

Department of Food and Public Distribution Plan Schemes for the Annual Plan 2015-16

Construction of Godowns by FCI/State Govt.

The Department is implementing a Plan Scheme for augmenting storage capacities in North Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir and other States in the 12th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 2015-16.

Rs. 90.00 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations

The Department is implementing a Plan on including 'End-to-end Computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations' with a view to address challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains, fake and bogus ration cards, lack of transparency, weak grievance redressal, mechanism, etc. under 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) on cost sharing basis with the States/UTs.

Rs. 80.00 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

NSI, Kanpur

The National Sugar Institute (NSI), Kanpur (Subordinate Office of the Department of Food and Public Distribution) is a premier scientific and technical Institute in the country which imparts teaching and training in the field of Sugar Technology, Sugar Engineering and Industrial Fermentation and Alcohol Technology. In addition, it undertakes research and development work in sugar and allied fields. The institute runs post-graduate level courses in Sugar Technology, Sugar Engineering and Alcohol Technology discipline. It also runs short-term certificate courses, namely, Sugar Boiling Certificate Courses, Sugar Engineering Certificate Courses and Pre-harvest Cane Maturity Survey Course. The Institute is also introducing a new course, namely, Certificate Course in Quality Control w.e.f. academic session 2014-15. The Institute is also a centre for advanced research in sugar & allied areas, recognised by various Universities leading to Ph.D. Degree. Its aim is to maintain interaction with the Sugar Factories, Distilleries, Central and State Governments and also with other Scientific and Technical Organisations in India.

Rs. 2.50 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

ASSISTANCE TO WAREHOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY (WDRA)

The Government of India has introduced a negotiable warehouse receipt system in the country by enacting the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 (37 of 2007) which has been made effective with effect from the 25th October, 2010. The Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (NWR) system was formally launched on the 26th April, 2011.

-2-

The main objectives of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 are to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) and related matters. The Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) issued by the warehouses registered under this Act would help the farmers to seek loans from banks against NWRs and will avoid distress sale of agricultural produce. It will also be beneficial for a number of other stakeholders such as banks, financial institutions, insurance companies, trade, commodities exchanges as well as consumers.

Rs. 30.00 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

5. STRENGTHENING OF PDS & CAPACITY BUILDING, QUALITY CONTROL, CONSULTANCIES & RESEARCH

5 (I) Strengthening of PDS & Capacity Building

Rs. 1.65 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

Sub-component of Scheme :

(i) Financial assistance to States/UTs for generating awareness amongst TPDS beneficiaries about their entitlement and redressal mechanism.

Under this component of Plan Scheme **on Strengthening of PDS**, financial assistance is given to States/UTs for **generating awareness amongst the TPDS beneficiaries about their entitlement and redressal mechanism. The main objective of this scheme component is to launch an effective, subtle, sustained and intensive awareness campaign, impact of which could reach the urban as well as rural and remote areas.**

The State Government contributes 20% of the expenditure to be incurred on the campaign and balance 80% is borne by the Government of India and released in two installments.

(ii) Financial Assistance to States/UTs for Generating Awareness amongst TPDS beneficiaries in NE region Grant-in-aid :

The objective of the Scheme is to create awareness amongst TPDS beneficiaries in NE region . The funds are released on receipt of the proposals from the State/UTs Governments.

(iii) Capacity Building:

- **PDS – Evaluation, Monitoring & Research:-**

Under the Scheme, to evaluate the impact of the TPDS on the targeted beneficiaries and to plug loopholes in implementation of TPDS, evaluation studies on functioning of TPDS are taken up by the Department.

- **PDS – Training**

This Scheme aims at strengthening and upgrading the skills of personnel engaged in the functioning and implementation of TPDS by conducting training

-3-

programmes and organizing lectures, seminars and workshops on policy issues with regard to TPDS and related fields for functionaries of various levels in the State Food and Civil Supplies Department and State Agencies like State Civil Supplies Corporations, Consumer Co-operatives, etc. To make TPDS more effective & efficient, training is also provided to FPS owners, members of NGOs, PRIs, village/city Vigilance Committees and FCI Officials. In order to successfully implement NFSA, 2013, training programmes are also being organized under the Scheme to sensitize and train key official of the State/UT Governments, FCI, Master Trainers nominated by States/UTs, etc through FCI or other agency.

5 (II) Consultancies, Training & Research

Rs. 0.85 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

Sub-component of Scheme :

- **Consultancies for research/monitoring in domestic/global markets for Foodgrains**

It is a component of the Plan Scheme: Consultancies, Training & Research which is implemented by Policy-I Section of the Department of Food & Public Distribution from 2007. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is entrusted by the Department of Food & Public Distribution to appoint a Consultant in order to have a

market intelligence system which could provide regular price alerts and early warnings on possible increases in prices of essential commodities, crucial for policy decisions. This component of the scheme aims to have a market intelligence system which could provide regular market alerts and early warning on likely increase of prices of foodgrains, crucial in formulation of policy measures and interventions for management of food economy. Such market intelligence is also useful in deciding the import-export policy for foodgrains, sugar and edible oils. Reports generated through the study provide periodical price data on wheat, rice, sugar and edible oils.

- **e-governance**

Aiming at better and fruitful interaction among employees, citizens and the Department and also with a view to move from paper to electronic systems, the Department is taking keen interest in the implementation of E-Governance projects by using ICT tools like internet to accomplish various government activities.

5 (III) Strengthening of Quality Control Mechanism

Rs. 5.00 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

A New Plan Scheme “Strengthening of Quality Control Mechanism” under S&R division was proposed for 12th Five Year Plan which envisages opening of 7 new Quality Control Cells (QCCs), upgradation of laboratory at Indian Grain Storage Management & Research Institute (IGMRI), Hapur and training infrastructure of training at IGMRI, Hapur. The scheme has been operationalised from September, 2013 after the approval of SFC

5 (IV) Assistance to States/UTs for Non-Building Assets for State Food Commissions

Rs.2.00 crores has been allocated for the Annual Plan 2015-16 for the Scheme.

Government of India has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on 10th September, 2013 with the objective to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. The Act provides that every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a State Food Commission for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of the Act. It has been decided that in case a State decides to set up State Food Commission on exclusive basis, Central Government will provide one time financial assistance for non building assets for that State Food Commission. Accordingly, a new component viz., “assistance to States/UTs for non-building assets for State Food Commissions” has been included under the 12th Plan umbrella scheme of the Department, “Strengthening of PDS & Capacity Building, Quality Control, Consultancies & Research”.
