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 19th September, 2018

Subject: - Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month August, 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 **August**, 2018 in respect of Department of Consumer Affairs for kind information. Hindi version will follow.

Anand Joshi)

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

То

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 August, 2018**:

1. <u>Pulses Buffer Stock:</u>

- Regular weekly meetings on disposal of pulses were held during the month. NAFED was encouraged to engage with States/UTs for taking their requirement of pulses under MDM/ICDS/PDS from central buffer. These efforts led to disposal of 1.24 LMT in the month. As on 31.08.2018, the available stock in the pulses buffer is 8.62 lakh MT after disposal of 11.88 lakh MT from 20.50 lakh tonnes procured/ imported.
- Meeting of Re-constituted PSFMC was held on 6.8.18 in which the criteria recommended by Group of Officers for fixation of prices of milled pulses to the States for Mid-Day Meal and ICDS schemes was approved. In addition, disposal of remaining pulses of 2.7 lakh MT by NAFED through institutional/market route in addition to supplies to States was approved.
- The 3rd meeting of the Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, Niti Aayog to recommend the Buffer Stock Norms of pulses was held on 28.08.2018. The Committee has recommended a buffer stock of 15.76 LMT pulses for 2018-19.
- The matter was taken up with DAC&FW to include on FIFO basis, the balance PSF stock for supply of PSS pulses to States with Rs.15/- per Kg subsidy. Same was agreed to by DAC&FW.

2. <u>NCCF</u> :

 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 and 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 13 September 2018. Earlier Board of NCCF held a meeting on 12 July 2018 despite Government direction u/s 122 not to hold the meeting. The Board 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.

• The shareholding in NCCF was reviewed with DAC&FW. The DAC&FW, DoCA and CRCS were advised to take all necessary steps to protect Govt interest in NCCF in view of huge Govt properties devolved on it as also the importance of NCCF in consumer protection.

3. Super Bazar :

M/s Writers & Publishers Ltd. (WPL) filed a case against Official Liquidator • of Super Bazar for non-payment of their dues as per order dated 29.03.2016 according to which CAG was to verify income and expenditure incurred by WPL as administrator of Super Bazar. On 17.05.2018 the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed an order for implementation of its order dated 29.03.2016 and also ordered correction of CAG's report. Government was not a party in the matter. After the order dated 17.05.2018, the then official liquidator Dr. A.K. Mishra, Retd. Chief Director (Co-operation), DACFW whose term expired on 15.05.2018, unauthorisedly issued a cheque for Rs. 35 crore in favour of WPL. Being unauthorized, the payment was stopped by this Department. On this, WPL filed a contempt petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the Government. Affidavits on behalf of the present Liquidator and contemnor have been filed. Also, an application has been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 01.9.2018 for modification of order dated 29.03.2016 and 17.05.2018. Next date of hearing is 12.9.2018.

4. <u>Essential Commodities Act:</u>

• To finalize the Power Point Presentation on the recommendations of the Working Group on Consumer Affairs, a 'Note for Committee of Secretaries' was sent to the Cabinet Secretariat on 14th August,2018.

5. Bureau of Indian Standards:

- The "Powers and Duties of Director General Regulations" under BIS Act, 2016 were finalized, got approved and notified in the Gazette on 29th August, 2018. This brings the number of Regulations to 4 notified so far under the BIS Act, 2016.
- A one-day National Workshop on National Building Code of India: Glass and Glazing Aspects was organized by BIS jointly with the Glazing Society of India (GSI) and IIT Madras, on 03 August 2018 in Mumbai.
- BIS Industry meet for development of standards in Synthetic Fibre Manufacturing sector was held on 09 August 2018 at Mumbai. This industry has assumed great importance in an increasingly globalized world.
- Under the Compulsory Registration Scheme (CRS) for Electronics & IT products, as on 25 August 2018, a total of 13635 registrations have been

granted by BIS. During August 2018, 547 applications were received and 374 registrations were granted.

Sr. No.	Indices	Inflation Rate (in %)		
		July, 2018 (Provisional)	June,2018 (Provisional)	July, 2017 (Final)
1	Wholesale Price# Index(Annual)	5.09	5.77	1.88
2	Wholesale Price Index# (Food Articles)	-2.16	1.80	2.35
3	Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers)	5.61	3.93	1.79
4	Consumer Price Index (Combined)*	4.17	4.92	2.36
5	Consumer Price Index (Consumer Food Price Index)*	1.37	2.91	-0.36

6. <u>The details of Annual rate of inflation are as follows:</u>

*: series2012=100 #: New Base year 2011-12=100 Price trends for the month of August, 2018 over July, 2018 for all India monthly average retail prices from 105 centers across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States/UTs are given at **Annexure-I**.

7. The update on other points to be reported to Cabinet Secretariat is at Annexure II.

<u>Prices of Essential Commodities – Trend over the past month:</u>

The All India monthly average Retail prices of 22 essential commodities from 105 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 August, 2018 over July, 2018 are given below:-

SI.No.	Commodity	August, 2018 (latest)	July, 2018 (previous) month)	Difference (In Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Rice	30	30	0
2	Wheat	24	24	0
3	Atta	26	26	0
4	Gram Dal	65	63	2
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	43	43	0
11	Groundnut Oil	124	125	-1
12	Mustard Oil	106	106	0
13	Vanaspati	81	81	0
14	Soya oil	90	90	0
15	Sunflower Oil	98	97	11
16	Palm Oil	78	78	0
17	Gur	43	43	0
18	Tea loose	211	210	11
19	Salt Pack	15	15	0
20	Potato	22	22	0
21	Onion	22	21	1
22	Tomato	28	29	-1

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

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
232	180

6. Status of Public Grievances:

No of Public Grievances redressed during the month of August, 2018	No of Public Grievances pending at the end of August, 2018
729	770

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 from 105 centres across the country. 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.
