

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Impacts of Reforms to the Public Distribution System in Chhattisgarh on Food Security

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB,) ERR

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: India is a rapidly growing developing country, but at the same time, has a larger food-insecure population than all of sub-Saharan Africa. Given the prevalence of chronic malnutrition, the country is engaged in a prolonged debate about increasing expenditure on its food aid program, called the Public Distribution System (PDS). The PDS primarily sells rice, wheat, sugar, and kerosene to poor households at highly subsidized rates, where individual state governments are responsible for the actual distribution of these commodities. Although the government already spends nearly one percent of GDP on the PDS, recent expansion proposals suggest this figure could increase to nearly three percent of GDP. This report investigates the effect the post-2004 reforms had on food security and also the role the reforms played in the turnaround of the PDS, the report further investigates the changes in food consumption in Chhattisgarh during the reform period.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 8/7/13 End: 12/2/13 Completed: 12/2/13

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [X] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [] Yes [X] No



