

## **Chapter 13      Monitoring Mechanism**

As envisaged in the PDS Control Order, 2001, the State Government should carry out periodical revision of list of beneficiaries, conduct regular inspections and meeting of Vigilance Committees and devise an effective system of reporting and monitoring at all the levels of distribution of foodgrains under TPDS.

Audit scrutiny revealed the following:-

### **13.1    Periodical revision of beneficiary list**

The implementing agency did not involve the Village Councils in the 24 villages<sup>48</sup> during the process of identification and periodic revision of list of beneficiaries. Thus, deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families during the process of identification was not done and existence of bogus ration cards could not be ruled out in audit.

### **13.2    Returns/Utilisation Certificates (UCs)**

Though the FPSs were required to furnish monthly returns and UCs to the Department, no FPS out of 24 test checked FPSs furnished the returns during the period covered in audit. The Department also did not insist for submission of the returns. In the absence of the same, the Department did not have any control over the FPS and supply of essential commodities to the beneficiaries was not monitored at any stage.

### **13.3    Inspection of FPS**

According to PDS (Control) Order, 2001, the inspecting officers of the district /sub-divisions were to inspect each FPS at six month's interval. Records of 13 test-checked PDCs showed that no inspections were carried out as per norms as commented in Paragraph 6.5.

### **13.4    Vigilance Committee and FPS committee**

According to PDS Control order, Vigilance Committees were required to be constituted at all levels viz. State level, District level etc. and FPS Committees were also to be constituted at FPS level to review the overall functioning of TPDS in the State on quarterly basis. Though Vigilance Committees at all the levels were constituted in November 2009, no review meetings were held as of March 2011. FPS Committees were not constituted to review the functioning of FPS in the state.

Thus, there was no system to monitor the overall functioning of the scheme and the position of foodgrains lifted and distributed under TPDS remained un-assessed.

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<sup>48</sup> Coverage of FPSs in 24 locations.

### **13.5 Area Officers' Scheme**

For regular and effective review and monitoring of the TPDS in the States, Officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary, Director or equivalent were to be nominated as Area Officers for the State by GOI to co-ordinate with the State Governments under the Area Officers' Scheme launched by GOI in February 2000 with broad features as under:

- The Area Officers were required to visit two districts of their allotted territories once in a quarter and review the functioning of the TPDS and submit reports within 10 days bringing out issues, findings along with recommendations on actionable points which should be sent to the Secretary of State Government for taking remedial action for smooth functioning of the TPDS.

However till March 2011, no Area Officers' were nominated by GOI to oversee the implementation of TPDS in the State of Nagaland.

The Department in reply (December 2011) stated that three Area Officers had been appointed in August 2011 for regular and effective review and monitoring of TPDS.

### **Conclusion**

**There was no system of evaluation of the implementation of the programme through regular internal control mechanism and meaningful monitoring including implementation of Area Officers' Scheme by GOI.**

### **Recommendation**

***The Government and the Department should ensure regular inspections including inspection by district level officers, Vigilance Committees and Area Officers nominated by GOI.***