

**MOST IMMEDIATE**

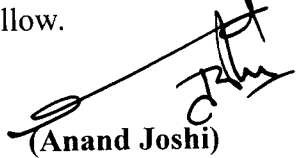
**No. R- 11016/2/2015-P&C**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**  
**(Department of Consumer Affairs)**

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated 22nd June, 2018

**Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month March, April and May, 2018 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs – regarding.**

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Please find enclosed as Annexure to this letter, the unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the Month **March, April and May, 2018** in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information. Hindi version will follow.

  
(Anand Joshi)  
Under Secretary (P&C)  
Ph. No. 23097042

To

Copy with enclosures, forwarded to through email

1. PIO/Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
2. Secretary to Vice- President.
3. Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Secretaries to the Government of India. (As per the list)
5. Chairmen, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi.

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

The following are the important activities of Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of March, 2018:

**1. World Consumer Rights Day 2018**

- The Department celebrated World Consumer Rights Day 2018 on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi. The theme was “Making Digital Market Fairer” The celebrations were well attended. Shri Gulshan Rai, National Cyber Security Co-ordinator, PMO delivered the theme address. An integrated portal [jagograhakjago.gov.in](http://jagograhakjago.gov.in) for consumer services was launched. The meeting was presided over by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Hon’ble Minister of CAF&PD.

**2. Pulses Buffer Stock:**

- As on 28.03.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer was 13.28 lakh MT after disposal of 7.22 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/imported.
- Three Weekly Review Meetings on disposal of pulses were held during the month of March, 2018.
- 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of Re-constituted PSFMC was held on 26.03.2018 in which:
  - Central Agencies (FCI, NAFED, etc.) were directed to identify additional 5 lakh MT of pulses over and above 8.88 lakh MT already identified from the combined stock under PSF and PSS on FIFO basis to be utilised for supply to States/Central agencies/Central Government schemes (MDM/PDS) in view of significant fresh procurement under PSS. The supplies may be made at prices as per the extant policy on pricing of pulses from buffer.
  - Change in the PSS guidelines that would enable transfer of PSS stock to PSF buffer be undertaken urgently.
  - Approved the proposals from Odisha and Tamil Nadu for setting up State Level PSF.
  - As on 26.03.2018, 21452.56 MT of pulses has been supplied to the Army; 2% service charge to NAFED was allowed on the supply of 45000 MT to Army for 2018-19.

- A Video-Conference was held by Union Secretaries of School Education and Consumer Affairs with the States to implement supply of Pulses under MDM w.e.f. 01.04.2018.

### **3. Essential Commodities Act:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group on cartelization, hoarding, speculation etc. in the trade of essential food items was held on 28.03.2018.

### **4. Bureau of Indian Standards:**

- The “Hallmarking Regulations” under BIS Act, 2016 were approved and sent to Director General, BIS for gazette publication. The regulations contain schemes for grant, operation, renewal and cancellation of certificate of registration to the jewellers selling notified precious metal articles, recognition to assaying and hallmarking centres and licence to the manufacturers engaged in refining of precious metal(s).
- The “Conformity Assessment Regulations” under BIS Act, 2016 were approved and sent to Director General, BIS for gazette publication. The new regulations allow multiple types of simplified conformity assessment schemes including self-declaration of conformity against a standard which will give simplified options to manufacturers to adhere to the standards and get licence or certificate of conformity.
- Guidelines were issued laying down the procedure to be followed by the concerned Ministries, such as MeitY, Ministry of Steel, DIPP, etc., for making compulsory the use of a mark under licence or certificate of conformity under BIS Act, 2016 to demonstrate that goods, article, process, system or service conform to the requirements of a standard or the essential requirements. The above stated guidelines also cover the procedure for approving and authorizing agencies other than BIS, if required, for carrying out conformity assessment activities.
- Keeping in view the increase in number of BIS licensees in the State of Karnataka, it has been decided to open a new branch office of BIS at Hubli to better serve geographically. At present there is only one branch office of BIS in Karnataka at Bengaluru.

## 5. Legal Metrology:

- A draft Cabinet Note has been prepared for Creation of Directorate of Legal Metrology under the provisions of Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

The Directorate will be an attached office under the Department of Consumer Affairs, and its creation will result in efficient discharge of the responsibilities assigned under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Rules made there under. It will in particular address the gaps in regulation and enforcement which cause loss to the exchequer and adequately safeguard health and safety of citizens, promote a culture of quantity assurance which will benefit consumers and promote international cooperation.

The said Draft Cabinet Note will be submitted shortly for approval of the Cabinet after getting comments from Prime Minister's Office.

## 6. Fund utilization

- During the financial year 2017-18 the Department of Consumer Affairs was allocated Budget Estimate (BE) of Rs. 3744.45 crores which was reduced to Rs. 3733.85 crores at Revised Estimate (RE) stage. Out of the RE, this Department utilized Rs. 3730.34 crores which is 99.91% of RE 2017-18.

## 7. The details of Annual rate of inflation are as follows:

Sl. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		February, 2018	January, 2018	February, 2017
1	Wholesale Price Index # (Annual)	2.48	2.84	5.51
2	Wholesale Price Index # (Food Articles)	0.88	3.00	2.55
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	4.74	5.11	2.62
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	4.44	5.07	3.65
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	3.26	4.70	2.01

\*: series2012=100    #: New Base year 2011-12=100

8. Price trends for the month of March, 2018 over February, 2018 for all India monthly average retail prices from 101 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States/UTs are given at **Annexure-I**.

9. 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 101 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Department of State Government/ UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of March, 2018 over February, 2018 are given below:-

**All India monthly Average Retail Prices of Essential Commodities**

(Rs /Kg)

Sl.No.	Commodity	March, 2018 (latest)	February, 2018 (previous) month)	Difference (In Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(5)
1	Rice	30	30	0
2	Wheat	24	24	0
3	Atta	26	26	0
4	Gram Dal	69	71	-2
5	Tur Dal	73	74	-1
6	Urad Dal	73	74	-1
7	Moong Dal	74	74	0
8	Masoor Dal	62	62	0
9	Sugar	40	41	-1
10	Milk	42	42	0
11	Groundnut Oil	126	127	-1
12	Mustard Oil	106	106	0
13	Vanaspati	80	79	1
14	Soya oil	88	88	0
15	Sunflower Oil	94	94	0
16	Palm Oil	76	73	3
17	Gur	43	44	-1
18	Tea loose	208	207	1
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	15	15	0
21	Onion	26	35	-9
22	Tomato	17	19	-2

**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>347</b>	<b>252</b>

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of March, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of March, 2018
<b>440</b>	<b>503</b>

**7. 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. These prices are reported by State Civil Supplies Departments on daily basis mainly through online portal. These prices are disseminated through the Department website immediately. Because of the online price reporting, the time taken to report and dissemination is less. As per instructions/guidelines even other routine office work is being shifted on line to reduce delays and for more efficient results.

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

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The following are the important activities of Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of April, 2018:

**1. Vacancies in NCDRC**

- For filling up the posts of Member in the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), a proposal was sent on 20.4.2018 to DOP&T for obtaining approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) to the appointment of the six candidates recommended by the Search-cum- Selection Committee.

**2. National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF)**

- To prevent the Government shareholding from going down through fraudulent means, this Department issued direction under section 122 of Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 that the NCCF may not give effect to the amendments to the bye laws registered by Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies and to amend the bye-laws so as to bring them to its original position consistent with the Act's and Rules.

**3. Pulses Buffer Stock:**

- To make Price Collection System more robust, the Guidelines for Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cells in the States have been revised to provide for one data Entry Operator (DEO) and a handheld device with geo-tagging facilities for each price collection centre.
- As on 27.04.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer is 12.51 lakh MT after disposal of 7.99 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/imported. About 77000 MT of pulses was disposed during April, 2018.
- Four Weekly Review Meetings on Disposal of pulses were held during the month of April, 2018. Supply of pulses to States for MDM and ICDS and their PDS is being regularly followed up. Orders for MDM supplies have been received from States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Daman & Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli. MDM supply to Gujarat has started. Orders for ICDS supplies has been received from Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram and Manipur. Supplies to Army and CPMFs for 2018-19 have been initiated.



- Costing Cell submitted a Report for estimation of provisional profits/losses of Rs. 497.04 Cr. on disposal of 1.12 lakh MT from the buffer and the same has been sent to D/o Expenditure for writing-off losses.
- The 'Policy on disposal of pulses from the buffer' was finalized in consultation with Department of Expenditure and with approval of Minister (CA, F &PD). The policy has been circulated to all stakeholders and is placed in the public domain on the website of the DoCA.

#### **4. Bureau of Indian Standards:**

- The Hindi versions of Advisory Committees Regulations, Conformity Assessment Regulations and Hallmarking Regulations under BIS Act, 2016 were framed and got vetted by the Legislative Department for final approval before Gazette publication.
- Hon'ble Minister CA, F&PD wrote to the State Chief Ministers for implementation of National Building Code (NBC) of India 2016. The NBC 2016, contains guidelines for regulating the building construction activities across the country, such as general building requirements, fire and life safety requirements, building materials, structural design and construction, building and plumbing services, approach to sustainability and asset and facility management. The NBC serves as a Model Code for adoption by all agencies involved in building construction activities.
- After examining the facts and circumstances of serious nature, namely 50% weightage to interview whereas proposed new regulations envisage 20% only as per Hon'ble Supreme Court orders, which were brought to the notice by CVO BIS, directions under section 25 (1) of the BIS Act 2016 were issued to BIS for cancellation of an online examination scheduled on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018 for conducting recruitment to Scientific Cadre in BIS.

#### **5. REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, 2011**

A presentation on the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the group aimed at keeping the prices of essential food commodities at reasonable level and ensuring their adequate availability to the people was made before the Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 27.04.2018. It was indicated that actions on all the 12 points pertaining to DoCA has been completed. Out of rest 72 action points, more than 40 concern DAC&FW.

**6. The details of Annual rate of inflation are as follows:**

Sl. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		March, 2018 (Provisional) (Provisional)	February, 2018 (Provisional)	March, 2017 (Final) 2017 (Final)
1	Wholesale Price Index # (Annual)	2.47	2.48	5.11
2	Wholesale Price Index # (Food Articles)	-0.29	0.88	3.15
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	4.36	4.74	2.61
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	4.28	4.44	3.89
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	2.81	3.26	2.01

\*: series2012=100 #: New Base year 2011-12=100

7. Price trends for the month of April, 2018 over March, 2018 for all India monthly average retail prices from 101 centers 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**.

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

The All India monthly average Retail prices of 22 essential commodities from 101 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Department of State Government/ UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of April, 2018 over March, 2018 are given below:-

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

Sl.No.	Commodity	April, 2018 (latest)	March, 2018 (previous) month)	Difference (In Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(5)
1	Rice	30	30	0
2	Wheat	24	24	0
3	Atta	26	26	0
4	Gram Dal	67	69	-2
5	Tur Dal	71	73	-2
6	Urad Dal	71	73	-2
7	Moong Dal	72	74	-2
8	Masoor Dal	60	62	-2
9	Sugar	39	40	-1
10	Milk	42	42	0
11	Groundnut Oil	126	126	0
12	Mustard Oil	105	106	-1
13	Vanaspati	80	80	0
14	Soya oil	89	88	1
15	Sunflower Oil	95	94	1
16	Palm Oil	78	76	2
17	Gur	42	43	-1
18	Tea loose	209	208	1
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	17	15	2
21	Onion	19	26	-7
22	Tomato	16	17	-1

**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>291</b>	<b>229</b>

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of April, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of April, 2018
<b>629</b>	<b>437</b>

**7. 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. These prices are reported by State Civil Supplies Departments on daily basis mainly through online portal. These prices are disseminated through the Department website immediately. Because of the online price reporting, the time taken to report and dissemination is less. As per instructions/guidelines even other routine office work is being shifted on line to reduce delays and for more efficient results.

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

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The following are the important activities of Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of **May 2018**:

**1. National Cooperative Consumers, Federation of India Ltd (NCCF)**

- In compliance of the ACC approval conveyed vide order No. 9/7/2018-EO(SM-I) dated 09.05.2018, Shri Kamal Chowdhary, IDAS'91, Managing Director, NCCF was placed on compulsory wait and the additional charge of the post of Managing Director, NCCF was given to Shri Anil Bahuguna, CSS Joint Secretary, D/o Consumer Affairs for a period of six months or until further order, whichever is earlier. Shri Kamal Chowdhery, IDAS'91 was placed under suspension by Disciplinary Authority w.e.f. 10.05.2018 for gross dereliction of duty to protect Government interest.
- Further, the Chairman, NCCF challenged the appointment of Shri Anil Bahuguna as MD, NCCF in the Delhi High Court. The Delhi High Court in its order dated 21.05.2018 stayed the appointment of Shri Anil Bahuguna as MD, NCCF. The next date of hearing is 03.07.2018.
- Dr. Bijender Singh, former Chairman of NCCF, represented Priya Consumer Cooperative Society. The said society incurred disqualification as per the order issued by Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies dated 18th May, 2018. The said order was subsequently communicated by the Government appointed MD in NCCF. Dr. Bijender Singh moved the Hon'ble High Court against the order of 18th May, 2018. The Division bench of Hon'ble High Court vide its order dated 31st May, 2018 directed the parties to maintain status quo as on 31st May, 2018. Thus Dr Bijender Singh remains disqualified to be member of Board of NCCF.

**2. Pulses Buffer Stock:**

- As on 31.05.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer is 11.93 lakh MT after disposal of 8.57 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/imported.
- Five Weekly Review Meetings on Disposal of pulses were held during the month of May, 2018 to monitor and expedite disposal of pulses from the identified stocks.

**3. Vacancies in NCDRC**

- For filling up the posts of Member in the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), a proposal was sent on 20.4.2018 to DOP&T for obtaining approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) to the appointment of the six candidates recommended by the Search-cum-Selection Committee.

- A proposal for filling up the post of President, NCDRC vice Justice D.K. Jain was sent to DoP&T on 18.05.2018 seeking approval of ACC to the appointment of Justice R.K. Agarwal, a retired Supreme Court Judge, recommended by Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. Same was approved by ACC.

#### 4. **Super Bazar**

- The issue regarding revival of Super Bazar vide SLP No. 8398-8399 of 2005 was subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its final hearing on 29-3-2016 upheld the order of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court and also directed that the Official Liquidator shall proceed with the liquidation of the assets of Super Bazar in accordance with law, and in consonance with the order dated 19.12.2003 of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court. Accordingly, the liquidation process is under progress. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 17.05.2018 has inter-alia directed the following:
  - *"We are accordingly of the view that the report submitted by CAG needs to be corrected on the above counts namely;*
    - ❖ *Denial of interest at 6 per cent on the entire investment of WPL including by way of share capital; and*
    - ❖ *Adjustment of losses.*

*as explained earlier."*
- The direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is being examined in consultation with M/o Law, C&AG and M/o Finance for compliance.

#### 5. **Consumer Grievances**

- NCH has registered 46,897 dockets during the month which is the highest ever registered in INGRAM. Out of this, 39% dockets pertain to convergence companies. Further, the highest number – 20% of total dockets / complaints pertain to e-commerce sector.
- Response received from Convergence Companies on complaints logged in to INGRAM is 48.4% for the complaints registered and responded to within the month of May itself. It does not include the responses received on the dockets created in previous months.
- 6 new companies /organisations were added in the month of May 18, bringing the total count of Convergence partners to 431.

#### 6. **Bureau of Indian Standards:**

- The Conformity Assessment Regulations were notified on 04 June 2018.

- BIS organized a National Conference on the theme "Low Voltage Direct Current (LVDC) Power Distribution Systems" at Shillong on 18 May 2018. BIS is in the process of formulating National Standards in the field of grid integration of renewable energy.

**7. The details of Annual rate of Inflation are as follows:**

S. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		April, 2018 (Provisional)	March, 2018 (Provisional)	April, 2017 (Final)
1	Wholesale Price# Index(Annual)	3.18	2.47	3.85
2	Wholesale Price Index# (Food Articles)	0.87	-0.29	0.58
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	3.97	4.36	2.21
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	4.58	4.28	2.99
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	2.80	2.81	0.61

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

**8.** Price trends for the month of May, 2018 over April, 2018 for all India monthly average retail prices from 101 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States/UTs are given at **Annexure-I**.

**9.** 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 101 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Department of State Government/ UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of May, 2018 over April, 2018 are given below:-

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

Sl.No.	Commodity	May, 2018 (latest)	April, 2018 (previous) month)	Difference (In Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(5)
1	Rice	30	30	0
2	Wheat	24	24	0
3	Atta	26	26	0
4	Gram Dal	65	67	-2
5	Tur Dal	70	71	-1
6	Urad Dal	70	71	-1
7	Moong Dal	72	72	0
8	Masoor Dal	60	60	0
9	Sugar	37	39	-2
10	Milk	42	42	0
11	Groundnut Oil	126	126	0
12	Mustard Oil	105	105	0
13	Vanaspati	80	80	0
14	Soya oil	89	89	0
15	Sunflower Oil	95	95	0
16	Palm Oil	78	78	0
17	Gur	42	42	0
18	Tea loose	210	209	1
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	19	17	2
21	Onion	17	19	-2
22	Tomato	16	16	0

**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>246</b>	<b>202</b>

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of May, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of May, 2018
<b>720</b>	<b>574</b>

**7. 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. These prices are reported by State Civil Supplies Departments on daily basis mainly through online portal. These prices are disseminated through the Department website immediately. Because of the online price reporting, the time taken to report and dissemination is less. As per instructions/guidelines even other routine office work is being shifted on line to reduce delays and for more efficient results.

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