

FRAMEWORK OF FPS IN KERALA

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INTRODUCTION

As Kerala is a consumer state, public distribution system is very much important and has to be executed properly. As a developing nations part food security is to be ensured and it can be done only through public distribution system only. Entire Kerala should be covered under the public distribution system in a fair and rational manner. All the 14 districts should get equal and adequate quantities of food grains. For maintaining these distribution fare price shops are playing a vital role. Fair price shops are otherwise known as ration shops. These ration shops are run by fair price dealers, so the efficiency of these depends upon the managing capacity of these dealers. As a national policy Kerala has also adopted Aadhar linked public distribution system. As this system introduced public distribution system can be thoroughly overviewed by the government in the intake and off take processes. The present study makes an attempt to analyse the structure of public distribution system.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of this study is to analyse the structure of fair price shops in Kerala.

DATA COLLECTION METHOD

Primary and Secondary data are used for collecting data. secondary sources used for this study are from online resources, books etc

FPS IN KERALA

Fair price shops are usually run by its dealers. But it is very important on today that consumers need quality products at fair prices in shops. It is not necessary that they are given at the national level or at the state level. State government has the

sole responsibility to check the public distribution system. So they introduced new PDS so as to prevent black marketing. It is implemented in order to protect consumers.

Table No.1

NUMBER OF FAIR PRICE SHOPS

Southern		Central		Northern	
Thiruvananthapuram	1868	Kottayam	989	Kasargode	391
Kollam	1420	Idukki	701	Kannur	863
Alappuzha	1260	Ernakulam	1342	Wayanad	316
Pathanamthitta	832	Thrissur	1201	Kozhikode	974
		Palakkad	947		
		Malappuram	1243		
Total	5380		6423		2544

Source :secondary data

From the table it is clear that out of 14347 fair price shops 6423 FPS are operating in central region 5380 are in southern and 2544 are in northern region. The monthly transactions of the PDS as on November 2018 is 5301618 and the total cards under FPS are 8111102.

In southern region number of FPS is more in Thiruvananthapuram. It is less in Pathanamthitta district.

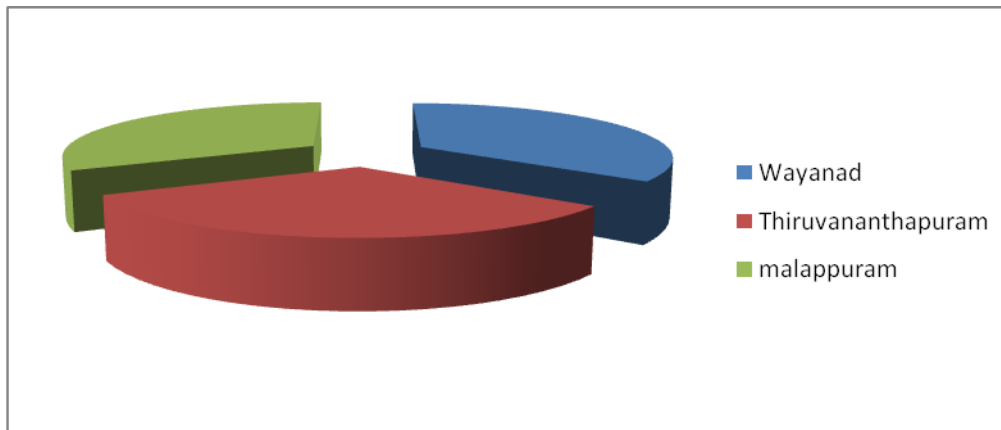
Central region consists of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad and Malappuram districts. In these districts the numbers of fair price shops are 6423.

In northern region the large number of fair price shop is in Kozhikode district and less number is in Wayanad.ie 316

Allotment of Food Grains

Estimated allotment of food grains under FPS consist of Atta, wheat, CMR, BR, RR, Sugar, and Kerosene etc. Total allotment (Kgs) of sugar NFSA was 1161250 and the total allotment of wheat as on November 2018 was 9229050 and allotment of regular rice was 14679000 it means that allotment of regular rice is high compared to other essential commodities. The total price of this allotment was 260971023.5.

Percentage Allocation



Kerala government have given the details in their Aadhaar linked PDS website about the total number of FPS and their monthly transactions.

ANALYSIS FROM THE PART OF BENEFICIARIES.

1. Attitude towards Operation of FPS.

Table No.2

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Positive	39	78
No opinion	4	8

Negative	7	14
Total	50	100

Source :interview

Most of the respondents i.e 78% have positive attitude towards FPS while 14% have indifference attitude towards the operations of FPS and 8% stands neutral.

2. Proper allotment of food grains

Table No.3

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Strongly Agree	-	
Agree	40	80
Neutral	3	6
Disagree	4	8
Strongly Disagree	3	6
Total	50	100

Source: Interview

From the analysis it is inferred that 80% of the respondents are of the opinion that there is a proper allocation of food grains from FPS. While 14% disagreed to this and the remaining 6% have no opinion.

3. Overall performance of FPS

Table No. 4

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Satisfied	48	96
Neutral	-	
Dissatisfied	2	4
Total	50	100

Source: Interview

Majority of the respondents i.e (96%) are satisfied with the performance of FPS,only 4% are dissatisfied with FPS

Conclusion

More than 50% of card holders are purchasing PDS grains from the FPS. Grains are rationed to beneficiaries according to eligibility. BPL holders are of getting high quantity compared to APL holders. In earlier days there exist bogus cards and false beneficiaries. And steps were taken towards digitalization of ration cards thereby analysing the actual performance of FPS. By analysing the Public Distribution System it is evident that how much they are contributing to the state by protecting consumers against exorbitant prices.

References

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