

CIVIL SUPPLIES

This Sector covers plan schemes of Directorate of Consumer Affairs & Food & Supplies Department. Schemes relating to establishment of Consumer Grievances Redressal Forums, awareness and education of consumers rights through mass media, assistance to voluntary agencies engaged in consumer movement and strengthening of Public distribution system are included. The department of Food and Civil Supplies deals with the public distribution system. The officers of the Food & Civil Supplies Department have a large interface with the public as these are public dealing offices related to public distribution system. Very important records are maintained in these offices related to consumers and shops

Scheme wise details are given in the ensuing paragraphs:-

I. DIRECTORATE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS (Rs.32.00 lakh)

The Directorate of Consumer Affairs is functioning under the administrative control of Food & Supplies Department with the object to create awareness of consumer rights and to provide redressal machinery and to develop strong consumer movement in Delhi.

The scheme wise details are as under:-

1. Assistance to voluntary agencies engaged in consumer Welfare and Publicity etc. (Rs.2.00 lakh)

The aim of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the non government organizations engaged in consumer movement which undertake steps to propagate consumer rights and consumer education through mass media such as press, TV and other electronic media. The voluntary consumer organizations are encouraged to organize consumer education programmes and undertake projects of consumer awareness and protection on their own. For carrying out these activities the Directorate provides grant in aid to the eligible consumer organizations who undertake such projects.

An outlay of Rs.2.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme

2. District Forums and providing of accommodation for District Forums(Rs.30.00 lakh)

The Directorate of Consumer Affairs, State Commission and 9 District Forums are functioning in government buildings and one district forum is functioning in a rented premises. So the Directorate is required to maintain and renovate existing buildings.

An outlay of Rs.30.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme

II FOOD & SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

1. RENOVATION, CONSTRUCTION AND PURCHASE OF BUILDINGS FOR OFFICES OF FOOD & SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT(Rs.32.00 lakh)

OBJECTIVES:

There is a need to provide safety and security of the records for which proper record rooms are required to be provided in Circle Offices. Also some of the AC Offices require renovation.

A large number of public visits the office of Assistant Commissioners, Food Supply offices with connection to renewal/cancellation / fresh ration cards and as such the department requires well-maintained offices in respect of security, sanitation, public utilities and other infrastructure. Apart from this, the circle offices working in government buildings require regular renovation.

An outlay of Rs.32.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme

2. Computerization of Food & Supplies Department (Rs.45.00 lakh)

The objective of the Food& Supplies Department is to ensure equitable distribution of essential commodities by:-

- a. Enforcing especially in the event of market failure, the laws relating to essential commodities in Delhi, formulating and enforcing control orders as may be needed with a view to maintain availability of specified food articles at fair prices; and
- b. Efficiently managing the system of public distribution of essential commodities through:-
 - i) Identification of beneficiaries of the public distribution system.
 - ii) Specifying entitlement for various categories of beneficiaries.
 - iii) Management of inventories at various levels, with a view to ensuring that the specified articles of fair quality are made available to beneficiaries at fair prices at a reasonable distance from their residence; and
 - iv) Prevention of diversion of subsidized commodities meant for public distribution system to other un-authorized uses.

An important corollary of (a) above is to monitor movement of essential commodities handled by the licensed trade in Delhi to ensure their availability at reasonable prices to bonafide consumers, and to prevent hoarding and black marketing.

The public distribution system in Delhi encompasses within its fold an estimated 157 lakh permanent residents or 28 lakh households and about 5000 retail outlets of PDS. The department is required to maintain not only a high degree of coordination and control amongst its spatial organs consisting of the headquarters, 9 districts, 70 circle offices and other field units, but it also requires large data bases of various types for quick, reliable and decentralized decision-making to ensure that the public distribution system functions as an effective social safety net to ensure food security for all.

The computerization of the circle offices is envisaged, in which the entire functioning of the 70 circle offices will be computerized. For this purpose hardware has been procured through NICS and Application Software has been prepared by CMC. The testing of Application Software is being done by the necessary Functional Group. Eight posts of various categories such as 1 System Analyst, 4 Programmers and 3 Assistant Programmers are required to manage and supervise the whole process of computerization of the department. The cost of hardware maintenance, software maintenance, additional hardware/software and salaries of proposed newly created posts would be the part of computerization.

An outlay of Rs.45.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme.

3. Streamlining of Public Distribution System with focus upon below poverty line population(Rs.140.00 lakh)

In the recent past a paradigm shift in public distribution system is taking place by targeting it towards the BPL segments of the population. The Govt. of India has estimated 4.09 lakh BPL families in Delhi as on March 2001 on the basis of estimates of Planning Commission. The Central Government has initiated following steps towards targeting the public distribution system:-

- i. Launching of Targeted public distribution system for BPL households. Families having total family income below Rs.24,200/- p.a. have been identified under this category. These families are distributed 25 kg. wheat and 10 kg. rice at subsidized rates of Rs.4.65 per kg and Rs.6.15 per kg. respectively. Sugar @ 1200 gms per person per month is also provided. Under this scheme a total of 378578 ration cards were issued and are availing the benefit under this scheme.
- ii. Launching of Antyodaya Anna Yojna for poorest of poor households. Under this scheme families identified as poorest of poor are distributed 25 kg wheat and 10 kg rice at a subsidized rates of Rs. 2/- per kg and Rs.3/- per kg respectively. Sugar @ 5 kg per card monthly is also provided. Presently 56716 families are benefited under this scheme.

While undertaking the exercise of identification/review of BPL, Antyodaya and Annapurna families wide publicity has to be done through press, electronic media, posters, pamphlets etc. The department publishes advertisements on quarterly basis regarding schemes implemented/rates of SFAs for public awareness.

The department also proposes to create public awareness through Radio Spots, street plays and special camps etc.

An outlay of Rs.140.00.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme.

4. Annapurna Scheme (Rs.1.00 lakh)

The Annapurna Scheme envisages supply of food grains @ 10 Kg. per head per month free of cost indigent people who are above 65 years of age and are destitute in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from their own source of income or through financial support from family members or any other sources or are also not availing benefits of National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) or State Pension Scheme.

At present 128 applicants are receiving the benefit under the Annapurna Scheme. The Annapurna Beneficiaries were issued entitlement card and allocation of food grains w.e.f. 01/01/2002.

An outlay of Rs.1.00 lakh for Annual Plan 2007-08 is approved for this scheme