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Topics Covered



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- What is the news?
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 - 2. Enhancing Accessibility
 - 3. Improving Efficiency
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- Conclusion
 - QuizTime:
 - Are you Ready!
- Read the Below Instructions Carefully:
 - Please Rate!
- Mains Questions:
 - Question 1:
 - Model Answer:
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 - Model Answer:

- Relevance to the UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:
- Prelims:
-
- Mains:

Summary:

- Odisha Launches **India's First 'Rice ATM'**!
- **Annapurthi Grain ATM:** Odisha's 24/7 grain dispensing machine.
- **Purpose:** Modernize Public Distribution System (PDS).
- **How It Works:** Ration cardholders withdraw up to 25 kg of rice or wheat.
- **Features:** User-friendly interface, real-time tracking, and 24/7 operation.
- **Impact:** Increased transparency and beneficiary satisfaction. Potential replication in other states.

What is the news?

- In a groundbreaking development aimed at modernizing the Public Distribution System (PDS), Odisha has unveiled India's first round-the-clock grain dispensing machine, the Annapurthi Grain ATM.

This initiative represents a significant step towards enhancing the efficiency and accessibility of food distribution to ration cardholders.

Launch and Collaboration

- The Annapurthi Grain ATM was officially launched by Odisha's Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister, Krushna Chandra Patra, at a warehouse in Mancheswar. This project is a collaborative effort with the World Food Programme, highlighting the importance of global partnerships in addressing local challenges¹².

How It Works?

- The Annapurthi Grain ATM operates around the clock, allowing beneficiaries to withdraw up to 25 kg of rice or wheat using their ration card number and biometric authentication. The machine is designed to dispense grains within five minutes, significantly reducing waiting times and ensuring accurate distribution.

Objectives of the Annapurthi Grain ATM

1. Modernizing the PDS

The primary objective of the Annapurthi Grain ATM is to overhaul the traditional PDS by integrating technology to streamline grain distribution. The machine aims to:

- Provide a user-friendly interface for ration cardholders.
- Ensure timely and accurate distribution of food grains.
- Reduce manual intervention and potential discrepancies in the distribution process.

2. Enhancing Accessibility

- The 24/7 availability of the Annapurthi Grain ATM ensures that beneficiaries can access their rations at their convenience, eliminating the constraints of fixed operating hours and long queues. This is especially beneficial for those who work during regular distribution hours or have other commitments.

3. Improving Efficiency

The ATM is designed to automate the grain dispensing process, which can:

- Minimize errors and fraud associated with manual distribution.
- Optimize inventory management by providing real-time data on stock levels.
- Reduce administrative burdens and operational costs for the PDS.

Features of the Annapurti Grain ATM

1. User-Friendly Interface

The machine is equipped with an easy-to-use touch screen interface, allowing beneficiaries to:

- Enter their ration card details.
- Select the type and quantity of grains.
- Receive an electronic receipt confirming the transaction.

2. Advanced Technology

Developed in collaboration with the World Food Programme, the Annapurti Grain ATM incorporates advanced technology such as:

- Automated grain dispensing mechanisms.

- Real-time tracking and reporting systems.
- Security features to prevent unauthorized access and misuse.

3. 24/7 Operation

- Unlike traditional distribution centers that operate within specific hours, the Annapurthi Grain ATM offers round-the-clock access, thus providing:
 - Flexibility for users to collect their rations at any time.
 - Continuous operation to accommodate varying schedules of beneficiaries.

Impact on the Public Distribution System

1. Enhanced Transparency

The introduction of the Annapurthi Grain ATM is expected to:

- Increase transparency in the distribution process.
- Allow for accurate tracking of transactions and inventory.

- Build trust among beneficiaries by reducing the chances of corruption and pilferage.

2. Beneficiary Satisfaction

By addressing common issues such as long queues and limited distribution hours, the ATM is likely to:

- Improve the overall experience for ration cardholders.
- Increase the satisfaction levels of beneficiaries who previously faced challenges with accessing their rations.

3. Scalability and Replication

The successful implementation of the Annapurta Grain ATM in Odisha sets a precedent for other states to consider similar models. It could potentially:

- Inspire the adoption of grain dispensing machines in other regions.
- Serve as a model for integrating technology into public service systems.

Conclusion

- The launch of India's first Annapurthi Grain ATM by Odisha marks a significant advancement in the modernization of the Public Distribution System. By leveraging technology to enhance accessibility, efficiency, and transparency, this initiative promises to improve the delivery of essential food grains to ration cardholders. As this model gains traction, it has the potential to transform food distribution systems across the country, setting a new standard for public service delivery.



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Are you Ready!

Thank you, Time Out !

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General Studies

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

Read the Below Instructions Carefully:

- Click on - Start Quiz
 - Attempt all questions (You can attempt or leave)
 - After Attempting Last Question.
 - Enter Name & Email
 - Click on - Check Result
 - Scroll down - Check out Solutions too.
- Thank you.

Loading ...



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Category: **General Studies**

Which of the following features is NOT associated with the Annapurthi Grain ATM?

- Automated grain dispensing
- 24/7 operation

Manual data entry

Electronic transaction records

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Category: **General Studies**

What is the primary objective of the Annapurta Grain ATM?

To promote local agriculture

To provide 24/7 access to food grains for ration cardholders

To reduce food waste

To increase the number of ration shops

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Answer: B) World Food Programme (WFP)

- Explanation:* The Annapurta Grain ATM was developed in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), which played a crucial role in the technological development and implementation of this innovative grain dispensing machine.

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Category: **General Studies**

Which organization collaborated with the Odisha government to develop the Annapurta Grain ATM?

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

World Food Programme (WFP)

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

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Category: General Studies

Where is the first Annapurti Grain ATM installed in India?*

- Bhubaneswar
- Cuttack
- Mancheswar
- Rourkela

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Category: General Studies

Who launched the Annapurti Grain ATM in Odisha?

- Chief Minister of Odisha
- Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister
- Minister of Agriculture
- Governor of Odisha

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Finish

Check Rank, Result Now and enter correct email as you will get Solutions in the email as well for future use!

Check the Result

Your score is

0%

Restart quiz

Please Rate!

Send feedback

Mains Questions:



**Below Mains
Question**

Write in Comment Section

Question 1:

Discuss the potential impact of the Annapurthi Grain ATM on the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India. How does this initiative address the challenges faced by traditional ration distribution methods?(250 Words)

Model Answer:

The Annapurthi Grain ATM, recently launched in Odisha, represents a significant shift towards modernizing the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India. This innovation has the potential to bring about several positive changes and address

longstanding challenges associated with traditional ration distribution methods.

1. Impact on the PDS:

a. Enhanced Accessibility:* The Annapurthi Grain ATM operates 24/7, which addresses one of the major issues of fixed operating hours in traditional PDS centers. Beneficiaries can now access their rations at any time, providing greater flexibility and convenience, especially for those with irregular working hours or other commitments.

b. Increased Efficiency:* By automating the dispensing process, the ATM reduces the need for manual intervention. This results in fewer errors, reduced administrative burdens, and better inventory management. The real-time tracking capabilities of the machine ensure that the distribution process is streamlined and that stock levels are accurately monitored.

c. Improved Transparency:* The use of technology in the grain ATM enhances transparency by minimizing opportunities for corruption and pilferage. Automated transactions and electronic receipts provide a clear record of distributions, making it easier to track and audit the distribution process.

2. Addressing Challenges of Traditional Methods:

a. Long Queues and Delays: Traditional PDS centers often suffer from long queues and delays, leading to inconvenience and frustration among beneficiaries. The Annapurthi Grain ATM eliminates these issues by providing a quick and efficient way to collect rations, thus reducing wait times and improving the overall user experience.

b. Manual Errors and Fraud: Manual distribution processes are prone to errors and potential misuse. The automation in the Annapurthi Grain ATM reduces these risks by ensuring accurate dispensing and providing electronic records that are less

susceptible to tampering.

c. Operational Limitations: Fixed operating hours and limited reach of traditional PDS centers can be problematic for many beneficiaries. The 24/7 availability of the Annapurthi Grain ATM addresses this limitation by allowing beneficiaries to access their rations at their convenience, regardless of time constraints.

In conclusion, the Annapurthi Grain ATM has the potential to revolutionize the PDS in India by addressing key challenges such as accessibility, efficiency, and transparency. Its successful implementation could serve as a model for similar innovations in other states, contributing to the overall improvement of food distribution systems across the country.

Question 2:

Evaluate the role of technology in improving the efficiency and transparency of public service delivery systems, with reference to the Annapurthi Grain ATM initiative in Odisha. (250 Words)

Model Answer:

Technology plays a crucial role in enhancing the efficiency and transparency of public service delivery systems. The Annapurthi Grain ATM initiative in Odisha serves as an exemplary case of how technological innovations can transform

traditional public service mechanisms, particularly in the context of food distribution.

1. Technology's Role in Efficiency:

a. Automation: The Annapurthi Grain ATM automates the grain dispensing process, which significantly improves operational efficiency. Automation reduces the need for manual handling, minimizes errors, and speeds up the distribution process. This results in faster service and more accurate dispensing of food grains.

b. Real-Time Monitoring:* The ATM's technology includes real-time tracking and reporting systems. This capability allows for immediate monitoring of stock levels, helping to manage inventory more effectively and ensure that grains are distributed in a timely manner. It also aids in forecasting needs and planning for replenishment, thus avoiding shortages.

c. Reduced Administrative Burden:* By streamlining the distribution process, the ATM reduces the administrative workload associated with manual distribution. This reduction in paperwork and manual processing leads to lower operational costs and more efficient resource allocation.

2. Technology's Role in Transparency:

a. Electronic Transactions: The use of electronic receipts and digital records enhances transparency by providing a clear and immutable record of each transaction. This digital trail makes it easier to audit and verify transactions, reducing opportunities for fraud and corruption.

b. Access Control: The ATM's security features, including restricted access and authentication processes, ensure that only authorized individuals can operate the machine. This added layer of security helps prevent unauthorized access and misuse of resources.

c. Data Accuracy: Technology enables accurate data collection and reporting, which is crucial for maintaining transparency. By eliminating manual data entry and calculations, the ATM reduces the likelihood of errors and ensures that records are precise and reliable.

In summary, the Annapurthi Grain ATM demonstrates how technology can significantly improve the efficiency and transparency of public service delivery systems. By automating processes, enabling real-time monitoring, and providing secure and accurate data handling, technology enhances the overall effectiveness of public services. The success of this initiative highlights the potential for similar technological advancements to address challenges in other areas of public service.

Remember: These are just sample answers. It's important to further research and refine your responses based on your own understanding and perspective. Read entire UPSC Current Affairs.

Relevance to the *UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus* under the following topics:



Prelims:

- In the Prelims examination, questions related to the Annapurthi Grain ATM would likely focus on factual details and specific information. Key areas might include:
 - 1. Location and Launch Details:**
 - – Questions may ask about the specific location of the first Annapurthi Grain ATM, the official who launched it, or the state in which it was introduced.
 - 2. Features and Objectives:**
 - – Questions could test knowledge about the features of the ATM, such as its 24/7 operation, automated dispensing, and the technology used. Understanding the primary objectives of the initiative, such as improving access to food grains and modernizing the Public Distribution System (PDS), would be crucial.
 - 3. Collaborating Organizations:**
 - – Questions might include information about which organizations collaborated on the project, such as the World Food Programme (WFP).
 - 4. General Awareness of Innovations:**
 - – The Prelims may include questions on technological innovations in public services and their impact, making it important to understand the broader implications of such initiatives.

Mains:

- **1. Impact Analysis:**– Questions may ask for a detailed analysis of the impact of the

Annapurthi Grain ATM on the Public Distribution System (PDS), including improvements in efficiency, transparency, and beneficiary satisfaction.

2. Evaluation of Technology in Public Services:

– Essays or questions could require an evaluation of how technology, such as the Annapurthi Grain ATM, contributes to better governance and public service delivery. This would involve discussing the role of automation, real-time monitoring, and digital records in enhancing transparency and reducing corruption.

3. Challenges and Solutions:

– Exam questions might focus on the challenges faced by traditional PDS systems and how the Annapurthi Grain ATM addresses these issues. This could involve a discussion on long queues, manual errors, and limited operating hours.

4. Case Study and Recommendations:

– Questions could be framed around a case study of the Annapurthi Grain ATM, requiring candidates to propose recommendations for scaling up the initiative or replicating it in other regions. This would test the ability to analyze a real-world case and provide practical solutions.

5. Policy Implications:

– Mains questions might explore the broader policy implications of adopting such technology in public distribution systems across India. This would involve a discussion on potential policy changes or government initiatives that

could support similar innovations.



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Hindi.*

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Quiz Time


The profit triples with a doubling of the selling price. Determine the profit percentage.

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3



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