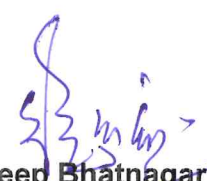


No. R- 11016/02/2015-P&C
Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated 15th December, 2020

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

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 November, 2020 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs, for kind information.


(Pradeep Bhatnagar)
Director (P&C)
Ph. No. 23389327

To

Copy with enclosures, forwarded 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. Chairman, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi.
7. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Monthly Summary for the month of November, 2020

1. Important Policy decisions taken during the month

i) To cool down prices of onions, Government have taken steps to facilitate import from Afghanistan and other countries, as also to directly import onions through NAFED. Approval have been given for procurement and supply of imported onion to enhance supply and recouping of PSF buffer through procurement of Kharif onions. The Government has also decided to enhance the buffer stock of onion from 1 LMT to 1.5 LMT for Rabi 2021.

ii) Steps taken by the Government to contain price and availability of potato includes reduction in import duty from 30 % to 10% duty for 10 LMT import of potato till 31.01.2021. The Government also relaxed Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures for import of potato on country to country basis; and quarantine and fumigation requirements for imported onion waived up to 15.12.2020. To augment domestic availability of potato, steps have been taken to facilitate import from Bhutan and licenses issued for import of potato from Netherlands and UAE as well.

iii) The Government extended LMT Quota for import of Tur from 15.11.20 till 31.12.20 and 1.5 LMT Urad import quota till 31.3.21. Also, Duty reduction on Masur from 30% to 10% extended till 31.12.20. The Government has approved increase in the size and composition of PSF pulses buffer for 2021-22 to 23 LMT. In order to ensure assured supply of pulses during the period of exigencies, the Government extended MOU with Mozambique for 2 LMT Tur for another 5 years and entered into MOU with Myanmar for 2.5 LMT Urad for 5 years.

2. Major Achievements during the month

i) Around 0.99 LMT onion from Rabi 2020 crop was procured under PSF and during the month, about 63,110 MT of onion has been disposed as informed by NAFED.

ii) A nationwide advocacy and awareness campaign on PMGKAY and its benefits was initiated. The message that free of cost pulses and foodgrains were being distributed to NFSA beneficiaries was delivered through a video film that was shared with the Panchayats and dubbed in 20 regional languages.

iii) The awareness campaign led to information dissemination about the programme and resulted in larger number of beneficiaries receiving the intended benefits within a short period of two and a half month. As on date, the State govts/

UTs have distributed 6.57 LMT pulses out of the 8.04 LMT whole chana received by them.

iv) 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 where they are stranded under Atma Nirbhar Bharat package, by end of November, 2020, around 27,008.41 MT of whole chana was dispatched to States/UTs of which 26,871.98 MT was received and 16,644.88 MT distributed by them.

v) BIS has launched a user-friendly platform, "Manak Online", which has transformed the entire gamut of certification processes. Along with process reengineering, it has resulted in more than 90% of the applications for the grant of licenses under ISI Mark Scheme getting disposed of within the prescribed timeframe (01 month under Simplified procedure and 04 months under Normal procedure).

vi) With a view to ensuring optimum outcomes in its operations, BIS has also accredited 5 agencies that are certified by NABCB, for implementing all activities related to factory surveillance of licences.

3. Important meetings held during the month

i) One Meeting of the CoS was held on 13.11.2020 regarding "Review of Prices of Essential Commodities".
