



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

ANNAPURTI GRAIN ATM

Ensuring efficient, transparent and accurate distribution of food entitlements for the most vulnerable.



BACKGROUND

In India's Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) that covers around 813 million people, subsidised food grains are distributed to beneficiaries after biometric authentication through Point-of-Sale devices installed at more than 500,000 Fair Price Shops (FPS) .

The advancements and reforms undertaken so far in TPDS have made substantive improvements by making the entire system agile, transparent, and accountable by reducing identity theft for the ensured delivery of food grain through rightful targeting.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Under the current set up, FPS operators manually weigh and distribute the food grain. However, this manual weighing and distribution of grains require the beneficiaries to queue for long hours, with a high possibility of grain spillage and waste, and may even lead to people not receiving their share of food assistance beyond the working hours of FPS or when these shops are closed.

SOLUTION

To ensure efficient and effective distribution of food grains at the last mile, WFP India in collaboration with the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the Government of India conceptualized, designed, and has developed the 'Grain ATM,' also known as 'Annapurta' (Hindi for fulfiller of food).

This automated multi-commodity dispensing machine provides people with consistent access to their food entitlement with speed and accuracy, after biometric authentication.

This machine dispenses up to two grain commodities and is capable of dispensing 25 kgs in less than 40 seconds with nearly 100 percent accuracy. The entire solution, including the volume of the storage unit, is modular and can be easily assembled depending on the amount of space available. To ensure food



security with efficient energy usage, the machine has been designed to be attached to solar panels, inverter batteries and elevators for automatic refilling.

FEATURES

- Dispenses 25 kgs in 40 seconds
- About 100 percent accuracy
- Max Capacity up to 2500 kgs
- Dispenses 2 commodities
- Easy instructions for dispensing
- Portability
- Easily fits in the FPS
- Automated grain loading



BENEFITS

- Improves accuracy and addresses malpractices in weighing.
- Reduces queues outside FPS shops.
- Provides round the clock access to TPDS thereby not limiting the beneficiary's access to the working hours of FPS.
- Easy to install at migrant hotspots to improve access beyond the migrant's home state. through the One Nation One Ration Card scheme.
- Enhances FPS dealers' convenience through automation.
- Reduces the government's cost of monitoring FPS operations.

RECOGNITION

Developed in India, the automated grain dispensing machine embodies the spirit of 'Made in India' and has received global recognition. It has bagged WFP's Innovation Award 2022 which recognises outstanding innovations from over 120 countries. The solution also received Anthem Awards 2022 in the innovation category.



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