

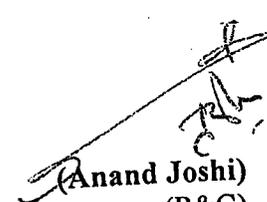
MOST IMMEDIATE

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 March, 2018

Subject:- Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of February, 2018 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs-regarding.

Please find enclosed as Annexure to this letter, the unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the Month of **February, 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 e-mail

1. All Members of Council of Ministers.
2. PIO/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.

**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 February, 2018:

1. Consumer Protection Bill, 2018

- The Consumer Protection Bill, 2018 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 5th January, 2018. The Bill was earlier introduced in 2015 and has been examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The revised Bill is pending for approval of Parliament.

2. Pulses Buffer Stock:

- As on 28.2.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer stock is 14.74 lakh MT after disposal of 5.76 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/imported.
- PSFMC, in its meeting held on 11th January, 2018, identified another 5 lakh MT of pulses for disposal. Approval of Department of Expenditure for dynamic reserve prices for this stock was obtained and disposal of the same has already begun. Disposal of pulses from buffer is being reviewed weekly with all designated agencies.
- Policy for disposal of pulses was placed for consideration of CoS as well as DoE. The policy has been approved.
- Costing Cell submitted a Report for estimation of provisional profits/losses on disposal of 1.12 lakh MT from the buffer and the same has been sent to D/o Expenditure for writing-off losses.

3. Committee of Ministers:

- Meeting of the Committee of Ministers to review prices of Agricultural produce was held on 15th February, 2018 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Finance Minister. The recommendations relating to raising import duties on edible oils and chana have since been implemented.

4. Bureau of Indian Standards:

- The BIS Act, 2016 and BIS Rules, 2017 have been put in place. The various regulations namely Conformity Assessment, Hall-marking etc. have been drafted in consultation with Legislative Department. Final vetting is awaited from Legislative Department.

5. Legal Metrology

- The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2017 were enforced from 1.1.2018 to inter alia increase the font size for making the mandatory declarations on pre-packaged commodities. On the representations of Industries, permission was given for making declarations with increased font size by affixing stickers or by stamping or online printing up to 30.4.2018. Further, the Controllers of Legal Metrology of State Governments have been advised not to take coercive action against the industry up to 30.4.2018 for font size.

6. Consumer Grievances

- During the month of February, 2018, DoCA partnered with Meity to enable National Consumer Helpline (NCH) to take complaints and enquiries regarding digital payments for redressal. Further, under the convergence programme, about 400 companies/Departments have partnered with NCH by February-end to address consumer complaints, where the satisfaction level is about 78% as ascertained through a random feedback check done by NCH.

7. Swachhata Pakhwada

- During the period 16-28 February, 2018, nationwide campaign on consumers' responsibilities towards swachhata was carried out on Doordarshan, AIR etc. Assistance was given for construction of 834 toilets for men, women and differently abled in 278 district fora. Eight voluntary consumer organizations (VCOs) in five States were selected for financial assistance of Rs. 15,000 per month under the scheme Clean Market. VC was held with Controllers of Legal Metrology for engaging shopkeepers for cleaning the shops. BIS carried out campaign on Indian standards on solid waste management and screened films in 9 schools and 2 bastis on street food vendors.

8. The details of Annual rate of inflation are as follows:

Sl. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		January, 2018	December, 2017	January, 2017
1	Wholesale Price Index # (Annual)	2.84	3.58	4.26
2	Wholesale Price Index # (Food Articles)	3.00	4.72	0.29
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	5.11	4.00	1.86
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	5.07	5.21	3.17
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	4.70	4.96	0.61

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

9. Price trends for the month of February, 2018 over January, 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**.
10. 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 February, 2018 over January, 2017 are given below:-

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

Sl.No.	Commodity	February, 2018 (latest)	January, 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	71	74	-3
5	Tur Dal	74	74	0
6	Urad Dal	74	75	-1
7	Moong Dal	74	74	0
8	Masoor Dal	62	63	-1
9	Sugar	41	41	0
10	Milk	42	42	0
11	Groundnut Oil	127	127	0
12	Mustard Oil	106	107	0
13	Vanaspati	79	79	0
14	Soya oil	88	87	1
15	Sunflower Oil	94	94	0
16	Palm Oil	73	73	0
17	Gur	44	45	-1
18	Tea loose	207	207	0
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	15	15	0
21	Onion	35	43	-8
22	Tomato	19	23	-4

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
245	187

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of February, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of February, 2018
528	385

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. These prices are disseminated through the Department website immediately. Because of the online price reporting, the time taken to report and for 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.
