

MOST 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 24th March, 2022.

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

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

Encl: As above.



(Surendra Singh)

Director to the Government of India

Ph. No. 2338 43 90

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 February, 2022

The following are the important activities of the Department of Consumer Affairs during the month of February, 2022.

1. Consumer Protection:

1.1 During the month, E-daakhil portal started in Tamil Nadu, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. With this, the total number of the States/UTs which have launched e-filing portal is 29 + NCDRC.

1.2 A presentation was made on the Draft Central Consumer Protection Authority (Prevention of Misleading advertisements and necessary due diligence for endorsement of Advertisements) Guidelines, 2022 at the meeting held on 17th February 2022 with the representatives of the concerned Ministries (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to seek their comments/views/suggestions particularly on the following provisions of the draft guidelines:-

- Surrogate Advertisement
- Advertisement targeted at Children
- Prohibited Advertisement

1.3 After receiving suggestions from representatives of the concerned ministries, it was decided to add a few provisions in the draft guidelines. Therefore, the draft guidelines are modified.

1.4 Stakeholders consultations was held on 10th February 2022 with the Industry associations on their concerns with regards to the Direct Selling Rules, 2021, which were notified on 28th December, 2021. Thereafter a meeting with the Voluntary Consumer Organisations was held on 21.2.2022 to know their feedback on the same.

2. Price Monitoring:

Price reporting of all-India weighted average prices for daily wholesale and retail prices of edible oils namely, Groundnut oil, Mustard oil, Soya Oil, Sunflower oil and Palm oil started from 23.02.2022.

3. Price Stabilization Fund:

3.1 Rs. 1581.28 Crores released to Cash Credit Account of PSS, DACFW, for transfer of 3.10 LMT of Gram R-21 from PSS, DACFW to PSF, DoCA.

3.2 In compliance of the GoM decision dated 07.02.2022, that "NAFED may procure 15,000 - 20,000 MT of onion from farmers/FPOs for targeted disposal during February, 2022", NAFED has reported procurement of 6,829.25 MT, dispatch of 6,793.74 MT to major consuming centres in UP and actual disposal of 3,275.389 MT till 09.03.2022.

3.3 Price trends for the month of February, 2022 over January, 2022 for all India monthly average retail prices as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of States/ UTs are given at **Annexure - I**

4. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

4.1 During the month of February 2022, 132 new standards have been formulated and 85 standards have been revised. Besides, 28 proposals were taken up for formulation of new Standards and 62 proposals for revision of existing Standards.

4.2 A virtual meeting between DG, BIS and CEO (Standards Australia) was held on 14 February 2022, to discuss matters related to ISO Council meeting as well as other issues of mutual interest.

4.3 BIS Officers attended meeting of Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure to strengthen bilateral cooperation in standardization through VC on 16th February 2022.

4.4 BIS Officers attended a joint UK-India workshop on Sustainable Aviation Fuels held on 16 February 2022. The workshop included the exchange view on renewable transport fuel obligations, mandates, low carbon fuel competition, Jet council etc. being followed by UK government.

4.5 An Indian delegation participated in the 39th General Meeting of ISO/TC 98 'Bases for Design of Structures' on 25 February 2022 and its three sub-committees SC 1, SC 2 and SC 3 on 23, 24 and 24 February 2022 respectively. BIS participated in these meetings and made its point related to ISO standards being developed. BIS also proposed to make its contribution on the revision of ISO 4354 'Wind action of structures'.

4.6 A meeting on the issues faced by Solar Industries was held on 04 February 2022. A meeting on 'One Nation One Standard' held on 08 February 2022.

4.7 BIS organized a webinar on 'In-Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices: Standardization and Regulation' on 09 February 2022. The webinar covered the entire life cycle of In-Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices with special emphasis on National Standards, Regulations, testing and validation.

4.8 BIS organized a webinar on 'Paper Recycling' on 11 February 2022. The main objective of the webinar was to disseminate information related to the latest trends & technologies related to paper recycling and to facilitate sharing of best practices amongst Indian pulp & paper industries in the area for sustainable paper manufacturing.

4.9 BIS Officials attended the 8th Annual Meeting of Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure organized by Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), Govt. of Germany and Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of CA, F&PD, Govt. of India co-chaired by Secretary (CA) from the Indian side on 16 February 2022.

4.10 Under the Compulsory Registration Scheme, 671 new licences were issued, 1142 inclusions and 292 renewals were done in the month of February 2022. The number of operative licences was 19798 in this month.

4.11 Under the Hallmarking scheme, 1187 new jewellers have been registered, and 38 new A&H centres have been recognized during the month.

4.12 To commemorate Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, an awareness program for Self-Help Groups & similar bodies, a webinar related to Hallmarking and five programmes on Standards Club Activity in Schools/ Colleges were organized by BIS during this period.

5. Legal Metrology

5.1 In the month of February 2022 on 11th February, 2022, the Legal Metrology Division has conducted a VC meeting with the stakeholders on the Status of Time Dissemination in which it was decided to expeditiously follow up with the NPL and ISRO, the progress of time dissemination project implementation in India. In the follow up of the project, Secretary (CA) visited the NPL recently.

5.2 A meeting was held on 11th February, 2022 for the Decriminalisation of the Legal Metrology Act 2009 with the industry associations and the industries. Seeing the varied responses from the associations it was requested to submit their comment in written for the decriminalization of the Legal Metrology Act 2009. The next meeting with the State/UTs and their Legal Metrology Divisions is proposed to be held in the future.

6. Central Consumer Protection Authority

6.1 The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) , in a matter of Suo moto case with regards to misleading advertisement of Sensodyne Products, vide its order dated 9.2.2022 directed the company to discontinue its advertisements which showed dentists practicing outside India endorsing the product within 7 days in terms of Section 21(1) of the Consumer Protection. The company complied with the order by withdrawing the said the misleading advertisements from all media.

6.2 In another Suo-moto case, the CCPA , vide its order dated 9.2.2022, directed Naaptol Online Shopping Private Limited to pay penalty of Rs 10,00,000 for showing misleading advertisements regarding " Set of 2 Gold Jewellery", "Magnetic Knee Support" and "Acupressure Yoga Slippers" and to discontinue airing them and to discontinue with the practice of showing artificial scarcity of the products without informing the consumers about the recorded status of the advertisements and not live status of products. They were further directed to clearly display on its channel/platform that it is pre- recorded episode. The company complied with the order by withdrawing the said the misleading advertisements from the channel and also by paying the penalty.

7. Celebration of Swachhta Pakhwada

7.1 The Department celebrated Swachhata Pakhwada from 16th to 28th February, 2022. A Pledge taking ceremony was held on 16th February 2022. A special cleanliness drive for segregation and safe disposal of paper waste, plastic waste and e- waste was launched. Review and weeding out of old records was carried out in various Divisions including the Departmental Record Room. Various Divisions/Sections were inspected and adjudged on cleanliness. An Essay writing and Poetry competition on the theme of Swachh Bharat was organized on 23rd Feb. 2022 for the employees of the Department

7.2 The Bureau of Indian Standards, National Test House, Indian Institute of Legal Metrology, Ranchi and the Regional Reference Standards Laboratories also celebrated the Swachhata Pakhwada with various activities.

8. 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 179 centres across the country as reported by the respective Civil Supplies Departments of State Governments/UTs are compiled and average retail prices for the month of February, 2022 over January, 2022 are given below:-

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

SI.No	Commodity	February, 2022 (latest)	January, 2022(previous) month)	Difference (In Z)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Rice	36	35	1
2	Wheat	28	28	0
3	Atta	32	31	1
4	Gram Dal	75	75	0
5	Tur Dal	103	102	1
6	Urad Dal	106	106	0
7	Moong Dal	102	102	0
8,	Masoor Dal	97	97	0
9	Sugar	41	41	0
10	Milk(per It)	50	50	0
11	Groundnut Oil	179	180	-1
12	Mustard Oil	189	185	4
13	Vanaspati	141	138	3
14	Soya oil	148	148	0
15	Sunflower Oil	162	162	0
16	Palm Oil	131	128	3
17	Gur	48	48	0
18	Tea loose	287	287	0
19	Salt Pack	19	19	0
20	Potato	20	21	-1
21	Onion	35	35	0
22	Tomato	27	35	- 8

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.