

**MOST IMMEDIATE**


**No. N-22/2/2021-P&C  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
(Department of Consumer Affairs)**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.  
Dated 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

**Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month December, 2021 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs – regarding.**

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The undersigned is directed to annex the unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of December, 2021 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information.

  
**(Surendra Singh)**  
12/11/2022  
Director to the Govt. of India  
Ph. No. 23384390

To

Copy with enclosures, forwarded through email to:

1. All Members of Council of Ministers.
2. PIB/Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
3. Secretary to Vice - President.
4. Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, 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 (N:C) 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 December, 2021**

Important activities/decisions of the department of Consumer Affairs during the month of December, 2021.

**1. CONSUMER PROTECTION**

1.1 The National Consumer Day was celebrated on 24.12.2021 through webinar. Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles presided over the event. The theme of the celebration was "**Consumer-Know Your Rights**". During the National consumer Day programme, the Hon'ble Minister released e-books on Landmark Judgments on Consumer Law and Practice, a Handbook on Mediation under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 and a Handbook on e-filing in the Consumer Redressal Commissions and flagged off National Test House (NTH) Mobile Van for Drinking Water Testing at RRSL Varanasi. The webinar was attended by officers of State Governments, President and members of the Consumer Commissions, Voluntary Consumer Organisations and other stakeholders.

1.2 During the month, E-daakhil portal started functioning in West Bengal. With this, the total number of the States/UTs which have launched e-filing portal is 24 + NCDRC.

1.3 The following rules under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 were notified in December, 2021:

- (i) The Consumer Protection (Jurisdiction of the District Commission, the State Commission and the National Commission) Rules, 2021;
- (ii) The Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021;
- (iii) The Central Consumer Protection Authority (Form of annual statement of accounts and records) Rules, 2021; and,
- (iv) The Consumer Protection (Search and Seizure and Compounding of offences by the Central Authority and Crediting of Penalty) Rules, 2021.

**2. BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS**

2.1 A meeting to review the progress of the work & cooperation under the framework of the Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure was held on 01December 2021. Secretary (Consumer Affairs) from Indian side and Director General, Digital and Innovation Policy, BMWi from German side co-chaired the meeting.

2.2 Bureau of Indian Standards has notified a new Conformity Assessment Scheme (Scheme-IX) under BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018. The scheme provides for a common integrated product certification, system certification and process certification under one roof. Presently, this scheme is envisaged for milk and milk products and can be extended in other sectors as well.

2.3 Hon'ble Prime Minister has launched the Conformity Assessment Scheme for Milk and Milk Products and Certification Logo in Varanasi on 23 December 2021. Simultaneously, five awareness programmes are being conducted by the Regional Offices of BIS to create awareness for this scheme.

2.4 A new provision has been made in the BIS care app wherein a consumer after entering HUID can view the details of hallmarked jewellery such as type of jewellery, purity, name of AHC, name of jeweler, date of hallmarking.

2.5 SOP for export, re-import, domestic exhibitions and international exhibitions of gold jewellery and definitions of Kundan, Polki and Jadau Jewellery has been issued.

2.6 Under the Hallmarking Scheme, 5927 new jewellers have been registered, and 22 new Assaying & Hallmarking centres have been recognized during the month. Testing of non-hallmarked gold jewellery, lying with consumers, by BIS recognized Assaying & Hallmarking Centres has been allowed.

2.7 BIS has organized following webinars on:

- i. Best practices for inter-laboratory studies, on 26th November 2021, to share the best ideas for conducting inter-laboratory studies and to arrive at precision data for petroleum fuels from the inter-laboratory studies.
- ii. 'Service Requirements for Hotels' on 30th November, 2021. The main objectives of the Seminar were to create awareness about the applicability of Service Requirements Standard for Hotels IS/ISO 22483:2020 and need for the standard amongst stakeholders as well as to identify and involve domain experts in the work of standardization of Tourism Services.
- iii. Sports Goods Standards and QCOs on 01 December 2021, to create awareness among different stakeholders about upcoming QCOs, certification process and standardization process.
- iv. 'Asset Management' virtually on 10 December 2021 in Collaboration with IFMA India.
- v. Standard Awareness Programme on 'Combating Mal-nourishment through Rice fortification - Role of Indian Standards' on 17th December 2021. The programme was aimed to create awareness and disseminate information to the stakeholders on the recently published Indian Standards on Fortified rice and related commodities as well as draft Indian Standards on equipment for manufacture of Fortified Rice Kernels and Fortified Rice which are under wide circulation till 31st December, 2021.
- vi. Technological Advancements in Foundry Industry' on 22nd December, 2021.
- vii. Standardization in Environment Monitoring and Assessment Services – Benefits & Challenges' on 23 December 2021 with the objectives to create awareness about Environmental Services Sector and explore the opportunities for standardization of services in the new emerging areas of Environment.
  - viii) To commemorate Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, a webinar on 'Make in India-Playing Safe with Toys' held on 23rd November, 2021 and an awareness programme for Self Help Groups & Similar Bodies on 29 November 2021.

### **3. PRICE MONITORING**

3.1 53<sup>rd</sup> PSFMC meeting was held on 27.12.2021 under the Chairmanship of Secy (CA) to Review the progress of Procurement/disposal of pulses and Onion under PSF Buffer.

3.2 Rs.17.58 Crore released to Govt. of Karnataka and Telangana on account of Intra-State movement, FPS Dealers' Margin under PMGKAY I, II and ANB.

3.3 Financial Assistance of Rs. 11.52Lakh, Rs. 40.40 Lakh and Rs.30.40 lakh to Government of Karnataka, Nagaland and Andaman & Nicobar respectively were released under the Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cell at States/UTs.

3.4 Meeting of Committee of Secretaries under chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary for review of prices of essential commodities held on 07.12.2021

3.5 Meeting of Group under chairmanship of Hon. Home Minister for review of prices of essential commodities held on 15.12.2021.

### **4. ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT ) ACT**

4.1 The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 was repealed through a bill in Lok Sabha by Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare on November, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 which was passed by both the Houses on November, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and Hon'ble President gave his assent on 30th November, 2021.

### **5. CLEANLINESS DRIVE**

5.1 A special meeting with municipal commissioners of five top ranked municipal corporations in the country on Clean Drinking Water Supply and Testing of samples of municipal water was held to percolate the concept of availability of clean drinking water in rural and Urban Municipal areas in the country, by adopting BIS standards.

5.3 All subordinate and autonomous organizations under the Department of Consumer Affairs have been instructed to continue with the special campaign on cleanliness in their premises located across the country and to devote three hours every week on Fridays to the cleanliness drive.

5.4 Special cleanliness drives in the month of December were undertaken in NTH, Ghaziabad, BIS branches across the country and IILM Ranchi with a special focus on afforestation and plantation.

5.6 The Department participated in the Good Governance Week celebrations from 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 to 25<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 organized by DARPG and was one of the 25 Departments selected to display and exhibit Good Governance initiatives in the National Level Exhibition.

### **6. LEGAL METROLOGY**

6.1 In order to strengthen the quantitative testing facilities in Uttar Pradesh and nearby areas, a Regional Reference Standards Laboratory (RRSL), Varanasi has been established along with a satellite testing center for the National Test

House(NTH). The RRSL laboratory will calibrate the weights and measures and the NTH laboratory will perform drinking water testing, chemical testing and testing of textile supporting the textile industry and common consumers testing requirements. The Regional Reference Standard Laboratory (RRSL), Varanasi was inaugurated by the Honorable **Prime Minister of India** on **23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021**.