

IMMEDIATE

**No. N-22/2/2021-P&C**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated 16<sup>h</sup> September, 2022.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month August, 2022  
in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs – regarding.**

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The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith an unclassified portion of the Monthly Summary for the month of August, 2022 (**Annexure**), for use of the Cabinet, in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs.

Encl: As above.

*Jayashree Narayanan*  
16/9/2022  
**(Jayashree Narayanan)**

Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Ph. No. 2338 4627

Copy with enclosures, through email to:

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, NITI 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 June, 2022**

The following are the important activities of the Department of Consumer Affairs carried out during the month of August, 2022:

**1. Consumer Protection:**

The Department has constituted a Central Inter-Ministerial Task Force, to examine the issue of uniformity in charging port in electronic devices. The Task force is headed by Ms.Nidhi Khare, Additional Secretary (CA) with other Members from Ministries/Departments, Industry associations and educational institutions.

**2. Price Monitoring:**

- 2.1 Advisory to States/UTs to enforce disclosure of Tur stocks by stockholding entities like millers, importers, traders, stockists was issued on 12.08.2022 to contain rising prices of Tur.
- 2.2 A meeting of Committee of Secretaries under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to review the prices of essential food commodities took place on 16.08.2022.
- 2.3 Disposal plan for onion stocks from PSF buffer procured during April and May, 2022 finalised and conveyed to NAFED on 30.08.2022 to commence disposal of the stocks.
- 2.4 Agriwatch's weekly presentation to Secretary (DoCA) covers the prices, production, yield and import & export scenario of five pulses (gram, tur, urad, moong and chana), and three vegetables (onion, potato and tomato)
- 2.5 Price trends for the month of August, 2022 over July, 2022 for all India monthly average retail prices as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States/UTs is attached.

**3. Price Stabilization Fund:**

- 3.1 Released Rs.47.80 crore as differential payment to Cash Credit Account of PSS for pulses(Gram R-20&21, Tur K-20 and Moong K-20) transferred from PSS to PSF.
- 3.2 Released Rs.24.50 lakh as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment to SFAC, Fund Manager, PSF, as Admin Expenses for FY 2022-23.

#### **4. Onion Buffer stock:**

A buffer stock of 2.50 LMT of onion has been built in 2022-23 by procuring rabi-2022 harvest. The procurement target of 2.50 LMT has been achieved on 13.07.2022. The stocks from the buffer will be released in a targeted and calibrated manner during lean season (Aug - Dec) to contain price rise.

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

5.1 During the month of Aug '22, 18 new standards have been formulated and 31 standards revised, 33 proposals were taken up for formulation of new Standards and 91 proposals for revision of existing Standards.

5.2 The Fourth Governing Council (GC) meeting of BIS under the Chairmanship of Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister, Commerce & Industry, Textile, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Ex-Officio President was held on 24.08.2022 at New Delhi, which was also attended by Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Ex-Officio Vice President.

5.3 A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution on 13.08.2022 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss development of organic food testing infrastructure and milk testing centres in the country. A brief presentation was made by BIS about the regulatory setup in the country for organic food including certification and testing, the standards on organic production system and labelling developed by BIS, Indian Standards on various dairy products as well as test methods for detection of adulteration in milk and other food products and the BIS conformity assessment scheme.

5.4 428 new licences were granted to domestic manufacturers and 22 licences were granted to foreign manufacturers. In addition, 2520 licences granted to domestic manufacturers and 40 to foreign manufacturers were renewed.

5.5 To process applications for grant of licence and to monitor the operation of licensees, 539 preliminary inspections, 3834 surveillance inspections by BIS and OSAs, 525 LOT inspections and 403 other inspections were carried out across the country. 16 All India First Licences were granted. Under the Compulsory Registration Scheme, 490 new licences were issued, 817 inclusions and 367 renewals were done in the month of August 2022. The number of operative licences was 19,810 in this month.

5.6 1291 new jewellers have been registered, 47 new A&H centres and one referral lab have been recognized. Three new private laboratories have been recognized by BIS as per Microbiology and Electrical ISs. Besides, 09 Regular Audit have been carried out by BIS laboratories.

5.7 13 new Management Systems Certification licences were granted. All India first license for Conformity Assessment Scheme for Milk and Milk Products has been granted to M/s Bihar Co - Operative Federation limited to Nalanda Dairy on 16.08.2022; First Technical Committee Meeting for Conformity Assessment Scheme for Milk and Milk

Products regarding CASMMP documentation was organized by the BIS Officials on 8.08.2022.

## **6. Ease of doing business:**

6.1 The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 were amended on 22.08.2022 exempting the garment or hosiery industry, selling these items in loose or open, from declaring common/ generic name of the commodity, net quantity, unit sale price, month and year of manufacture and consumer care name & address. This would reduce the compliance burden of garment/ hosiery industry and promote ease of doing business in this sector.

However, to protect the interest of consumers they shall continue to display name and address of the manufacturer/ marketer/ brand owner/ importer with country of origin, consumer care email id and phone number, sizes with internationally recognizable size indicators and maximum retail price (MRP).

6.2 The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 provides for declaration of mandatory information on packages. It is observed that manufacturers/ packers/ importers are presently declaring the composition of main ingredients on the back side of the package. For making an informed choice the composition of two or more prime constituents containing the percentage/ quantity of unique selling point / unique selling proposition (USP) of the product may be made prominently on the front side of the package.

Therefore, in the interest of consumers, public comments are invited from all stakeholders in the matter of declaring two or more prime constituents of the commodity on the front side of the package with the brand name/ logo of the company.

## **7. ACC directions:**

The post of Senior Economic Adviser is vacant since 17.7.2021 after relieving of Ms. Rupa Dutta. The same has to be filled by D/o Economic Affairs being a cadre controlling authority for the post. Hence, no ACC direction is pending with Department.

Prices of Essential Commodities – Trend over the past month:

The All India monthly average Retail prices of 22 essential commodities from 184 centres across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of State Government/UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of August, 2022 over July, 2022 are given below:-

All India Monthly Average Retail Prices of Essential Commodities (₹/kg)

S.No	Commodity	August, 2022	July, 2022	Difference (In ₹)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Rice	37	37	0
2	Wheat	31	30	1
3	Atta	35	34	1
4	Gram Dal	73	73	0
5	Tur Dal	109	104	5
6	Urad Dal	104	104	0
7	Moong Dal	102	102	0
8	Masoor Dal	97	96	1
9	Sugar	42	42	0
10	Milk(per ltr)	52	52	0
11	Groundnut Oil	190	191	-1
12	Mustard Oil	181	183	-2
13	Vanaspati	153	159	-6
14	Soya oil	159	164	-6
15	Sunflower Oil	182	185	-3
16	Palm Oil	138	142	-4
17	Gur	49	49	0
18	Tea loose	282	282	0
19	Salt Pack	20	20	0
20	Potato	27	26	1
21	Onion	26	25	1
22	Tomato	34	39	-5

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.