


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 14th September, 2020

**Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of August,
2020 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs-
regarding.**

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith as Annexure to this letter, the unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the Month of August, 2020 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information.


(Jasbir Tiwari)

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Ph.No.23381233

To

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1. All Members of Council of Ministers.
2. PIB/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.
9. Assistant Director Official Language of the Department.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Monthly Summary for the month of August, 2020.

1. Important policy decisions taken during the month of August, 2020:

- 1.1 Notice to the Houses of Parliament issued for introduction of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to replace the Ordinance.
- 1.2 To review the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 for their simplification and decriminalisation, comments and suggestions have been sought from States/UTs.
- 1.3 Disposal from buffer stock, procurement of pulses and onions under PSF, status of supply to Army, settlement of accounts of PSF operations, inter-alia were reviewed.
- 1.4 The 6 National Test House labs will add to the facilities for testing of toys in the country. BIS will also utilize the NTH labs on priority and send samples drawn from different districts in the country for testing piped drinking water quality.

2 Major achievements during the month

- 2.1 Around 0.95 LMT onion from Rabi 2020 crop was procured under Price Stabilization Fund by end of August 2020 as informed by NAFED, to build buffer for effective market intervention.
- 2.2 As a part of Economic Response to COVID-19 to ameliorate the hardships faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by COVID-19 and w.r.t. provision of one kg pulses per households to NFSA beneficiaries for 3 months (April to June, 2020) under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY-I) Package, against the allocation of 5.82 Lakh MT pulses, 5.83 LMT was dispatched to States/UTs of which 5.80 LMT was received by them and 5.50 LMT was distributed to benefiting 55.02 crore beneficiaries.
- 2.3 Further, w.r.t. distribution of 1 kg free whole chana to each beneficiary household per month as a part of extended PMGKAY (II) beyond the initial period of April to June 2020 until the end of November 2020, against the allocation of 9.70 Lakh MT pulses, 4.22 LMT was dispatched to States/UTs of which 3.27 LMT was received by them and 1.11 LMT was distributed to final beneficiaries.
- 2.4 Further, w.r.t. provision of 1 Kg. of Whole Chana from Government buffer stocks per stranded migrant worker family not covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA) or without ration card in the State/UT under AtmaNirbhar Bharat package, by end of August, 2020, around 27010.36 MT (adjusted as per State/UTs request) whole chana was dispatched to States/UTs of which 26615.44 MT (adjusted as per State/UTs request) was received and 16362.44 MT distributed by them.
- 2.5 Online system of registration and renewal of jewellers and online system of recognition and renewal of recognition of Assaying and Hallmarking Centres

have been launched by Hon'ble Minister CA,F&PD on 21.08.2020 for ease of doing business.

- 2.6 DPIIT has issued QCO for bringing toys under mandatory certification of BIS w.e.f 01 Sep 2020. To facilitate toy industry to put forward their concerns and to create awareness among industry for BIS certification, webinars were conducted by BIS on 07 August 2020 and 20 August 2020. In addition, to expedite process of BIS certification, Product Manual for safety of toys was prepared by a working group comprising of members from BIS and Industry associations.
- 2.7 As per the request of the Empowered Group-3 for Covid-19, Certification of Coveralls for Covid-19 as per the Indian Standard IS 17423:2020 has been initiated.
- 2.8 DPIIT has notified IS 9139:1979 - Malleable Iron Shots and (Quality Control) Order, 2020 dated 13/08/2020 as per Scheme-I of BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulation, 2018.

3 Important Meetings held during the month:

- 3.1 National Test House (NTH) and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) held a joint meeting and identified NTH labs, besides the BIS labs, which are NABL accredited and BIS recognized, to undertake testing of industrial samples received in 42 mandatory areas and toys based on QCO and IS standards issued for toys industry.
- 3.2 One Weekly Review meeting on management of Buffer Stock under PSF was held during the month.
- 3.3 Meeting of the CoS was held on 4.08.2020 on Status of buffer stock of pulses, proposal for extension of import of Urad beyond 31.8.2020 and Review of Prices of potato.
- 3.4 One IMC meeting under the Chairmanship of Secretary (CA), was held during the month to review the prices of essential commodities.
- 3.4 In the meeting with State Water Utilities/Jal Boards/Municipal Corporation held on 24 August 2020, BIS officials explained the draft standard on Quality Management System of Piped Drinking Water to the water utilities in detail and their feedback and comments were recorded.
- 3.5 A webinar was also held with Coverall applicants on 21 Aug, 2020 to address the gaps while offering samples to BIS by applicants so as to mitigate avoidable delays in granting licences.