

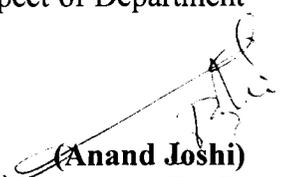
MOST IMMEDIATE

**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 2nd November, 2018

Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month September, 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 **September, 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. 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. Chairmen, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi.
7. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhavan, 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 **September 2018**:

1. Pulses Buffer Stock:

- As on 28.09.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer was 8.09 lakh MT after disposal of 12.41 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/imported.
- Three Weekly Review Meetings on Disposal of pulses were held during the month of **September, 2018** to monitor and expedite disposal of pulses from the identified stocks.

2. NCCF

- At present there is no MD nor Chairman in NCCF and it is in state of lawlessness. An order dated 24th July, 2018 was issued under Section 123 of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 (The MSCS Act) for superseding the Board of NCCF. The NCCF at the behest of its non-official Board members challenged the order of supersession in the High Court of Delhi. Ld. Single Judge has stayed the order till next date of hearing and also ordered that NCCF will not hold any meeting of the Board. The next date of hearing is 30th October, 2018.
- Earlier non-official members of Board of NCCF held a meeting on 12 July 2018 despite Government direction u/s 122 not to hold the meeting. They took various irregular decisions like reverting the Chief Vigilance Officer, NCCF, sanctioning salary of MD to GM, etc. Based on opinion of Ld. ASGI, a reference has been filed before CRCS u/s 84 of The MSCS Act to cancel the minutes of the meeting. CRCS has stayed the processing of the Board meeting for 1 month vide his order dated 12th September, 2018 and appointed Shri Arvind Kumar, Former Judge of Punjab & Haryana High Court as arbitrator. Based on WP filed by NCCF at the behest of non-official members, Ld. Single Judge of Delhi High Court (Justice Vibhu Bakhru) has stayed the proceedings before the arbitrator and fixed the case for 23.10.2018.

3. Super Bazar

- M/S Writers and Publishers Pvt. Ltd. (WPL) filed a contempt petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the Deputy Director of this Department because the then official liquidator, Super Bazar Cooperative Store Ltd. Delhi, based on order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 17.05.2018, unauthorisedly issued a cheque of ` 35 Crore in favour of M/S WPL on 18.05.2018 though his term had ended on 15.05.2018. The Deputy Director, DoCA had ordered the bank of M/s WPL to stop this payment. Hon'ble Supreme Court on 26.09.2018 dismissed the Contempt Petition filed by M/S WPL and recalled its order dated 17.05.2018.

4. Consumer Protection Rules

- The Consumer Protection Rules 1987 were amended vide notification dated 14 September, 2018 to reduce fees for filing of complaints in the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum. There will be no fee for complaints where value of goods or services and compensation claim is upto ` 5 Lakh; earlier it was ` 200/- For value ` 5 Lakh to ` 10 Lakh and for ` 10 Lakh to ` 20 Lakh, ` 200 and ` 400 will be the respective fees.

5. NCDRC

- While hearing an appeal filed by the insurance company in case No.1357/2016 on 25, September, 2018 challenging the decision of murder to not be treated as an accident, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) ruled out the plea stating that "an insurance company cannot deny claim in case of murder of a person insured for accidental death unless such crimes are expected in the policy". In connection with a 2009 murder case, NCDRC termed the approach of insurance company - Royal Sundaram- as "unfair trade practice". It directed the insurance company to pay the compensation of ` 2 Lakh within four weeks to the family of victim who was murdered.
- NCDRC has ordered a government- owned insurance company in case No.558/2018 to pay ` 2 Lakh compensation for denying claims to the mother of a motorcyclist who was killed while driving the vehicle that was registered in her name. NCDRC criticized the firm for its objective interpretation of 'driver-owner' condition in the insurance document and has asked it to end the ambiguity within three months.
- NCDRC has directed the Indian postal service in case no.2117/2018 to pay ` 24.8 Lakh to two brothers towards the maturity value of the small-savings scheme certificates bought for them by their father but were lost. NCDRC ruled that since there were no claimants for the amount, the post office could not have appropriated the entire amount forever due to non-submission of the certificates.

6. Essential Commodities ACT:

- An online platform for furnishing of Action Taken Report (ATR) under EC Act, 1955 and PBMMSEC Act, 1980 has been created for States/UTs.
- As per report received online and through post, details of action taken by States/UTs in the month of August and September (as on 03.10.2018) are as under:

Month	Raids Conducted	Persons arrested	Persons prosecuted	Persons convicted	Detention order passed	Value of goods confiscated (in lakhs)
August	7219	446	233	22	11	18.06
September	40	1	1	1	----	80

7. Bureau of Indian Standards:

- Secretary with DG, BIS attended the ISO General Assembly meeting at Geneva in last week of September, On the side-lines of ISO GA, meetings were held with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Bhutan Standards Bureau (BSB), BRICS National Standards Bodies, American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and Commonwealth Standards Network (CSN). During the meetings, issues of mutual cooperation were discussed.
- The Scientific Cadre (Group A) Regulations were finalized and approved by Government. Same have been sent to DG, BIS for notification. BIS can now fill its 25% vacancies by recruitment under new regulations.

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

Sr. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		August, 2018 (Provisional)	July, 2018 (Provisional)	August, 2017 (Final)
1	Wholesale Price# Index(Annual)	4.53	5.09	3.24
2	Wholesale Price Index# (Food Articles)	-4.04	-2.16	5.82
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	5.61	5.61	2.52
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	3.69	4.17	3.28
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	0.29	1.30	1.52

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

9. Price trends for the month of September, 2018 over August, 2018 for all India monthly average retail prices from 106 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**.

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

The All India monthly average Retail prices of 22 essential commodities from 106 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 September, 2018 over August, 2018 are given below:-

Sl.No.	Commodity	September, 2018 (latest)	August, 2018 (previous) month)	Difference (In Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Rice	30	30	0
2	Wheat	24	24	0
3	Atta	27	26	1
4	Gram Dal	65	65	0
5	Tur Dal	70	70	0
6	Urad Dal	69	69	0
7	Moong Dal	73	73	0
8	Masoor Dal	61	61	0
9	Sugar	39	39	0
10	Milk	42	43	-1
11	Groundnut Oil	125	124	1
12	Mustard Oil	106	106	0
13	Vanaspati	81	81	0
14	Soya oil	90	90	0
15	Sunflower Oil	98	98	0
16	Palm Oil	77	78	-1
17	Gur	43	43	0
18	Tea loose	209	211	-2
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	22	22	0
21	Onion	21	22	-1
22	Tomato	25	28	-3

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.

ANNEXURE II

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
190	158

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of September, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of September, 2018
826	632

7. Status of Grievances registered on National Consumer Helpline (NCH):

Total dockets registered on National Consumer Helpline (NCH) during the month of September, 2018.	Total dockets closed at the end of September, 2018.
46672	38566

8. 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.
