



Government of West Bengal
Food & Supplies Department
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<https://food.wb.gov.in>



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Dated: 29/05/2025

ORDER

Guidelines for rationalization of the number of FPS Dealers and Digital Ration Card population tagged with Distributors through declaration of new vacancies or merger of neighbouring FPSs with the Distributors.

There are remarkable disparities among the existing Distributors under the TPDS in the State in terms of number of FP Shops attached to them vis-à-vis number of DRCs, area of operation, allotment of PDS commodities etc. leading to differences in income as admissible commission, administrative convenience and sometimes greater expenditure in terms of transportation charges. Differences in income is due to existence of various PDS Schemes including Special Packages having different entitlements for beneficiaries and thus difference in allotment to the Distributors in different parts of the state having even similar number of beneficiaries/DRCs attached to them. Moreover, geographical isolation of some places necessitates setting up of new Distributorships.

Now, with a view to bringing parity among the Distributors and imparting greater efficiency in the delivery mechanism, framing a policy guideline to rationalize the Distributorship business of the existing Distributors by creating new vacancies out of the large Distributors is felt necessary by the Department.

Considering the variation in the volume of business among the Distributors the entire state is divided into 4 distinct Zones as follows. For the purpose of creation of new vacancies in those Zones, separate range in terms of the number of FPSs and DRCs, proposed to be delinked as well as those to be retained with the existing/source Distributor(s) are assigned.

Zone I: Hill PDS and Tea Garden Areas.

Zone II: Special Package in Jungle Mahal Areas and area covered under special package of Aila.

Zone III: Rest of the erstwhile MR area except those covered under the aforesaid two zones.

Zone-IV: Entire area under the Directorate of Rationing.

District as well as block-wise coverage of the aforesaid 4 zones may be seen at **Annexure- A.**

The following table provides the range of DRCs and FPS Dealers to be retained with the existing Distributor and the range of the same to be linked with the proposed Distributor.

A. Range of FPS and DRC to be retained with existing Distributor.

Zone	No. of DRCs with Existing Distributor to be retained			No. of FPSs with Existing Distributor to be retained		
	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Maximum
I (HPDS + TG)	75000	70000	80000	40	30	50
II (JM + Aila)	140000	130000	150000	40	30	50
III (Plain Area)	160000	150000	170000	40	30	50
IV (DR Area)	180000	160000	200000	45	40	50

B. Range of FPS and DRC proposed to be linked with new Distributor.

Zone	No. of DRCs with new Distributor to be tagged			No. of FPSs with new Distributor to be tagged		
	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Maximum
I (HPDS + TG)	65000	55000	70000	35	30	40
II (JM + Aila)	120000	110000	125000	35	30	40
III (Plain Area)	105000	100000	110000	35	30	40
IV (DR Area)	115000	100000	120000	40	35	45

The DCFSSs will explore possibility of setting up of a new Distributor and initiate proposals following the procedure as laid down in the "**Chapter- V**" of the West Bengal Targeted Public Distribution System (Maintenance & Control) Order, 2024, for further consideration of the authority.

Planning for creation of Distributorship vacancies is to be made through the Online Module in the Departmental portal.

At the time of initiation of proposals for creation of vacancies, the following points are to be considered:

1. Identification of all possible Distributor vacancies in a district/Sub-Control should be made in one go.
2. Location should be identified in such a way that the total outlay on account of transportation cost gets diminished after setting up of the new Distributor.

3. Vacancy against any tagged Distributor, which became defunct due to death/resignation/surrender/termination etc. shall not be declared directly without considering prescribed range of DRCs and FPSs as mentioned above. In other words all distributorship in a district shall be examined for rationalization process.
4. A relaxation upto a limit of 10% in maximum/ minimum or FPS counts may be allowed in special circumstances (like the areas having geographical barriers) with proper justification thereof.
5. In case of any contradiction in the number of DRCs and FPS Dealers, the former will get precedence.
6. Requisite field verification should be made as required for better appreciation of the proposals.
7. Map of the districts, clearly showing Blocks/ Municipalities, FPSs under proposed distributorships shall be uploaded in the portal.

It may so happen, that even by keeping the DRC at the minimum level of the existing Distributorship(s) the spareable/ extra DRCs are less than minimum prescribed range for a new Distributorship. In such cases, possibility may be explored to transfer those excess DRCs with another Distributor(s) in vicinity with DRCs less than the maximum prescribed range. Suitable transfer proposals should be placed with justification along with sketch map etc. with approval from district administration.

The DCF&Ss shall explore the necessity of rationalization of distributorships in their districts and identify the location of new vacancies, if any, in accordance with this order and as per the provisions laid down in the "**Chapter- V**" of the West Bengal Targeted Public Distribution System (Maintenance & Control) Order, 2024, **by the 30th June, 2025.**

The licensing authority shall submit the proposal to the Director with the concurrence of the concerned District Magistrate and directly to the Dte. of Rationing in case of Kolkata by the **31st July, 2025.**

The Director shall examine the proposal and send it to the State Government with his specific views for consideration of the proposal by the **31st August, 2025.**

After obtaining the approval of the State Government, the Director shall issue a notice **within a month**, in such form, as may be specified by the State Government, to invite applications for selection of a suitable applicant for grant of license.


Sr. Deputy Secretary
to the Govt. of West Bengal

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Director, Dte. of DDP&S, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
2. The Director, Dte. of Rationing, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
3. The Director, Dte. of I&QC, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
4. The Director, Dte. of Finance, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
5. The Director, Dte. of Consumer Goods, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
6. The Director, Dte. of Storage, F&S Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
7. The Special Secretary, IT&R Cell, F&S Department. (He is requested to make necessary arrangement in the Portal)
8. The P.S to the HMIC, Food & Supplies Department.
9. The P.S to the HMOS, Food & Supplies Department.
10. All DCF&S.
11. All DDR/JDR.


Sr. Deputy Secretary
to the Govt. of West Bengal

ANNEXURE- A

SL NO	ZONE	DISTRICT	BLOCK
1	HILL PDS AND TEA GARDEN	KALIMPONG	KALIMPONG (M)
			KALIMPONG-1
			LAVA
			PEDONG
			GORUBATHAN
		DARJEELING	MIRIK(M)
			MIRIK BLOCK
			KURSEANG (M)
			KURSEANG BLOCK
			RANGLI RANGLIOT
			DARJEELING PULBAZAR
			JORE BUNGLOW
			KHARI BARI
			NAXALBARI
			PHANSIDEOA
		ALIPURDUAR	KALCHINI
			MADARIHAT
			FALAKATA
			ALIPURDUAR-II
			KUMARGRAM
		JALPAIGURI	KRANTI
			MATALI
			BANARHAT
			RAJGANJ
			JALPAIGURI
			NAGRAKATA
			DHUPGURI
			MAL
		PASCHIM MEDINIPUR	MIDNAPORE
			SALBONI
			GARBETA-I
			GARBETA-II
		PURULIA	ARSHA
			BAGMUNDI
			BALARAMPUR
			BARABAZAR
			BUNDWAN
			JHALDA-I
			JHALDA-II
			MANBAZAR-II

2	JUNGLEMAHAL & AILA	BANKURA	RAIPUR
			RANIBANDH
			SARENGA
			SIMPLAPAL
		BIRBHUM	DUBRAJPUR
			RAJNAGAR
			MOHAMMAD BAZAR
			KHOYRASOL
		JHARGRAM	JHARGRAM
			JHARGRAM(M)
			BINPUR-I
			JAMBONI
			BINPUR-II
			GOPIBALLAVPUR-I
			GOPIBALLAVPUR-II
			NAYAGRAM
			SANKRAIL
		NORTH 24 PARGANAS	HASNABAD
			MINAKHA
			HINGALGUNJ
			SANDESHKAHALI-I
			SANDESHKAHALI-II
			HAROA
		SOUTH 24PARGANAS	JOYNAGAR-II
			KULTALI
			BASANTI
			GOSABA
			MATHURAPUR-I
			MATHURAPUR-II
			NAMKHANA
			KAKDWIP
			PATHARPRATIMA
			SAGAR
			CANNING-I
3	ENTIRE STATE EXPECT THE ABOVE TWO ZONES	ALL OF THE DISTRICTS EXCEPT THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE.	ALL OF THE BLOCKS EXCEPT THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE.
4	AREA UNDER RATIONING	ALL OF THE SEVEN SUB-CONTROLS	