

**MOST IMMEDIATE**


**F.No.R-11016/02/2015-P&C**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**  
**(Department of Consumer Affairs)**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated 28th January, 2020

**Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of December, 2019 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs- regarding.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Please find enclosed as Annexure to this letter, the unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the Month of **December, 2019** in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information. Hindi version will follow.

  
(Alok Kumar Verma)  
Director (P&C)  
Ph.No.23071149  
28.01.2020

To

Copy with enclosures, forwarded to through e-mail

1. All Members of Council of Ministers.
2. PIO/Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
3. Secretary to Vice-President.
4. Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
5. Secretaries to the Government of India. (As per the list)
6. Chairman, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi.
7. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi.
8. Director (NIC) for uploading on the website of the Department.

**Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**  
**(Department of Consumer Affairs)**

\*\*\*

The following are the important activities of Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of **December, 2019**.

**1. Pulses and Onion Buffer Stock:**

1.1 In view of the continued pressure on the prices of onion, two meetings of Committee of Ministers were held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 in which committee was apprised of the prevailing onion, pulses and oilseeds scenario. The committee was also apprised of the status of imports undertaken in pursuance to the decision of committee of Ministers.

1.2 MMTC floated 6 tenders for import of onion and 2 tenders for purchase of imported onions from domestic traders. Two tenders were finalised and LoI for import of around 25000 MT of onion were issued by MMTC taking the net quantity of import of onion to about 36,500 MT. 2028 MT of imported onion arrived at port and was dispatched to Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Telangana etc. Mother Dairy and NAFED were advised to retail imported onion at cost basis to cool down their retail prices. Several meetings of re-constituted PSF Management Committee were held to review the onions scenario as well as status of imports and disposal of onions during the month.

1.3 Letters were sent to States by Hon'ble Minister and Secretary requesting them to confirm their requirements of imported onion and take appropriate measures to restrain the onion price rise. Video Conferences with States were also held seeking their requirement. Initially, States indicated a requirement of about 33500 MT of onion however as prices started to moderate towards the end of December, States have withdrawn their demand.

1.4 Department of Consumer Affairs has built a buffer of about 15.64 LMT of pulses. States were offered 8.17 LMT of pulses from this buffer that have become eligible for disposal at DRP / market based prices for utilization in their welfare scheme. Also, auction of Tur was undertaken and 0.97 LMT was disposed in market to restrain the rising price trend.

1.5 Weekly Meetings to review prices, management of buffer of pulses and onion as well as their release to States / UTs and agencies for improving availability at reasonable rates were held. Video Conferences with States / UTs were also held to review the status of retailing of Onions, Pulses, enforcement of stock limit of Onion and related matters.

**2. Essential Commodities Act:**

2.1 Stock limit on Onion imposed under EC Act, 1955 was revised downward to 25 MT for Wholesalers & 2 MT for Retailers. States/UTs requested to enforce aforesaid stock limits strictly and carry out anti-hoarding operations against unscrupulous traders by organizing raids.

### 3. National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF):

3.1. In the matter of NCCF, Interim Board constituted by the Hon'ble High Court consisting of retired High Court Judge and two retired IAS officers is carrying out the functions of the Board. Additional charge of MD has been given to JS in the Ministry and in the meantime DoPT has been asked to expedite the appointment of regular MD.

### 4. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS):

4.1 One day workshop on Ensuring Quality of Piped Drinking Water as per IS 10500:2012 was organized by BIS on 09 December 2019 at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi. The workshop was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister (CA, F & PD) and was attended by participants from 23 States and UTs representing the Water Supply and PHE Departments. Officials of BIS delivered a presentation on IS 10500- Specification for Drinking Water and on IS 15000 – Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points.

4.2 BIS (Recruitment to Scientific cadre) Regulations, 2019 has been notified in Official Gazette on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2019.

### 5. National Consumer Day:

5.1 National Consumer Day 2019 was celebrated in Association with Indian Institute of Public Administration New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 with the theme "A Turning Point for Indian Consumer: The Consumer Protection Act, 2019". Hon'ble MoS (CA, F&PD) inaugurated the event. On the occasion, Hon'ble MoS distributed prizes and certificates to school students, winners of poster making competition organized by IIPA. Five publications of CCS, IIPA were also released by Hon'ble Minister.

### 6. The details of Annual rate of Inflation are as follows:

| Sr. No. | Indices   | Inflation Rate (in %)        |                              |                        |
|---------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
|         |   | December, 2019 (Provisional) | November, 2019 (Provisional) | December, 2018 (Final) |
| 1       | Wholesale Price# Index (Annual)                   | 2.59                         | 0.58                         | 3.46                   |
| 2       | Wholesale Price Index# (Food Articles)            | 13.24                        | 11.08                        | -0.42                  |
| 3       | Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)         | 8.61                         | 7.62                         | 4.86                   |
| 4       | Consumer Price Index (Gen.) (Combined)*           | 7.35                         | 5.54                         | 2.11                   |
| 5       | Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)* | 14.12                        | 10.01                        | -2.65                  |

\*:- series 2012=100 #: New Base year 2011-12=100

7. Price trends for the month of December, 2019 over November, 2019 for all India monthly average retail prices from 114 centres across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States / UTs are given at **Annexure I**.

8. The update on other points to be reported to Cabinet Secretariat is at **Annexure II**.

**Annexure-I****Prices of Essential Commodities – Trend over the past month:**

The All India monthly average Retail prices of 22 essential commodities from 114 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of State Government/UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of December, 2019 over November, 2019 are given below:-

**All India monthly Average Retail Prices of Essential Commodities (Rs /Kg)**

| Sl.No. | Commodity     | December, 2019 (latest) | November 2019 (previous) month) | Difference (In Rs.) |
|--------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| (1)    | (2)           | (3)                     | (4)                             | (5)                 |
| 1      | Rice          | 33                      | 34                              | -1                  |
| 2      | Wheat         | 28                      | 28                              | 0                   |
| 3      | Atta          | 30                      | 30                              | 0                   |
| 4      | Gram Dal      | 67                      | 67                              | 0                   |
| 5      | Tur Dal       | 88                      | 88                              | 0                   |
| 6      | Urad Dal      | 96                      | 91                              | 5                   |
| 7      | Moong Dal     | 90                      | 88                              | 2                   |
| 8      | Masoor Dal    | 65                      | 65                              | 0                   |
| 9      | Sugar         | 39                      | 40                              | -1                  |
| 10     | Milk(per ltr) | 45                      | 45                              | 0                   |
| 11     | Groundnut Oil | 136                     | 135                             | 1                   |
| 12     | Mustard Oil   | 114                     | 113                             | 1                   |
| 13     | Vanaspati     | 83                      | 81                              | 2                   |
| 14     | Soya oil      | 94                      | 93                              | 1                   |
| 15     | Sunflower Oil | 102                     | 102                             | 0                   |
| 16     | Palm Oil      | 82                      | 78                              | 4                   |
| 17     | Gur           | 46                      | 47                              | -1                  |
| 18     | Tea loose     | 217                     | 217                             | 0                   |
| 19     | Salt Pack     | 16                      | 16                              | 0                   |
| 20     | Potato        | 25                      | 23                              | 2                   |
| 21     | Onion         | 95                      | 61                              | 34                  |
| 22     | Tomato        | 29                      | 38                              | -9                  |

**Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.**

**Department of Consumer Affairs**

1. Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations:

**NIL**

2. Compliance of CoS decisions: - **Updated in e-Samiksha portal.**

3. No of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months:-

**NIL**

4. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the Government:-

**NIL**

**5. Status of implementation of e-Governance:**

| Total No. of files | Total No. of e-files |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| <b>190</b>         | <b>148</b>           |

**6. Status of Public Grievances:**

| No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of <b>December, 2019</b> | No of Public Grievances pending at the end of <b>December, 2019</b> |
|---|---|
| <b>1190</b>   | <b>481</b>  |

**7. Status of Grievances registered on National Consumer Helpline (NCH):**

| Total dockets registered on National Consumer Helpline (NCH) during the month of <b>December 2019.</b> | Total dockets closed at the end of <b>December, 2019.</b> |
|--|---|
| <b>59076</b>   | <b>45673</b>  |

**8. Minimum Government, Maximum Governance:**

Price Monitoring Cell (PMC) of the Department of Consumer Affairs monitors the retail and wholesale prices of 22 essential commodities on daily basis from 114 centers across the country. These prices are reported by State Civil Supplies Departments on daily basis mainly through online portal. These prices are being disseminated through the Department's website immediately. Because of the online price reporting, the time taken for reporting and disseminating is less. As per instructions/guidelines even other routine office work is being shifted on line to reduce delays and for more efficient results.

\*\*\*\*\*