

CHAPTER 14

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands is not sustainable in food productions, as such Food security is ensured to the population through the Public Distribution System (PDS). The entire population of this Territory is covered under PDS.

The targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) ensures food security to the people especially to the poor by supplying rice, Wheat, Sugar and Kerosene Oil at subsidized prices through a network of Fair Price Shops (FPS). Under the TPDS each family is provided with a Family Identity Card (FIC) which is attached to the nearest FPS. The Card holder can purchase the entitled quantity of essential commodities from the shops as per his requirement. The A & N Administration fixes the scale of supply of essential commodities taking into the account the allocation by the Government of India. The department ensures that each family is supplied with the correct quantity of essential commodities to which they are entitled at the prices fixed by the Administration. The import of Food grains & Sugar during 2007-08 to 2014-15 is given in the following statement.

Statement 14.1

Import of Food Grains & Sugar (in MT)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Sugar
2007-08	27428	5444	4668
2008-09	22795	4049	4668
2009-10	22494	5801	4668
2010-11	20496	7367	4668
2011-12	22640	7133	4668
2012-13	22557	7766	4668
2013-14	23484	10536	4668
2014-15	23682	10338	4668

The Department of Food & Civil Supplies A & N Administration manage the PDS (Public Distribution System) in A & N Islands. The department regulates the supply of essential commodities and its trade and commerce with a view to maintain regular supply and equitable distribution through Fair Price Shops while enforcing the Essential commodities Act 1955 and various control orders made there under.

Statement 14.2

Important Indicators of PDS

Particulars	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
No. of Ration Cards	94869	108345	103273	114436	109346	101079	103826
No. of Fair Price Shops	477	474	481	483	500	487	507

The Agricultural production in this islands is very minimal as such, Food Security is ensured to the population of this U.T. through the Public Distribution System. The department of CS & CA has 12 Principle Distribution Centers across this U.T. up-to where food grains are transported by the FCI. Besides considering the remoteness of many islands the department has created storage space in isolated island for logistic reasons so that Food Security can be ensured in such places even during disasters. The department has a total storage capacity of 12,620 MT to cater the storage requirement of food grains under Public Distribution System. The storage infrastructure created in many of the remote islands is sufficient to maintain three months buffer stock. Places where storage gaps exists in terms with the existing storage requirements have been indentified for creation of additional storage infrastructure in the Annual Plan 2013-14. The Food Corporation of India is also having a storage specialties' of 7,500 MT at Port Blair from where food grains are drawn and transported to various inter- mediate storage godowns at Port Blair for distribution to the Fair Price Shops in and around Port Blair. The storage requirement by 2020 for maintenance of three months buffer stock has been projected on the basis of the decadal growth rate of population which is roughly 6% of the current population as on 2011.

Statement 14.3

District Tehsil wise FPS and FIC for 2007-08 to 2012-13 is as follows

District/ Tehsil	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-2012		2012-13	
	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards	Fair Price Shops	Family Identity Cards
Andaman District												
Diglipur	20	11127	22	11538	31	11456	31	11145	29	11732	31	12190
Mayabunder	31	6334	34	6831	31	6872	31	7439	31	7685	31	7982
Rangat	72	8419	72	8495	74	10495	60	7888	60	8326	60	8702
Port Blair	194	40534	197	41017	199	42804	202	43984	197	57636	200	53868
Ferragunj	99	13000	103	13076	80	19956	97	20346	96	14801	101	14084
Little Andaman	17	4985	17	5032	19	5079	21	5068	23	5135	23	5197

Nicobar District												
Car Nicobar	13	4393	13	4393	13	6888	13	4182	13	4254	13	2310
Nancowry	9	2996	10	2981	15	3100	12	1016	16	2587	22	2692
Campbell Bay	9	1422	9	1506	12	1605	14	2205	18	2280	19	2321

Statement 14.4

Distribution Of Fair Price Shops

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Diglipur	20	22	31	31	29	31
Mayabunder	31	34	31	31	31	31
Rangat	72	72	74	60	60	60
Port Blair	211	214	218	223	220	223
Ferrargunj	99	103	80	97	96	101
Andaman District	433	445	434	442	436	446
Car Nicobar	13	13	13	13	13	13
Nancowry	9	10	15	12	16	22
Campbell Bay	9	9	12	14	18	19
Nicobar District	31	32	40	39	47	54
A & N Islands	464	477	474	481	483	500

Statement 14.5

Distribution of food grains and sugar through the PDS 2008-09 to 2012-13 (in MT)

S.No	Description	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Rice						
A	QUANTITY ALLOTTED					
1	APL	17268	17268	17268	17268	17268
2	BPL	4308	4383	4608	4608	4608
3	AAY	1548	1548	1548	1548	1548
B	QUANTITY LIFTED FOR DISTRIBUTION					
1	APL	17268	16970	15719.274	16864.917	16781.751
2	BPL	4124	4160	4649.562	4373.879	4320.000
3	AAY	1403	1364	1207.162	1479.000	1455.000
Wheat						
A	QUANTITY ALLOTTED					
1	APL	5233	7776	9612	9612	9612
2	BPL	732	732	732	732	732
3	AAY	252	252	252	252	252
B	QUANTITY LIFTED FOR DISTRIBUTION					
1	APL	3157	5082	6409.901	6145.032	6830.456
2	BPL	676	545	704.677	749.000	713.976
3	AAY	216	174	252.000	239.000	222.000

Sugar (Year wise)						
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
A	QUANTITY ALLOTTED	4668	4668	4668	4668	4668
B	QUANTITY LIFTED FOR DISTRIBUTION	4668	4668	4668	4688	4668

Statement 14.6

STORAGE CAPACITY

(in MT)

Sl. No.	Name of the station	Existing Storage Capacity	Present Storage Requirement for 3 months Buffer Stock	Existing Storage Gap	Storage requirement by 2020 for 3 months Buffer Stock
1	Rangat	600	760	160	1050
2	Mayabunder	450	653	203	750
3	Diglipur	1000	819	-	1350
4	Port Blair	6760	5382	-	6100
5	Have lock	200			
6	Neil Island	100			
7	Little Andaman	600	550	-	550
8	Car Nicobar	600	487	-	650
9	Kamorta	500	115	-	350
10	Katchal	580	63	-	
11	Teressa	430	48	-	
12	Chowra	250	39	-	
13	Campbell Bay	550	252	-	250
Total		12620	9168	363	11050

Initiatives have been taken by the department to augment the storage space from 2050MT to 3000MT in North and Middle Andaman District and from 7600MT to 9600MT in South Andaman District to insure food security in this region.

BPL Schemes

The resolve of the governments to reform and improve the PFD by focusing on the poor and needy sections of the society resulted in the launching of the TPDS in 2001. The object is to identify the persons/families living below poverty line (BPL) and issue a district ration card for selling specified cereal items through PDS outlets at specially subsidized rates. In

A&N Islands families with income of ₹ 10,000 per year or less were identified as living below poverty line.

In A & N Islands **9330** BPL cards have been issued as on March 2015. Under the scheme BPL families are entitled to get 35Kg of food-grains per month per family. It consists of 30Kgs of rice & 5Kg of wheat at ₹6.05 Per Kg for rice and at ₹ 4.45 per Kg of wheat.

Statement 14.7

Details of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)

Sl.No.	PARTICULARS	
1.	Income Limit (Rs.Per Annum)	10000
2.	Estimated Number of Persons (in Lakhs)	1.33
3.	Number of BPL/AAY Ration Cards (in Lakhs)	1.3
2.	Quantity of Cereals Supplied Per Household (Kg per month)	35

Antyodaya Anna Yojana

The scheme is for the poorest section of population which is unable to get two square meals a day on sustained basis throughout the year and their purchasing power is so low that they are not in position to buy food-grains round the year even at BPL rates. Under the scheme, these families will be provided food-grains at the scale of 35 kg per family per month i.e. it consist of 31Kg of rice and 4Kg of wheat at the rate of ₹ 3 per Kg of rice & ₹ 2 per Kg of wheat. This scheme was initially limited to 15.33% of the lowest segment of BPL families estimated by Planning Commission, Govt. of India at 4300 families on the basis of certain socio-economic factors. The Government of India has raised the ceiling for AAY families from 15% to 30%. As on March, 2015 **4136** cards have been issued to AAY families under the scheme. The exercise to identify additional AAY families has been started and more families will be covered under the scheme.

Annapurna Scheme

This scheme envisages supply of food-grains (10Kg per head per month) free of cost to destitute people who are more than 65 years of age and not receiving old age pension from the Government. At present there are 36 beneficiaries in this scheme.

Statement 14.8

Import of K.Oil (M.Tonnes)

Item	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
K.oil	5580.89	2471	6912	5760
District-wise 2014-15				
Item	South Andaman	N&M Andaman	Nicobar	Total
K.oil	3216	1872	672	5760

Statement 14.9

Fair Price Shops by Management

Category	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Public	1	2	2	3
Private	381	365	412	439
Co- Operative	47	54	47	31
Women	42	68	12	-
Tribal	12	11	13	34
Others	0	0	1	-
Total	483	500	487	507
District-wise 2014-15				
Item	South Andaman	N&M Andaman	Nicobar	Total
Public	1	0	2	3
Private	290	132	17	439
Co-operative	21	9	1	31
Women	0	0	0	0
Tribal	1	0	33	34
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	313	141	53	507

Statement 14.10

**District/Tehsil-wise Fair Price Shops, Family Identity Cards,
Godowns/Warehouses with capacity(MT) and Aadhar Card as on
31.3.2015**

District/Tehsil -wise 2014-15	Fair Price Shop	Family Identity Cards			Godown/Warehouse		Aadhar Card holders
		APL	BPL	AAY	No.	Capacity	
North & Middle Andaman	141	27149	2466	57	8	2050	1.95 Lakh
Diglipur		10771	886	32	3	1000	
Mayabunder		7120	965	0	2	450	

Rangat		9258	615	25	3	600
South Andaman	313	58359	4946	1186	12	7660
Port Blair		54401	4275	744	10	7060
Ferrargunj						
L/Andaman		3958	671	442	2	600
Nicobar	53	4852	1918	2893	17	2910
Car Nicobar		1409	1032	2012	4	600
Nancowrie		1978	510	307	10	1760
Great Nicobar		1465	376	574	3	550
A & N Islands	507	90360	9330	4136	37	12620

Statement 14.11

District/Tehsil wise LPG connection

District/Tehsil -wise	2013-14		2014-15	
	Domestic	Commercial	Domestic	Commercial
N & M Andaman	13104	39	14958	137
Diglipur	4983	0	5700	35
Mayabunder	2984	39	3429	35
Rangat	5137	0	5829	67
S/Andaman	59658	252	70291	1069
Port Blair	54521	252	54255	921
Ferrargunj			10336	91
Little Andaman	5137	0	5700	57
Nicobar	12447	0	9652	169
Car Nicobar	4485	0	4633	62
Nancowrie	4493	0	1370	45
Great Nicobar	3469	0	3649	62
A & N Islands	85209	291	94901	1375