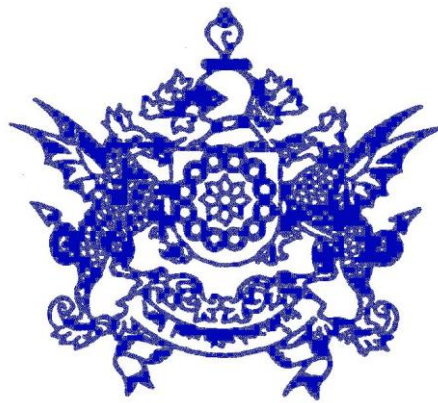


ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

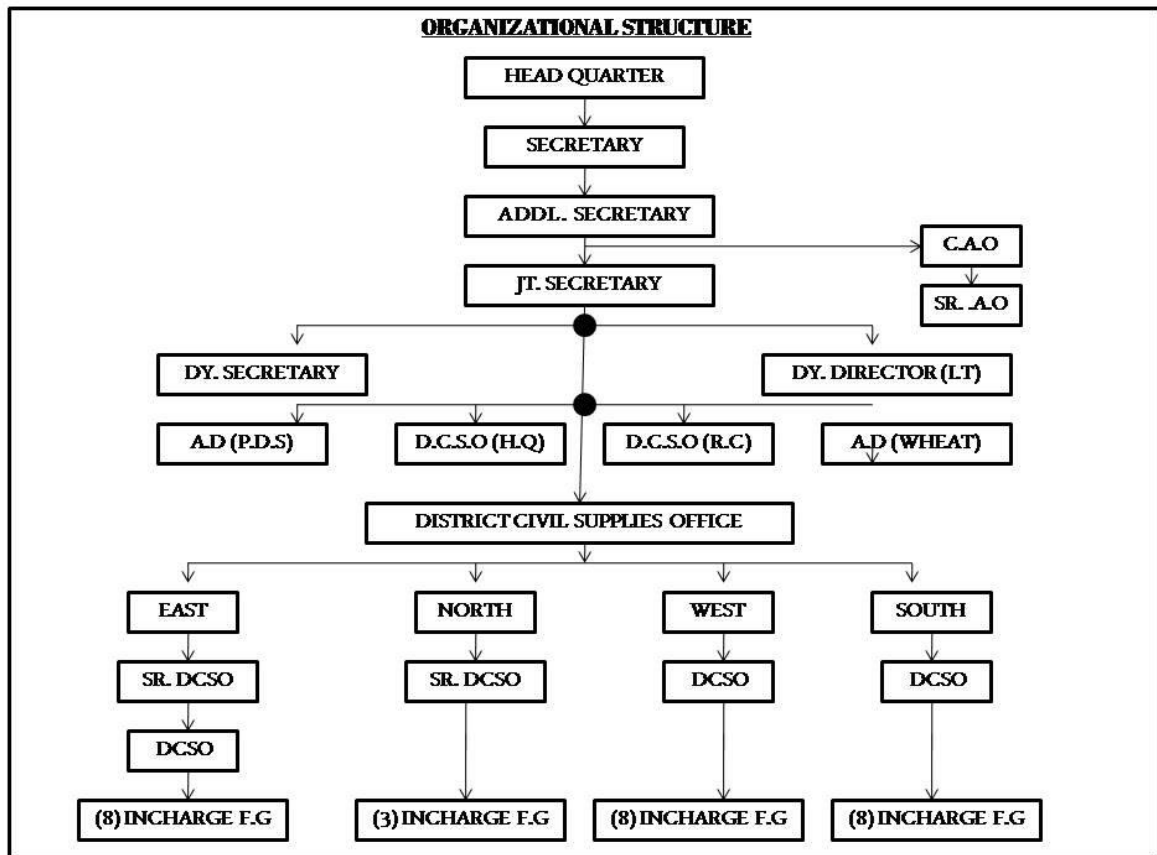


**FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**

FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES DIVISION

INTRODUCTION:

Since Independence, the Government of India has been implementing various schemes focusing on the poor for their upliftment. The Government at the centre as well as in the State has introduced various schemes to ensure availability of foodgrains to the poor at affordable prices. To implement these schemes under the PDS system the Organizational Structure of the Department is as follows.



The Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department is the nodal department for implementing the schemes under the Targeted Public Distribution System and is entrusted with the tasks of providing quality foodgrains at subsidized prices and other essential commodities to the citizens of the State. The department has the dual duty of procuring, storing and distributing foodgrains and petroleum products as well as monitoring and enforcing regulatory orders of the government.

A brief synopsis of the Welfare Schemes and other tasks taken up by department during the year 2010-11 is given below.

1. Below Poverty Line:

Under the Targeted Public Distribution System, the State Government has identified 43,428 beneficiaries for availing subsidized foodgrains under this scheme. The number of families estimated Below the Poverty Line has been made as per the estimates for 1993-94 by the Planning Commission of India.

Under this scheme, rice is issued to 26,914 families at the highly subsidized rate of ₹ 4/- per kg. The beneficiaries are entitled to 35 kgs of rice per month. The department has been issuing this quantity from April 2002, and the State is allotted 942 MTs of rice for this scheme every month.

2. Mukhya Mantri Antodaya Annadan Yojana:

The poorest of the poor from the 43,428 BPL families earlier identified were further identified for the Antodaya Annadan Yojana Scheme. The 9914 beneficiaries under this scheme are entitled to 35 kgs of rice @ ₹ 3 /- per kg per month.

The State Government however rechristened the name of the Scheme to Mukhya Mantri Antodaya Annadan Yojana from 23rd August 2003 and 9914 Families are provided 35 kgs of rice free of cost, 347 MTs of rice is distributed under this scheme to the beneficiary families.

3. Expanded Antodaya Annadan Yojana:

The Government of India allocates 578 MTs of rice under the Antodaya Anna Yojana out of which 347 MTs of rice is distributed under the MMAAY scheme, and the remaining 231 MTs of rice is distributed to 6600 families under this scheme. The beneficiaries are issued 35 kgs of rice @ ₹3/- per kg per month.

4. Annapurna Scheme:

Under this scheme helpless aged people above the age of 65 years who have no one to support them and are eligible for National Old Age Pension but have not received them are provided with 10 kgs of rice free of cost. The beneficiaries of this scheme have been provided rice from April 2000. A total of 2500 beneficiaries are availing rice under this scheme. A separate and distinct Ration Card has been provided to the beneficiaries free of cost.

5. Above Poverty Line Scheme:

The State receives 1920 MTs of rice under this scheme, out of which 872.3 MTs is distributed under the Mukhya Mantri Khadya Suraksha Abhiyan Scheme. The remaining 1047.7 MTs of rice is distributed to APL ration card holders @ ₹ 9/- per kg. Each individual card holder is entitled to 2 kgs of rice **per month**.

6. Mukhya Mantri Khadya Surakshya Abhiyan:

The State Government under this scheme provides 35 kgs of rice to 24,922 marginal and economically backward families at the subsidized rate of ₹ 4/- per kg. These beneficiaries are marginal BPL families who had been left out in the BPL list. 872.3 MTs is allocated under this scheme every month.

7. Welfare Institution/ Nariniketan Scheme:

Under this scheme Welfare Institutions, Orphanages, Monastic Schools where inmates/residents are provided with free for which the Department provides the institutes 5 kgs of rice per inmate per month @ ₹ 4/- per kg. The Central Government allocates 11.39 MTs of rice under this scheme per month. 32 number of Welfare Institutions with 2109 beneficiaries are covered under the scheme.

8. Whole Wheat:

The Government of India allocates 245 MTs of whole wheat to the State. For the convenience of the public it is ground into whole meal atta and distributed to ration card holders at the scale of 1 kg per individual @ ₹ 8.92 per kg per month through Fair Price Shops and other designated shops. The State also received 1145 MT of wheat as special adhoc allotment during the year. This was sold at the rate of ₹ 12/- per kg/ per person.

9. Levy Sugar:

The State of Sikkim is allotted 391 MTs of Levy Sugar per month. Consequent upon the inability of supplying levy sugar by the Food Corporation of India from their depots in the State, the State lifts the allotted quota by engaging an agent directly from various Sugar Mills, of Uttar Pradesh. The sugar is transported by road to Siliguri and further transported to different Food Godowns in the State. The retail sale price of levy sugar has been fix at ₹ 25.40 per kg inclusive of transportation cost. Effort is being made by the Department to avail subsidy under "Price Equalization Fund" to enable the Government for distributing levy sugar at a lower price.

10. Kerosene Oil:

Sikkim is allotted 546 KL of Kerosene Oil per month. This is issued through Fair Price Shops/Ration Cards at a scale of 1.25 litres per individual in rural areas and 1 litre in the urban areas.

11. Ration Cards:

Apart from the distinct family ration cards for BPL families the department has issued 4, 30,547 individual APL ration cards with digital computerized photos imprinted on it. An individual above the age of five years is entitled to a ration card on production of documentary proof that he/she is a local resident. Effort is being made to issue new biometric ration cards to weed out bogus/duplicate ration cards.

12. Fair Price Shops:

There are 1420 approved Fair Price Shops including Co-operative Societies all over the State. All the Fair Price Shops are registered with the Department. The Fair Price Shops are required to deposit a sum of ₹ 5000/- (five thousand) as security deposit which is returned if the Fair Price Shop wants to surrender their licence. The District wise break up of Fair Price Shops is as under:-

South	420
North	74
West	336
<u>East</u>	<u>590</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>1420</u>

13. Construction of Food Godowns:

There are 27 food godowns in the entire state through which distribution of foodgrains under T.P.D.S. takes place.

A new food godown is being constructed at Gyalshing, West Sikkim at a cost of ₹ 1.15 crores. It is funded by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India. Land for construction of godowns at Makha, Dikchu and Namchi have been acquired. Estimates for godowns of Makha and Dikchu are being finalized for funding under the 13th Finance Commission.