

Food & Supplies



- During the current Kharif marketing season, till 16.04.12 more than 20 lac MT paddy; 12 lac MT of rice (balance being in process) have been procured. This is around 3.0 lakh MT more than the amount of rice procured till 16.04.2011 in the last KMS-'10-'11. Procurement operation will continue till 30th September, 2012). During KMS '09-'10 & KMS '10-'11, 12.95 lakh MT and 13.16 lakh MT rice were procured respectively. In the current KMS, our achievement in procurement of rice is expected to exceed the previous years' achievements.
- For the first time, farmers are being paid Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy through A/C payee cheques.
- Farmers have been sensitized widely through TV, Radio and Print media.
- Paddy is being purchased directly from farmers through PACS as well as on their own by the appointed CMR agencies (Benfed, Confed, WBECSC Ltd. Nafed & NCCF) by organizing Camps. So far 4000 camps have been held.
- In 23-LWE affected Blocks of Jungle Mahal, BPL benefits under TPDS have been extended to all Tribal families having annual income not more than Rs. 42,000/-, and all general families with annual income not more than Rs. 36,000/-. They get rice through TPDS @ Rs. 2/- per KG at enhanced scale. Each 5-member family gets 55 kg of subsidized food grains (rice and fortified atta) per month. About 18 lakh beneficiaries are availing of this benefit.
- 49 additional outlets have been opened in addition to existing MR Shops in Jungle Mahal areas to facilitate villagers to draw their ration articles. Vacancies have been declared to open new MR Shops in Junglemahal areas.
- Around 3.0 lakh Aila affected families (1.90 lakh in South 24 Parganas and 1.10 lakh in North 24 Parganas) are getting 2 kg of rice per week @ Rs. 2/- per kg per week in addition to usual ration Under TPDS with effect from 14th April 2012 (1st day of Baishak, 1419). This scheme will continue for six months.
- To heighten public awareness of the problem of hunger "World Food Day-2011" has been observed by distributing rice free of cost to around one thousand ST families in four blocks of Aila affected districts.
- Each family comprising five members in Darjeeling Hills used to get 65 kg of food grains (rice, wheat & fortified atta) per month at subsidized rate upto March, 2012. The enhanced quota will be restored once additional quota of food grains is received from GOI.
- Workers and their dependents of Closed Tea gardens are getting AAY benefits under TPDS and the benefits would be continued upto 3 (three) years even after opening of Tea gardens.
- For ensuring transparency, the Dept. has launched the website www.wbfood.gov.in
- For revamping TPDS of the State Apex body has been constituted and as per advice of the said body Action Plan for digitization of ration cards and supply chain management system has been prepared and submitted to the Government of India.
- To strengthen enforcement activities 5 (five) special vigilance squads headed by senior officials have been formed and the said teams are deployed regularly for surprise inspections.
- To contain diversion of ration commodities system of Door-step delivery up to Fair Price shops level has been enforced throughout the state.

- To receive and redress grievances, the Deptt. has set up a Toll-free booth 1800-345-5505.
- Bogus, fake and nonfunctional ration cards are being cancelled by organizing special drives in districts and through appeal to consumers in print media to surrender such cards.
- Particulars of all Ration Cards, PDS Distributors, Dealers will be digitized.
- Movement of PDS kerosene tankers will be centrally monitored by using GPRS tools to contain diversion.
- Godown space with 2 lac MT capacity will be constructed.
- Office accommodations for DCF&S, SCF&S will be created at 20 locations.
- Mustard oil, sugar and Bengal gram will be distributed during festive periods (EID and Puja)
- A week-long awareness programme and special distribution of fodograins among selected beneficiaries will be undertaken.
- Modern Quality Control laboratories will be set up at Khadya Bhaban, Kolkata and at Siliguri.

Vision and schemes in pipeline

- To eradicate starvation by ensuring food security to all “Food for All” program shall be strengthened through focusing on starvation Zones.
- Laminated bar-coded Ration Cards with unique ID No. will be given to all residents of West Bengal within 2012-13.
- Supply chain of PDS food grains will be monitored .

