APPENDICES

Appendix 1

A 1.1 Interview Schedule (Households)\textsuperscript{38}

PDS, E-PDS, and Cash Transfer Survey

PART-I: Household Interview Schedule Date:

A. General Information

1. State : Kerala

2. District :

3. Taluk/Town :

4. Block/Ward :

5. Gram Panchayat :

6. House Number Mob:

7. Head of the Family : Name: Gender:

8. The number of family members :

\textsuperscript{38} The author is thankful to Prof. Jean Dreze and Dr. Reetika Khera for their contribution to the interview schedules.
9. Religion/ Community

(1= Hindu; 2= Muslim; 3= Christian; 4= other (specify))

10. Category : (1= SC; 2= ST; 3=OBC; 4=General; 9= other (specify))
### B. Demographic Particulars of Family Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relation with Head</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Education level</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1=illiterate;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2=literate (below primary);</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3= primary;</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4=UP; 5=Secondary;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6=IIhigh school;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7= Above high school;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9= Unclear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### C. House Characteristics

11. House: Concrete/Tiled/others

12. Electrified: Yes=1    No=0

13. Toilet: Yes=1    No=0

14. Cultivable land: ---------sq.m

15. Any Cultivation:
D. Ration Cards

16. Does your household have a Ration Card? (1=Yes (only); No=0)

17. Types of Ration Card: (1=APL; 2=BPL; 3=AAY; )

18. Since how many years you have had this card:

Issue date of the ration card:

19. Other expenses incurred for Ration Card?

Yes:1, No:0

20. Do you have your Ration Card at the moment, or is it with someone else? (1= in possession; 2= someone else; 3= Not clear)

E. E-PDS

21. Do you possess an Aadhaar Card? (Yes=1; No=0). If no, why?

22. What are the services for which Aadhaar number is essential: (Scholarship Application=1; Health Insurance= 2; LPG subsidy=3; other: 4)

23. Do you support in making the Aadhaar card mandatory to avail government services? Yes=1; No=0

24. Would you support linking ration card to Aadhaar to introduce a system of bank transfers in the PDS Yes=1; No=0

25. Nature of Ration Card, whether Bar coded or not: (Bar coded=1, Not=0)

26. Is the ration shop in your premises computerized? (Yes=1; No=0):

27. What are the merits of computerized ration shop over the traditional ones?
28. Which ration shop do you prefer? (Computerized=1; Traditional=0). Why?

**F. PDS Utilization**

29. The distance of PDS outlet from your house?..........

30. How many days does the PDS outlet usually open in a month? _____ days

31. Are these days fixed for each month? :

(1= Yes; 2 = No; )

32. If not, do you have the information on the opening of PDS outlet in advance?

[1= Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Unsure]:

33. Do you feel that the functioning days of the PDS outlet are enough?

34. Are you required information regarding the opening days of the PDS outlet?

(1=Yes; 2=No; 3=Unsure):

35. Can you list out the commodities you are supposed to be able to buy with your Ration Card at the PDS outlet?

Price (Rs. /kg or Rs. /lt)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PDS price</th>
<th>Market price</th>
<th>PDS quantity</th>
<th>Market quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice /_____/</td>
<td>/_____/kg/month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat/atta (specify) /_____/</td>
<td>/_____/kg/month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar /_____/</td>
<td>/_____/kg/month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (specify below)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

36. In a month, how much grain (wheat and rice) do you normally get from the PDS outlet? Kg./_______/

37. How much do you pay for this? Rs./_______/

**Quantity (kg) Price (Rs/kg) Total paid**

Wheat ______ ______ ______

Rice ______ ______ ______

38. Did you notice any of the problems below in the maintenance of the Ration Card? Please check the entries for grain (wheat and rice) from March onwards.

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; 0 = Not sure; NA = Not applicable (Ration Card not available)
Missing entries:

Unethical information has been entered:

Some entries have been over-written:

Entries are illegible:

Other irregularities (please specify below):

39. In months when you were unable to get your full quota of grain, what was the main reason for not getting the full quota?

[1=Yes; 2=No; ]

a. Grain supplies did not reach the PDS outlet:

b. Lack of information about opening times of the PDS outlet:

c. Lack of money at the time when grain was available at the PDS outlet:

d. Not interested in purchasing grain from Fair price shop:

e. Grain distributed at the Fair price shop is of poor quality:
f. Grain supplies got over by the time we went to buy : 

g. Ration dealer refused to give us full quota : 

h. Other responses (please specify) 

40. Suppose that the PDS outlet was open daily and that grain was always available. In that case, would you buy your full ration every month?
(1=Yes; 2=No; 3= other (specify))

41. [If not] Why not?

42. How would you judge the quality of the grain you received the last time you bought grain? Poor, average or good? :
[1=Poor; 2=Average; 3=Good; 4= other (specify)]

G. Perceptions of PDS

43. How would you describe the attitude of the PDS dealer: helpful, indifferent or unhelpful?
(1=Helpful; 2= Indifferent; 3= Unhelpful; 4=Unclear)
44. How would you explain the relevance of the PDS for your family’s welfare? Very important, quite important or not important?

[1=Very important; 2=Quite important; 3= Not important; ]

45. Are you satisfied with the distribution through the local PDS outlet?

[1=highly satisfied; 2= reasonably satisfied; 3= somewhat dissatisfied; 4=Very dissatisfied; 5 =Unclear]:

46. How would you analyse the overall management of the PDS today compared with 5 years ago?

[1=Better; 2= same; 3= Worse; 4=can’t say; 5=Unclear]

How would you rate the PDS today compared with 5 years ago in the following respects?

[1=Better; 2= same; 3= Worse; 4=can’t say; 5=Unclear]

Accessibility : 

Regularity : 

Quantity supplied: 

Quality of grain : 

Please summarise the main point(s) below

__________________________________________________________

____

47. Do you have any suggestions for improving the PDS in your area?

__________________________________________________________

____
H. Cash Transfers

48. Does any adult member of your household have a bank or post office account? [1=Yes; 2=No; 3=Unsure]:

49. If yes, where is the bank or post office located? (1= Nationalized bank; 2 = other bank; 3= Post office; 4= other; 5=Unsure; NA = Not applicable (no account)):

50. How far (in km) is the bank or post office from your house? /_____/km

51. How much do you have to spend to reach the bank/post office, per round trip?

52. Have you experienced at any point going more than one trip to withdraw money from the bank/post office? (1=Yes; 2=No; 3=Unclear):

53. How would you judge the attitude of the bank/post office officials: helpful, indifferent or unhelpful? (1=Helpful; 2= Indifferent; 3= Unhelpful; 4=Unsure):

54. Suppose that instead of giving you food rations through the PDS every month, the government transferred some money every month in your bank account - to buy the same amount of food on the market – and closed the PDS outlet. Would you agree with it? Would it be better, worse or the same as getting food from the PDS outlet?

(A) Detailed response

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

_______
(B) Specific concerns

Perspectives against Cash transfer scheme

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1. Money can easily be frittered away; food in the house is safer.
2. Food prices may go up due to local inflation.
3. Local food shortage or hoarding can be expected.
4. Post office will be reluctant to give the due.
5. Remoteness of the market and the PDS outlet is closer.
6. Withdrawing money from the bank is a hassle.
7. Lack of confidence in using the bank account.
8. Safety issues related to carrying cash from the bank.
9. There is transaction costs associated with purchasing food from the open market.
10. Cash transfers adversely affect food security.
11. Cash transfer induces people particularly men to ‘waste’ money on private “bads” like alcohol.

Perspectives supporting cash transfer scheme

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1. Cash is fungible.
2. Possible for diversification of diet.
3. Possible to buy quality food than getting food from the PDS outlet.

4. Money can be saved.

5. Cash Transfers into women’s bank account increases empowerment of women.

6. Cash transfers reduce indebtedness.

7. Cash transfer allows household to spend more on health care.

**Familiarity of the consumers with bank operation**

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1. Banking is convenient for subsidy transfer than PDS.

2. Household is capable of managing the banking transactions.

3. Household is confident in using ATM cards.

4. Bank offers lower service fees.

5. DBT through banks avoids leakages.

6. Banking is a convenient way to manage the personal savings safely.

8. SMS Alerts of banking transactions work perfectly.

**Preference towards PDS**

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1. Food security

2. Protection from misuse of money.

3. Familiarity with PDS.

4. The PDS is available at our doorstep (convenience).
5. Convenient for feeding the guests.

**Preference against PDS**

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1. There is Corruption from the part of PDS dealer.

2. Irregularity in opening of the PDS outlet.

3. Poor or variable quality of PDS food.

4. Hassles of collecting food from the PDS.

5. Entitled commodity is not distributed through PDS shops.

6. Are you aware about the NFS Act, 2013?

Yes=1 No=2

7. How do you view the newly implemented NFS Act, 2013 in terms of;

1 = strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Not sure 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

Coverage

Price

Quantity

Identification of Eligible Households

Transparency and Grievance Redressal Cell
(D) Summary response/assessment

Please summarise, in one or two lines, the main reason(s) for the respondent's preference.

__________________________________________________________________________

I. Investigators’ Observations

Case Study [optional]
PART II

A1.2 Interview Schedule for PDS Stakeholders (supply side)39

1. Who is managing the fair price shop?
   (1 = Gram Panchayat; 2 = Private dealer; )

2. Does the PDS outlet involve a salaried manager or employee?
   (1=Yes; 2= No; 0= Unclear)

3. How many ration cards does this PDS outlet handle?
   APL : 
   BPL : 
   Antyodaya : 
   Total : 

4. What are the monthly entitlements (quantity and price) of BPL, APL and AAY card holders?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Price (Rs./kg or Rs./lt)</th>
<th>Kg./lt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>__________</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat/atta</td>
<td>__________</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerosene</td>
<td>__________</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>__________</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

39 The author is thankful to Prof. Jean Dreze and Dr. Reetika Khera for their contribution to the interview schedules.
5. Where is the local PDS outlet located?

(1 = Own building; 2 = Gram panchayat office; 3 = Rented space; 4 = Private house; 5 = other
(please specify); 7 = Unclear):

6. Does the PDS outlet have the following?

[1= Yes; 2= No; 3= Unsure]

- An electricity connection : 
- "Standard" weights : 
- Electronic weighing scales : 
- Calculator : 
- A fingerprint reader : 
- Smart card readers : 
- Information board : 
- Receipt/bill book : 

7. Was the following information shown outside the PDS outlet?

[1= Yes; 2= No; 3= Unclear]

- Days and hours of opening : 

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The contact number of dealer :

Helpline/complaint number :

The stock of grain :

Entitlements (price and quantity) of BPL card holders :

List of BPL cardholders :

8. Were the registers available for inspection at the time of your visit?

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Unclear)

9. If yes, was the dealer willing to show the registers?

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; NA = Not applicable (no registers))

10. Does the PDS outlet have clear, legible and complete sales and stock registers?

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Unclear)

11. Does the ration dealer reside in this Gram Panchayat?

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Unsure)

12. What is the official commission rate payable to the dealer?

Wheat (Rs./quintal): 

Rice (Rs./quintal) :

13. Does the dealer have any of the following complaints?

(1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Unclear)

Commission too low :

Commission not paid for a long time :
Have to pay bribes to get a license

Government functionaries take bribes

(e.g., godown manager, inspector, etc.)

Transport arrangements are inadequate

Inadequate storage and distribution space

No storage place when grain is distributed

Pressures to siphon off grain

Frequent complaints or pester the public:

Other (please specify)

14. Details of any foodgrains due to theft/natural calamities: (1=yes; 2=No; 3= other (specify)
If yes, how it is compensated:

15. Is the Ration shop Computerised?

(Yes=1; No=2)

16. Has the ration shop details entered in Ration Card Management System (RCMS):

(1=Yes; 2=No; 3=Unclear)

17. How do you evaluate the computerized ration shop with bar-coded ration card?  

(1=working well; 2=Can be extended to other districts; 3= Not well& difficult to manage; 4=Unclear).
APPENDIX 2

RURAL AND URBAN PDS IMPACT ON POVERTY ACROSS THE MPCE DECILES GROUP IN INDIA

Figure A2.1 Rural PDS impact on poverty in treatment group of states

Source: 68th round of NSSO report on PDS and other sources of Household consumption (2011-12)
Figure A2.2 Rural PDS impact on poverty in Control group of states

Source: 68th round of NSSO report on PDS and other sources of Household consumption (2011-12)
Figure A2.3 Urban PDS impact on poverty in treatment group of states

Source: 68th round of NSSO report on PDS and other sources of Household consumption (2011-12)
Figure A2.4 Urban PDS impact on poverty in control group of states

Source: 68th round of NSSO report on PDS and other sources of Household consumption (2011-12)