

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. N-22/2/2021-P&C

Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution


(Department of Consumer Affairs)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

Dated 13th August, 2021

Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month July, 2021 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 July, 2021 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information.


(Jasbir Tiwari)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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To

Copy with enclosures, forwarded to through email

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. Chairmen, 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 JULY, 2021

Important activities/decisions of the Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of July, 2021.

1. Price Monitoring

1.1 In order to curb the hoarding and black-marketing of pulses, Central government vide its notification dated July 02, 2021 imposed stock limit on all pulses except Moong. The pace of stock declaration and enforcement of the stock limits was monitored closely in coordination with the State Governments. Subsequently, Government vide order dated July 19, 2021 notified stock limits for only Tur, Masur, Urad and Gram till October 31, 2021. Further, the stock limits for Millers and Wholesalers were relaxed and importers were completely exempted from the same. The number of stockholding entities and the stock declarations made by them, increased from 7369 entities and 24.4 LMT pulses as on June 30, to 9625 entities and 29.69 LMT pulses as on July 31.

1.2 The Department of Consumer Affairs made continuous efforts to ensure that the process of pulses imports is streamlined. Through weekly meetings with the concerned organisations/agencies like Customs, FSSAI, PQ and Port Trusts, the status of consignment clearance was monitored. The dwell time of cargo reduced from 9.44 days for the week from June 28 to July 04, to 6.96 days for the week from July 26 to August 02. The total import of the 5 pulses which was 4.47 LMT between April and July 2019 and 4.37 LMT in the same period in 2020, increased to 4.61 LMT between April and July 2021.

2. Buffer Stock

2.1 The approved target for onion buffer in 2021-22 is 2 LMT. Procurement by NAFED commenced from the last week of April, 2021 with the plan to stagger it till the end of July, so that the storage losses are minimised. A total of 2,07,686 MT onion has been procured, of which 5,416 MT is stored in Controlled Atmosphere (CA) warehouses. NAFED has developed an online system for the monitoring of procurement, storage and movement of stocks to ensure efficiency and transparency of the operations.

2.2 The IMC has decided on the trigger for initiating disposal of the onions which is based on the all-India retail price, and takes into account the shelf life of the stocks as well.

3. Legal Metrology

In order to give a boost to manufacturing and entrepreneurship, Government has focused on ease of compliance and ease of doing business, DoCA has accordingly allowed NABL accredited labs which fulfill the norms of ISO:17025, to be notified as Government Approved Test Centre (GATC) for verification of weighing and measuring instruments. Taking forward this initiative, all seven Regional Reference Standard Laboratories (RRSLs) which function under this Department, have also been notified as GATC.

4. Mapping of BIS and NTH Labs on 'Parakh' portal

A Geographic Information System (GIS) based Unified Laboratory Network, 'PARAKH' has been developed by DPIIT, which aggregates all the laboratory related information in the country. DoCA being an important stakeholder is an active participant; all BIS and NTH labs have been mapped on the portal, including the private labs that are empanelled and recognized by BIS.

5. Important testing activities by NTH

5.1 National Test House (NTH) have been carrying out Quality testing works of national importance such as calibration of "Radar Template of Aircraft" at Kolkata and Bhubaneswar Airports and testing of "Precession approach path indicator light, Halogen Runway edge light, Taxiway edge light", which are used during plane landing and take-off.

5.2 A proposal was sent to GeM and then followed up vigorously, after which NTH has been declared a third-party agency for testing and inspection of products that are procured by Government Departments through the GeM portal.

6. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

BIS (India) has been selected as the Chair of the South Asian Regional Standards Organisation (SARSO) Board of Conformity Assessment for a period of three years or till the finalization of Rule of Procedures whichever is earlier, during the meeting held on 23-24 June 2021. The Board of Conformity Assessment is responsible for the planning, coordinating and monitoring of all the conformity assessment activities with a view to eliminating technical barriers to trade within SAARC.