antyodaya, Anna, Yojana.

INTRODUCTION:

At the 1996 World Food Summit, India and 185 other countries signed to ensure everyone had adequate food (World Food Summit, 1996). The Food Summit set concrete goals for reducing the number of hungry and malnourished persons worldwide by one-half by 2015 (World Food Summit 1996). After that, during the Chief Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in July 1996 on Basic Minimum Services made recommendations for substantial efforts to streamline the Public Distribution System, and accordingly, it was renamed as Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in June 1997. The Targeted Public Distribution System aims to provide subsidised food grains to poor households through a Fair Prices Shops (ration shops) network.¹

The Targeted Public Distribution System, which provides food subsidies, received about Rs 1 50,000 crores, or 7.6% of the government's overall spending in 2020–21. This funding is given to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs Department of Food and Public Works. Over the previous ten years, the Department's expenditures have expanded six-fold, with food subsidies making up the majority (94% in 2020–21). The National Food Security Act of 2013 (NFSA), which supplies 80 crore people in the country with discounted food grains (wheat and rice), is implemented with the help of these subsidies. The NFSA works to guarantee that citizens in the nation receive better food. The fact that food grain prices have not been adjusted since 2002 is one of the factors contributing to the six-fold increase in food subsidies. For instance, since 2002, households participating in the Antyodaya Anna Yojana have received rice for Rs 3 per kilogram, even though the price to provide it has climbed from Rs 11 per kilogram in 2001-2002 to Rs 33 per kilogram in 2020-21.²

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (PDS) AT THE CENTRAL LEVEL:

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution of the Government of

¹. <http://www.fcamin.nic.in/dfpd/Event.in/>, (As retrieved on 12/07/2020)

². <https://www.prsindia.org/>, (As retrieved on 03/03/2021)

India manage the Public Distribution System at Central Pool. This ministry is divided into two departments:

- I. Food and Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs.
- II. The Ministry's Department of Food and Public Distribution manages the PDS and develops and implements policies to regulate and control it, particularly emphasising the underprivileged.³

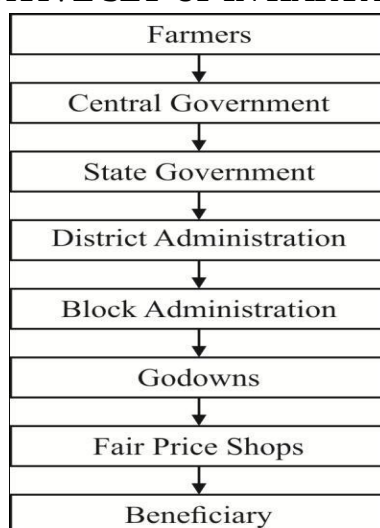
Centre-State Control: The central and state governments collaborate to get food grains to those in need. The centre purchases food grains from farmers at a minimum support price (MSP) and sells them to states at central issue pricing. The states are responsible for transporting food grains from godowns to each fair price shop (ration shop), where beneficiaries can purchase food grains at the lower central issue price. Many states boost the price of food grains before distributing them to the hungry. The Food Corporation of India transports food grains to state godowns (FCI). FCI is responsible for the following:

- (i) Buy grains from farmers at the MSP,
- (ii) Keeping operational and buffer stocks of grains to ensure food security,
- (iii) Allocating grains to states,
- (iv) Distributing and transporting grains to state depots, and
- (v) Selling grains to states at the central issue price will eventually be passed on to beneficiaries.⁴

Haryana Pradesh 's State-Level Organisational Structure

At the state level, the Department of "Food and Civil Supplies" is the leading official organization. It is controlled by the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, who occasionally holds the title of Minister of State with full responsibility for Food and Civil Supplies.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP IN HARYANA PRADESH



³. Annual Report, (2015). "Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), government of India, New Delhi.pp.23-24

⁴. Amit Kumar Gupta. & Dr. Anupama Saxons, (2014). "Significance of Public Distribution System in an Indian State" *Uttar Pradesh International Journal of Management and Social Sciences Research (IJMSSR)* ISSN: 2319-4421 Volume 3, No. 11, November.pp.325-326

Source: Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Haryana Pradesh's Department of Food and civil suppliers is the highest body in charge of regulating the state's food and civil supply programs. Its primary duty after gathering data is to organize it with the help of a district structure before sharing or making allotments to the different districts of Haryana Pradesh in accordance with the requirements. It is a hub for communication between the Ministers and the district administration. As a result, he incessantly observes how the different options that every so often the administration supports are also being implemented.

Assistant Chief Chairman, The management apparatus at the district level generally includes food and civil provisions. Naturally, the district infrastructure is overseen by the divisional director general and District collector, with the assistance of a third buyer, to ensure that the public distribution system is operating successfully and without interruption and that the purchase and delivery of products are carried out efficiently. The extra collector works in a managerial capacity at the district level, where he oversees PDS's district-level operations and answers to the Deputy Director. The area under his authority is his responsibility.

Supply officer for the district In terms of the allocation of quota system in each district of Haryana Pradesh, the DSO is the district-level entity in control of the Public Distribution System. DSO Allocate the appropriate quotas under each head based on the distribution of PDS consumers in the area. When allocating the numbers, he considers the number of beneficiaries in each category and the plans for that specific category. The Department of Food and Civil Supplies' primary duty is to guarantee sufficient supply and stable prices of necessities across the state.⁵

AT STATE LEVEL:

The Public Distribution System is overseen and managed by the State Government's Department of Food and Supply. These are the primary responsibilities of these departments:

- Obtain allotments of Wheat and Rice from the Central Government each month;
- Authorize State Agencies to lift and distribute the allotted stocks;
- Plan and execute the distribution arrangements;
- Enforcement of rules and regulations under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955
- Monitor the availability and prices of foodgrains at the State level.⁹ Thus, the operational responsibilities of PDS within States rest with the State governments. State governments, with the help of District Administration and along with other authorised agencies, execute, control, and coordinate the distribution at the State level.⁶

AT DISTRICT LEVEL:

The district administration has a significant role in the operation of the distribution system. At the district level, some rules govern how the Public Distribution System is conducted in that district. The State government's District office of the Department of Food

⁵. <https://food.hp.nic.in/aboutus.htm/>, (As retrieved on 04/12/2021)

⁶. *Annual Report (2017)* "Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), government of India, New Delhi, p.22

and Supply operates and controls the PDS at the district level with the assistance of its various subordinate offices. This is done in compliance with the State government's norms and regulations. The following are the functions of the district administration:

- Overall supervision of allotment and distribution at the district level,
- Ensuring Public Participation in the orderly functioning of the PDS network,
- Authorizing Fair Price Shops/Agencies to distribute PDS items to the consumers
- Ration cards are being distributed to consumers by what the state administrations have stated. In conclusion, the district administration is essential for delivering PDS services to consumers efficiently, transparently, and with accountability.⁷

AT THE SUB-DIVISIONAL/ BLOCK/CIRCLE LEVEL

- Senior most Administrative Officer acts as Chairman and,
- Senior most Food & Civil Supply Officer as Member Secretary.

The other members are:

- Senior Most Police Officer.
- Two local representatives from Gram Panchayat Anchal Samity/ Zilla Parishad Member.
- Senior most Officer of the Cooperative department.
- One representative of local Cooperative Stores or Society.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE:

The state must set up a review committee to ensure the highest level of transparency in the execution of the public distribution system scheme. The following are the primary duties of the monitoring committee:

- To hold district-level monitoring committee monthly review meetings regularly.
- To employ executive department personnel to audit Fair Price Shops and wholesale godowns regularly.
- The administrative staff of the relevant district department must appoint at least one person to supervise the drawls of subsidised goods from FCI depots to Fair Price Shops to avoid the diversion of allotted food grains during transportation.⁸

THE MAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ARE:

- To formulate and implement the national policies relating to the procurement, movement, storage, and distribution of food grains.
- Implementation of PDS with a particular focus on people with low incomes.
- Provision of storage facilities for maintaining Central reserves of food grains and promoting scientific storage.

⁷. *Administrative Report* (2011-2012) "Haryana Pradesh , Food & Supplies: Department. P.9 <https://HARYANAservices.nic.in/tribal/en-IN/annual-administration-report,html>

⁸. A., Kumar & S., Ayyappan, (2014). "Food security and public distribution system in India: *National Academy of Agricultural Sciences*. Vol.3, pp. 71-72.

- Formulation of national policies relating to export and import, buffer stocking, quality control, and specification of food grains.
- Fixation of statutory minimum prices of food grains and other commodities like sugar etc., price control and fixation of Central Issue Prices of such commodities.⁹

THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION:

The Department of Food and Public Distribution is in charge of overseeing the country's food economy. The Department's two twin objectives are to ensure.

- Remunerative rates to our farmers for their production and
- The Public Distribution System ensures that people can obtain reasonably priced food grains. The Department has administrative supervision over the Food Corporation of India (FCI), the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), and the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC). The Department also has two affiliated offices, the Sugar Directorate and the Vanaspati Vegetable Oils and Fats Directorate, and subordinate offices such as the National Sugar Institute in Kanpur, save grain campaign offices and Indian grain management offices.¹⁰

COMPUTERIZATION OF TARGETED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:

Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System is being implemented, which comprises activities, namely digitization of ration cards and other databases, computerization of supply chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanism. Other activities, like online allocations and supply-chain automation, have also been taken up by States/UTs.¹¹

MODERNIZATION IN TARGETED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:

The Department has taken on this to solve issues including food-grain leakages and diversion, inclusion/exclusion errors, the presence of fraudulent and phoney ration cards/ghost beneficiaries, a lack of transparency, the inadequate grievance reprisal system under the Targeted Public Distribution System, etc. Thus, the Department had accomplished the "End-to-End Digitalization of Targeted Public Distribution System Processes" scheme in cooperation with all the States/UTs under the XII Five Year Plan (2012-17) with the aim of modernising, introducing digital accountability and best practices in Targeted Public Distribution System operations; however, the validity of the scheme was extended up to March, components of the scheme: These were the main points:

Digitization of ration cards/ beneficiaries data: Ration card and beneficiary data digitization has been finished in all States and UTs. On the transparency websites of States/UTs, information about 23.5 billion ration cards covering almost 80 billion beneficiaries is available.

Aadhaar seeding of ration cards: More than 93.4 per cent of ration cards (at least one person) have seeded their Aadhaar numbers. Approximately 90.9 per cent of beneficiaries nationwide have also had their own Aadhaar numbers seeded.

⁹. Annual Report (2016-17) "Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), government of India, New Delhi, p.20"

¹⁰. Annual Report (2019-20). op.cit., p.2

¹¹. Annual Report (2017-18). op.cit., p.4

Online allocation of food grains up to Fair Price Shop level: Online distribution of food grains up to the FPS level is now available in all States and Union Territories, except for Chandigarh and Pondicherry, both of which have embraced the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT Cash transfers) scheme under the NFSA.

Computerization Supply Chain Management: Behavioural therapy Cashpayments have been implemented in 31 States and UTs, except for Chandigarh and Madras and the small island UT of Lakshadweep. Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur are likely to finish this year.

Automation of Fair Price Shops: To ensure that food subsidies are distributed responsibly, approximately 96%, or 5.13 lakh, of the country's 5.33 lakh FPSs have working digital point-of-sale (epos) systems.

b) National mobility of ration cards: The Department is deploying the "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System" (IMPDS) in all States and UTs starting in April 2018 to maintain computerized Targeted Public Distribution System operations and implement new reforms. This programme primarily aims to bring about countrywide mobility of ration card holders/beneficiaries covered by NFSA through the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan, enabling them to obtain their legal agricultural goods from any Fair Price Shop of their selection in the nation by using their identical ration card with biometric security on an (epos) device.¹²

MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE:

As previously stated, the minimum support price (MSP) is the price the government pays farmers for food grains. The minimum support price (MSP) is usually more significant than the market price. This is done to encourage additional production. The federal government recommends MSPs based on what the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices believes should be the prices (CACP). When determining the MSP, the CACP considers factors such as how much it costs to raise crops and how much farmers can earn from selling their produce. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs finally approved the MSPs recommended by the CACP.

MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS:

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) established by the Indian government is used to purchase food grains. The following table compares the MSPs for wheat and rice according to information released by the Ministry of Agricultural Production for the crop years 2018–19 through 2022–23.¹³

¹². B., Sawant, & J., Jadhav, (2013). "Public Distribution System of Essential Commodities a Social Security- A study of Satara District Maharashtra", *International Journal of Management & Business Studies*, Vol. 3 (1), pp.23-24

¹³. Annual Report (2012-23). "Government of India Department of Food and Public distribution Ministry, of Consumer Affairs Food Supply, p.19

Table 3.1: Minimum Support Price from 2020-2025

(Rs. per Quintal)

Commodity	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Paddy-Common	1750	1815	1886	1940	2040
Paddy-Grade 'A	1770	1835	1888	1960	2060
Jowar-Hybrid	2430	2550	2620	2738	2970
Jowar-Maldandi	2450	2570	2640	2758	2990
Bajra	1950	2000	2150	2250	2350
Maize	1700	1760	1850	1870	1962
Ragi	2987	3150	3295	3377	3578
Wheat	1725	1840	1925	1975	2015
Barley	1440	1525	1525	1600	1635

Source: Department of Food and Public Distribution, 2020-2025

MOVEMENT OF FOOD GRAINS:

FCI carries wheat and rice by rail, road, and river to ensure that food grains are accessible for TPDS and OWS and maintain buffer stockpiles at critical places throughout the country at sustainable levels. Approximately 90% of all travel in India is done by movement, with the remainder done by road and water. Every day, 25 lakh bags (each weighing 50 kg) of food grains are transported 1500 kilometres from where they are cultivated to where they are consumed. Every month, the FCI headquarters creates the All India Movement Plan, taking into account how much is available in surplus states, how much is required by consuming states, how much is likely to be purchased in acquiring states, how much storage space is vacant in both consuming and developing states and how much is given out or taken. In March 2020, an online tracking system for food grain movement and depot management was established.¹⁴

PROCUREMENT AND STORAGE:

The Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year. This is when purchasing is done. During the KMS, people gather coarse grains like jowar, bajra, ragi, and maize. From April 1 to March 31 of the following year, the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) takes place. During RMS, wheat and sometimes barley are bought. Before the start of each marketing season, the Department of Food and Public Distribution gathers the State Food Secretaries to make arrangements for purchasing food and coarse grains. They discuss how the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and state agencies will build procurement facilities, how storage space will be set up, how food grains will be evacuated, and how packaging materials will be set up at this meeting.¹⁵

¹⁴. Annual Report (2019-20). op.cit., p. 25-26

¹⁵. <https://www.dfpd.gov.in/>, (As retrieved on 02/05/2020)

Beneficiary is categorised BPL and APL

Beneficiaries of the Targeted Public Distribution System were split into two groups: those who lived in households below the poverty line (BPL) and those who did not (APL). BPL applicants who are currently enrolled in Targeted Public Distribution System were found through a thorough process when Targeted Public Distribution System was first introduced. The Planning Commission estimated the number of BPL beneficiaries who will be included under the Targeted Public Distribution System on a state-by-state basis. Based on inclusion and exclusion criteria developed by the Ministry of Regional Development, each state government was responsible for determining which BPL families were qualified. These households qualified for a BPL ration card.¹⁶

Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)

The AAY scheme was introduced in December 2000 for BPL families who were the lowest. The following priority categories have the following individuals eligible for an AAY card: The following groups of people fall under this category: (i) landless agricultural labourers, (ii) marginal farmers, (iii) rural artisans/craftsmen like potters and tanners, (iv) slum dwellers, (v) those who rely on the informal economy for a living, such as porters, pedicab, and haberdashers, (vi) the poor, (vii) households headed by widows or terminally sick people.

ENTITLEMENTS UNDER TARGETED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS

(TPDS):

Food grains like rice and wheat that have been sub used are available to dependants. Under the Targeted Public Distribution System, states may give additional goods, including sugar, kerosene, and enriched Atta.

Table 3.2
Lists the rights for each category

Category	Number of beneficiaries (crore families)	Entitlement of foodgrains (kg/family)
AAY	2.43	20 kg
BPL	4.09	20 kg
APL	11.52	15 - 20 kg
Total	18.04	-

Sources: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, PRS

Since the administration does not designate APL homes, households above the poverty level can request a ration card. In contrast to BPL families, the centre distributes food grains to states for APL family members. However, this distribution is based on the number of food grains in the central stocks and the typical amount of food grains purchased by states from the center during the past three years. As a result, if a state takes increases over the previous years, a more significant allocation is given to that state.¹⁷

¹⁶. Sakshi Balani, (2013). "Functioning of Public Distribution System: An Analytical Report", PRS Legislative Research, New Delhi, p.11

¹⁷. *Ibid.*, p.16

KEY FEATURES OF THE SCHEME INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Approximately 80 crore people, or 66% of India's population, are covered by this programme.
- According to the National Food Security Act, each received twice as much as they are entitled to (NFSA). This extra was provided without charge.



Families received one kg of pulses to ensure they had access to protein (per regional preferences).

Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

ENSURING FOOD SECURITY:

As of July 31, 2023, 824 lakh metric tons of free food grains have been provided through PMGKY, with an estimated 2.79 lakh crore in total subsidies spent. Any migrant worker or beneficiary of the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan may obtain free rations through portability from one of the almost five lakh ration stores nationwide. Foodgrain Phase-Wise Allocation & Distribution. The PM- GKAY scheme was initially only announced for the three months of April, May, and June 2020 in 2020–21. (Phase-I) Later, the Government expanded the programme in several phases, considering the ongoing need to maintain food security for disadvantaged recipients.

PM-GKAY IMPLEMENTATION DURING 2020-21



Stages I and II (April to November 2020): A total of 321 LMT of food grains were allotted, of

which the States/UTs reported a total distribution of 298.8 LMT (about 93%) of food grains to an average of around 94% of the NFSA population (75 crore beneficiaries) per month nationally.

Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

PM-GKAY IMPLEMENTATION DURING 2021-22

- Phase-III (May and June 2021): Of the 79.46 LMT of food that was allotted, the States/UTs reported that 75.2 LMT (or around 94.5%) was distributed to the NFSA population on average (75.18 crore beneficiaries) per month.
- A total of 198.78 LMT of foodgrains were allotted for Phase-IV (July to November 2021), of which the States/UTs reported distributing 186.1 LMT (or around 93.6%), which served an average of 93% of the NFSA population (74.4 crore beneficiaries) per month.
- Phase-V (December 2021 to March 2022) - The Department issued an allocation order of 159.05 LMT foodgrains to all States/UTs in response to the announcement that the PM-GKAY would continue until March 2022.¹⁸

PM-GKAY EXTENDED TO PHASE VI: The Standing Committee extended the PM-GKAY programme for an additional six months, or until September 2022 (Phase VI), with an allocation of 244 LMT food grains to make sure that no poor household goes to bed without food during this period of recovery, although the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly subsided and economic activity is picking up steam.



Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

IMPLEMENTATION OF PMGSY IN HARYANA PRADESH

With effective policies and collaboration, the Indian government has taken several steps to quickly improve the quality of life for the people of Haryana Pradesh. Haryana Pradesh proves citizen action's effectiveness in achieving socially significant results. The State's management of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related crises has been praised for its excellence. Among the Hill States, Haryana Pradesh has served as a model of good government. Haryana Pradesh was among the top performing states under PM-GKAY based on district hard top performing percentage during 2021–22 (phases III and IV of PM-GKAY). Following is a list of 21 allocations and beneficiaries who received benefits from PM-GKAY:

¹⁸. *Ibid.*, pp.7-9

IMPLEMENTATION OF PMGSY IN HARYANA PRADESH	
Total allocation under PM-GKAY (Phase –I to Phase-V)	272123.32 MTs
Total number of beneficiaries covered under NFSA/PM-GKAY	28.64 lakh
Expenditure Incurred by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) on account of the supply of food grains	Rs 733.80 crore

Source: Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Government of Haryana Pradesh.

Haryana Pradesh reported the most interstate portability transactions for PMGKY distribution during phases of all the States I to IV.

ATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT PACKAGE (ANBP):

Additionally, as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package (ANBP), the government allocated approximately 8 LMT of additional food grain to all States and UTs for migrants and stranded migrants who are not covered by the National Food Security Act (NFSA) or State Scheme Public Distribution System Cards, at a rate of 5kg per person per month for two months (May & June 2020).¹⁹

Table 3.3
Foodgrain Distributions under Atma Nirbhar Bharat

Foodgrain Distribution under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package in Haryana Pradesh			
Total Allocation	Total lifted quantity from FCI	Quantity under ANB	Quantity under ANB Total migrants covered per month
2864 MTs	2864 MTs	2028 MTs	2,02,758

Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, we have gone through the working of the public distribution system in Haryana Pradesh. Here the district administration has a significant rate in how the distribution system operates and is channelized. Next, we have discussed the target public distribution system. The national food security act 2013 and National Food Security Act provide coverage for up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50 per cent of the urban population at the all-India level under the target public distribution system. The Government also procure food grain directly from farmers. The MSP is the price paid directly to the farmers by the FCI. The MSP is usually higher than the market price. Besides, this government is also trying to make food distribution more transparent and accessible for everyone. This government has initiated digitising the ration card system under One Nation One Ration is amongst the latest policies adopted by the government. AADHAR is made mandatory to transfer subsidy benefits directly to the account of the beneficiaries in Haryana Pradesh. Many schemes are being implemented: Antyodaya Anna Yojana, Annapurna scheme, Sanpriya Yojana, Sampurna Gramin Rajgarh Yojana, national food security act 2013 (Rajiv Gandhi Yojana) etc. So we can say that the govt

¹⁹. <https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2022/sep/.pdf/>, (As received on 12/08/2022)



in Haryana Pradesh. But still, there is a need for proper management of fair-price shops in the state. We need strict laws to stop rampant corruption in distributing food grain to the needy families of the state.