

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2016-2017)**

**SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD  
AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS)**

{Action Taken by the Government on the observations/  
recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee  
(2015-16) on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Ministry of  
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer  
Affairs)}

**FOURTEENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**February, 2017/ Magha, 1938 (Saka)**

## **FOURTEENTH REPORT**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2016-2017)**

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS)**

{Action Taken by the Government on the observations/  
recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee  
(2015-16) on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Ministry of  
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer  
Affairs)}

***Presented to Lok Sabha on  
Laid in Rajya Sabha on***



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**February, 2017/ Magha, 1938 (Saka)**

## CONTENTS

Composition of the Committee .....	(iv)
INTRODUCTION .....	(v)
Chapter I    Report.....	1
Chapter II    Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government.....	15
Chapter III    Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies.....	20
Chapter IV    Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee .....	26
Chapter V    Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.....	28

## Annexure

<b>A.</b> Procurement of Equipments for Legal Metrology Departments of States.....	
<b>B.</b> Establishment of RRSLs.....	44

## APPENDICES

(I)            Minutes of the Fifth sitting of the Committee held on 09.01.2017.....	55
(II)           Analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee (2015-16).....	57

## **Composition of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2016-17).**

Shri J.C. Divakar Reddy, Chairperson

### **Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Anto Antony
3. Shri R. K. Bharathimohan
4. Shri Babu Lal Choudhary
5. Shri Sanjay Haribhau Jadhav
6. Shri Dinesh Kashyap
7. Shri Dharmendra Kumar
8. Shri Ravinder Kushawaha
9. Smt. Sakuntala Laguri
10. Dr. Swami Sakshi Ji Maharaj
11. Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal
12. Shri Kamlesh Paswan
13. Shri Ram Chander Paswan
14. Shri C.S. Putta Raju
15. Smt. Priyanka Singh Rawat
16. Shri Midhun Reddy
17. Shri Bhola Singh
18. Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuriya<sup>#</sup>
19. Shri Shibu Soren
20. Shri Bhagwanth Khuba<sup>#</sup>
21. Shri Nandi Yellaiah

### **Rajya Sabha**

22. Shri Shadi Lal Batra
23. Smt. Misha Bharti
24. Shri Ripun Bora
25. Shri Vinay Katiyar
26. Smt. M. C. Mary Kom
27. Ms. Rekha
28. Dr. K. Keshava Rao
29. Shri Amar Shankar Sable
30. Shri Veer Singh
31. Vacant<sup>@</sup>

### **LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

- |                               |   |                     |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri P.V.L.N. Murthy       | - | Joint Secretary     |
| 2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma | - | Director            |
| 3. Shri Khakhai Zou           | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Dong Lianthang Tonsing     | - | Executive Officer   |

---

\*Shri Prabhubhai Nagarbhay Vasava, M.P. (Lok Sabha) ceased to be a Member of the Standing Committee of FCA & PD w.e.f. 19th October, 2016.

#Bhagwanth Khuba, M.P. (Lok Sabha) and Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuriya, M.P. (Lok Sabha) have been nominated as Members of the Standing Committee of FCA & PD w.e.f. 19th October, 2016.

@Shri Mithun Chakraborty, MP (RS) ceased to be a member of the Committee upon his resignation from the membership of Rajya Sabha w.e.f. 28.12.2016.

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2016-17) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee (2015-16) on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs).

2. The Eleventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 3 May, 2016. The Government have furnished their replies indicating Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Report on 22 August, 2016.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 9 January, 2017.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report is given in **Appendix II**.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations/Comments of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the text of the Report.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**24 January, 2017**  
**4 Magha, 1938(Saka)**

**J.C. DIVAKAR REDDY,**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on Food,**  
**Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.**

## **REPORT**

### **CHAPTER - I**

This Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee (2015-16), (16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs)

1.2 The Eleventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 3rd May, 2016. It contained 13 observations/ recommendations. Action taken replies in respect of all the 13 observations/recommendations contained in the Report have been received and these have been categorized as follows:-

- (i) Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government -

Para Nos.:- 2.8, 3.39, 3.73, and 3.77

- (ii) Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies received from the Government -

Para No.:- 1.4, 3.56 and 3.83

- (iii) Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee -

Para No.:- 3.38

- (iv) Recommendations in respect of which the interim replies of the Government have been received -

Para No. :- 3.11, 3.37, 3.40, 3.46 and 3.68

**1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations for which only interim replies have been given by the Government, should be furnished to the Committee expeditiously. The Committee strongly emphasize that utmost importance should be given to the implementation of Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In case where it is not possible for the Government to implement the recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to Committee in time with reasons for non-implementation.**

1.4 The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of the recommendations.

**A. Need for proper utilization of funds**

**Recommendation (Para No. 2.8)**

1.5 The Committee in their earlier report observed/recommended as follows:-

"The Committee note that against Actual Expenditure incurred of Rs. 131.93 crore under the combined heads of Revenue and Capital on Plan Side and Rs. 69.47 crore on the non-plan side during the year 2014-15, the Department was allocated Rs. 180.00 crore on plan side and Rs. 81.77 crore on non-plan side at BE in 2015-16. This allocation was reduced to Rs. 176.47 crore and Rs. 129.66 crore at RE stage while the Actual Expenditure incurred was Rs. 139.63 crore and Rs. 120.50 crore under Plan scheme and Non-plan scheme respectively. The Committee are surprised to note that the Department was allocated Rs. 20.70 crore at BE and RE stages under Capital head during the same year but no expenditure was incurred under both Plan and Non-plan Schemes. The Committee are constrained to say that the upward/downward variation of funds at BE/RE/AE stages indicates lack of proper planning and monitoring on the part of the Department which needs to be avoided in future. The Committee also would like to be apprised of the reasons for upward/downward revision of budget allocation.

The Committee further note that the Department has been allotted Rs. 1050 crore under plan and Rs. 191.61 crore under non-plan totaling Rs. 1241.61 crore for the year 2016-17. The allocation of Rs. 1050 crore under the Plan Scheme includes Rs. 900 crore towards Price Stabilization Fund. Keeping in view the fact that the Department of Consumer Affairs has been entrusted with a very important responsibility of ensuring stability of prices of commodities, their continued availability in the market at reasonable prices and to control speculative activities etc. the Committee strongly urge the Department to strictly monitor the expenditure of funds from the initial stage itself so that the allocated funds are properly utilized during the financial year itself unlike the previous years."

1.6 The Ministry in their action taken reply have stated as under:-

"During the year 2015-16 BE of Rs 2 crore was allotted for Plan scheme of Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cell, against the allocated BE, a total actual expenditure of Rs 1.26 crore was incurred toward infrastructure and other support for Strengthening of Price Monitoring mechanism both at Centre and State/UTs. The allocated amount was not fully utilized for State/UTs because of lack of proposals received as per guidelines especially from NE States/UTs and Non submission of Utilization Certification for earlier grants. The BE allocated for 2016-17 is Rs 1 crore for the plan scheme of Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cell.

In respect of Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), it is clarified that out of Rs 900 crores allocated in BE 2016-17, around Rs 831 crores has been released to the procuring agencies for procurement of Rabi pulses and import of pulses for creating the buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT. Expenditure under is PSF released with the approval of the Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee (PSFMC). The procurement operations along with the expenditures under PSF are also constantly reviewed by the PSFMC. "

**1.7 The Committee in their original Report had expressed their concern over the unplanned upward/downward revision of funds for Budget Allocations and urged upon the Government to strictly monitor the expenditure of funds right from the initial stage so that allocated funds are properly utilized during the financial year itself. In their Action Taken Reply the Department of Consumer Affair has cited lack of proposals received as per guidelines from the North-East States/UTs and non submission of utilization certificates for earlier grants as reasons for improper/under-**



utilization of funds. They, however, find that Action Taken Reply does not indicate the remedial measures taken by the Department to persuade such North-Eastern States/UTs to expedite the submission of proposals for proper utilization of allocated funds during the financial year itself and furnishing of utilization certificates for earlier grants so as to enable the Department to monitor the progress of the scheme. They desire to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.

**B. Need for increased allocations from Ministry of Finance**

**Recommendation (Para No. 3.11)**

1.8 The Committee earlier observed/recommend as under:

"The Committee note that the BE for 2016-17 has been fixed at Rs. 60.00 crore. The Committee, however, are dismayed to note that even after utilizing the budget fully during 2015-16, the Department has not been given increased funds under this scheme. The Committee understand the challenges of the Department in spreading consumer awareness among people and are of the view that a sustained national campaign is required to educate the consumers about their rights and welfare. The Committee further note that under this scheme, the Department also releases funds to States for educating consumers based on awareness programmes on local themes and other advertisements in local exhibitions, street plays, cultural functions etc. to educate the citizens about consumer rights. The Committee are of the firm view that the scheme of consumer awareness should be further strengthened for which allocation of more funds is required to extend the spread of scheme to various parts of the country so that citizens are aware about their rights and the mechanism available for redressal of their grievances or complaints they suffer from. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should approach the Ministry of Finance for increased allocations for the scheme at the RE stage. They be apprised of the steps taken in this regard with outcome thereof."

1.9 The Ministry in their action taken reply stated as under:-

"At the time of Revised Estimates, Ministry of Finance would be approached for more funds for Consumer Awareness Campaign."

**1.10 The Committee in their earlier Report had noted the meager level of Budgetary allocation of Rs. 60 crore for consumers protection schemes for the year 2016-17 to the Department even though the allocation for previous year was fully utilized. The Committee had recommended that the Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution should approach the Ministry of Finance for allocation of more funds. The Ministry in the Action Taken reply assured that the Ministry of Finance would be approached for the same at Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken and achievements made by the Department of Consumer Affairs in the matter as the issue of consumer protection is a serious matter calling for attention of the Government.**

**C. Need for Additional funds for Computerization and Networking (CONFONET)**

**Recommendation (Para No. 3.37)**

**1.11 The Committee recommended as follows:-**

"The Committee note that the Department of Consumer Affairs administers Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Under Consumer Protection Unit various schemes/projects are being implemented to improve the functioning of consumer fora. A scheme for Strengthening Consumer Fora Phase-II, a scheme for Computerization and Networking namely CONFONET, State Consumer Helplines are some of the important programmes being implemented under Consumer Protection Unit. The Budget allocated under this scheme during the year 2016-17 is Rs. 34.00 crore. The Committee note that during 2015-16, the Department had allocated Rs. 45.00 crore for Consumer Protection Schemes and incurred actual expenditure of Rs. 31.54 crore (upto 31.01.2016) indicating a utilization of 70.08%. The Committee are disappointed to further note that the allocations under the scheme for 2016-17 has been reduced to Rs. 34.00 crore against RE of Rs. 45.00 crore out of which Rs. 31.54 crore was spent. The Committee are of the view that Consumer Protection is a very important component of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the strengthening of various consumer for a envisaged under this scheme needs to be fully supported with adequate funds. They, therefore, recommend that the Department should seek additional funds under this scheme, during the course of the year from the Ministry the Finance. They desire to be apprised of the outcome of the efforts made in this direction."

1.12 The Ministry in their action taken note stated:-

"The Department has diligently noted the recommendations of the honorable Committee that the additional fund should be sought under the Plan Schemes at the RE stage for the current financial year and will be acted upon at appropriate point of time. In this regard, it is also being considered to strengthen of the existing scheme and seek funds for product testing laboratories, establishing of consumer studies and research cells in the next three years for which budgetary support will be requested."

**1.13 The Committee in their earlier Report had expressed their disappointment over the poor level of Budgetary allocation i.e. Rs. 34 crore for the Financial Year 2016-17 in respect of CONFONET as compared to previous year's RE i.e. 45 crore and had recommended that the Department of Consumer Affairs should seek adequate funds for CONFONET from the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry has stated that they would act on it at the appropriate point of time and also to seek funds for product testing laboratories, establishing of consumer studies and research cells in the next three years. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken by the Department for seeking additional funds at RE stage for strengthening of consumer fora phase - II, a scheme for Computerization and Networking and achievements made in this direction.**

**D. Need for faster disposal of cases in the Consumer Courts and Fora  
Recommendation (Para No. 3.38)**

1.14 The Committee recommended in the earlier Report as follows:-

"The Committee note that as on 29.02.2016 the percentage of disposal of cases at the National, State and District Fora stands at 89.76%, 86.11% and 92.21% respectively with a total 395129 pending cases and overall percentage of disposals at 91.20%. They are further constrained to note that out of 657 District Fora, 626 are functional as on 31.12.2015 and 86 posts of President and 252 posts of members are vacant in different fora as on 29.02.2016. They strongly

feel that the vacancies need to be filled up in a time bound manner which would go a long way in reducing the pendency position. The Committee find that though the performance of the consumer fora in the country is more or less satisfactory as per records, however, they are constrained to observe that the grievances of consumers in various sectors of the economy are not being adequately addressed. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should urge upon the State Commission/District Fora to make every effort to dispose of the pending cases with them at the earliest.

The Committee further note that timely justice is essential for the consumers and disposal of cases in a reasonable time would inspire the confidence of consumers to get their grievances redressed by the various consumer fora and strengthen the consumer movement in the country. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Department of Consumer Affairs should strictly monitor the disposal of cases at regular intervals and offer necessary guidance to State and District Fora in expediting the disposal of cases."

**1.15 The Ministry in their action taken note stated:-**

"As per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of the State/UT Governments to fill up the vacancies of President and Member in the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions and the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Fora (District Fora). The Central Government has been writing to the State/UT Governments from time to time to take advance action for filling up of the vacancies. This matter has also been taken up with the Chief Ministers of all States at the level of the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

As per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has administrative control over the State Commissions and District Fora with regard to calling for periodical return regarding the institution, disposal, pendency of cases. The NCDRC is also empowered to generally overseeing the functioning of the State Commissions and District Fora to ensure that the objects and purposes of the Act are best served without any way interfering with their quasi-judicial freedom.

In addition to above, the Central Government has been holding National Conferences and regional Consultation Meetings with the Presidents of the State Commissions and the State Governments where the matter regarding disposal of cases are reviewed and they are impressed upon for expediting disposal of pending cases."

**1.16 The Committee in its earlier report had noted that overall percentage of disposal of cases in the Consumer Courts is 91.20% ; out of 657 fora, 626 district fora are functioning as on 31.12.2015; 86 posts of President and 252 posts of Members were lying vacant as on 29.02.2016; and that**

**grievances of consumers are being inadequately addressed. They, therefore, desired that every effort to dispose of pending cases be made and disposal of cases be strictly monitored at regular intervals. The Government has stated in their Action Taken reply that they have been writing to the States/UT Governments to take advance action to fill vacancies, taken up the matter repeatedly with the Chief Minister of the concerned States at the level of the Union Minister. They also stated that National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has administrative control over the State Commissions and District Fora and that the Central Government has been holding National Conferences and Regional Consultation meetings with Presidents of the State Commissions and the State Governments where the matter regarding disposal of cases are reviewed and the state agencies are impressed upon to expedite disposal of pending cases. While claiming that overall percentage of disposal of cases stood at 91.20% the Government is silent on specific action taken and the results obtained therefrom, with regard to filling up of vacancies to the posts of President and Members of different fora. They strongly feel that instead of owning responsibility, the Department shifted the blame on NCDRC. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that efforts to dispose of pending cases be made and vacant posts of President and Members of the fora got filled in a time bound manner. The Committee would expect a much better picture in the year 2017-18 and desire further that they may be apprised of the achievements in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report.**

**E. Need for proper utilization of unspent balances and timely furnishing of utilization certificates**

**Recommendation (Para No. 3.39)**

**1.17 The Committee earlier recommended as follows:-**

**"The Committee furthermore note that unspent balances under Consumer Protection Unit as on 01.04.2014 and 01.04.2015 stand at Rs. 34.14 crore and Rs. 59.53 crore respectively. This is reportedly due to non-settlement of utilization certificates in respect of previous year's grants. The Committee find**

that between these two years, unspent balances increased by about Rs. 15 crore. They desire the Department to take up this matter of unspent balances and non-receipt of utilizations certificates earnestly with all concerned States to rectify the anomalous situation. They are of the firm view that rising unspent balances would result in lesser allocations in succeeding years which in turn would weaken the consumer movement in the form of monitoring pendency of cases etc. They desire to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard."

1.18 The Ministry in their action taken reply stated as noted below:-

"The Department of Consumer Affairs has been writing to the State Governments from time to time to utilise the grants already released and to furnish utilisation certificates along with fresh proposals for further financial assistance. In the Regional Consultation Meetings with the State Governments the representatives of the State Governments are impressed upon furnishing the utilisation certificates in respect of the grants released. The officers of the level of Director/Deputy Secretary have also been visiting different States to discuss the problems faced by the State Governments in the implementation of the schemes and to review the utilisation position of the grants."

**1.19 The Committee in their previous report had taken note of the rising unspent balances under Consumer Protection Unit from Rs. 34.14 crore during the year 2014 to Rs. 59.53 crore in 2015, an increase of Rs. 15 crore. The Committee while appreciating the steps taken by the Department in writing to the State Governments from time to time to utilize the grant already released and to furnish utilization certificates with fresh proposals for further financial assistance, has impressed upon them to get a utilization certificate in respect of grant released and discuss the problems with different States. The Committee desire to be apprised of the current status of unspent balances and pendency of utilization certificates under the Consumer Protection Unit with the broad objective of reducing the level of unspent balances in future under the head so as to ensure effective utilization of allocated amounts.**

**F. Need for evaluation study of the status of CONFONET**

**(Recommendation Para No. 3.40)**

1.20 The Committee in their earlier report observed/ recommended as follows:-

"The Committee note that the scheme of Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora in the country (CONFONET) was launched in

March, 2005. Under the scheme, the consumer fora at all the 3 tiers were to be fully computerized to enable access to information and quicker disposal of cases. Hardware, software and technical manpower are provided to the Consumer Forum. An On-line Case Monitoring System Application has also been developed.

The Committee note that against the target of 613 for computerization during 2015-16, hardware had been supplied to 586, manpower was provided to 595 and 526 consumer foras are using on-line case management system. The Committee observe that in this age of computerization and with the Government initiative for Digital India, the Department should take up the computerization of consumer fora in right earnest and complete them quickly so that the entire consumer movement would get a fillip to its activities. The Department should also conduct a thorough review of the last ten years' efforts that were gone into the scheme by an independent evaluation agency and complete computerization of the remaining consumer fora in a time bound manner preferably by 2018-19.

The Committee note that for using the On-line Case Management System Application, internet connectivity is required at the Consumer Forum. However, due to certain technical problems in Uttarakhand, the computers are yet to be installed. The Committee note that similarly there are internet connectivity problems in Assam, Bihar and North-Eastern States. The Committee recommend that the Department should hold review meetings with concerned States and such issues be resolved at the earliest so that the On-line Case Management System can be used by all Consumer For a uninterruptedly."

1.21 The Ministry in their action taken reply to have stated as under:-

"As on 27th June'2016, new set of hardware has been supplied at 598 consumer fora (NCDRC, 34 State Commissions & 563 District Consumer fora) during 12th plan period under Confonet Scheme. Manpower has been provided at 596 field locations where Hardware was supplied.

For supplying hardware and deployment of technical manpower in the Consumer Fora, NIC requests the State Governments/ State Commissions (through NIC State coordinators) to provide list of locations, their postal address, contact details of nodal officers and site readiness confirmation for the delivery and timely installation of the hardware. For want of these details it has not been possible to computerize some of the Consumer Fora. The Department wrote to the Secretaries of Consumer Affairs of all the States/UTs in March, 2015 to provide the list of balance locations, if any, where new set of hardware and manpower is required under the scheme. In May, 2016, Deputy Director General (NIC) wrote to the states where some locations were left to be covered under Confonet. Recently, the Secretaries of Consumer Affairs in the States have been requested to ensure availability of internet connection for successful implementation of the Confonet scheme.

The suggestion of the Committee to conduct a thorough review of the last ten years' efforts that were gone into the scheme by an independent evaluation agency has been noted and action is being taken in this regard."

**1.22 The Committee have noted with concern that even after 10 years of the launch of Computer Networking of Consumer Fora (CONFONET) in the country, some of the States particularly Bihar and the North-Eastern States still face connectivity problem. The Committee further note that the Department has been doing all they could to put things in order for which action is being taken by them to conduct a thorough review/evaluation of the same. The Committee desire to be apprised of the results of the evaluation study conducted, the recommendations made and the action taken to implement the suggestions of the evaluation study so as to integrate all consumer courts and fora over the net within a specified time.**

**G. Delay in construction/renovation of buildings of Weights and Measures Department**

**(Recommendation Para No. 3.46)**

**1.23 The Committee in their earlier report observed/ recommended as follows:-**

" The Committee note that the Legal Metrology Division of the Department of Consumer Affairs oversees the implementation of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 which is aimed to safeguard the interest of consumers to get the correct quantity for the price charged by ensuring use of the correct, tested, calibrated and certified weights and measures. The Legal Metrology Rules mandate certain consumer-friendly declarations like the name and address of the manufacturer/packer, the name of the commodity, the net quantity, the MRP, the month and year of manufacture/packing etc. The Committee hope that the funds allotted to the scheme 'Weights and Measures' during the year 2016-17 of Rs. 16.45 crore at BE would be judiciously utilized by the Department with the objective of achieving the set goal.

The Committee note that certain procedural difficulties are being faced by the Legal Metrology Division in implementation of its schemes like non-finalization of tenders by DGS&D and non-utilization of funds by CPWD for construction/renovation of buildings etc. The Committee are unhappy at such delays and the reasons furnished are not satisfactory and convincing and require intervention by senior officials in the Department of Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology Division. The Committee, therefore, recommend that all irritant issues be sorted out with DGS&D and CPWD should hold regular interactions with DGS&D and ensure that the requirements of the Legal Metrology Division are made available and the infrastructure is set up as envisaged in the plans in a time bound manner. They desire the Department to closely monitor the progress of implementation."



1.24 The Ministry in their action taken reply to have stated as under:-

"The issues will be sorted out with DGS&D and CPWD. Regular interactions will be held with DGS&D to ensure the requirements of the Legal Metrology Division and to setup the infrastructure as envisaged in the plans in a time bound manner. The Department will closely monitor the progress of implementation and will make every sincere effort to get the funds utilised by the DGS&D.

Concerted efforts were made for procurement of standards equipments with DGS&D by way of meeting with senior officers of DGS&D and sending regular letters asking the status of the indents and tenders floated by them. A copy of some of the letters issued to DGS&D is **at Annexure-A**. The possibility of floating of e-tenders by this Department itself is also under consideration.

Also efforts were made with State Government and CPWD for establishment of two new RRSLs at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and Nagpur, Maharashtra. Meetings with CPWD officers were also called. A copy of minute of meeting and letters is at **Annexure-B**."

**1.25 The Committee, in its previous report had noted the fact that the Department of Consumer Affairs through Legal Metrology Act, has the mandate to safeguard the consumers' interest and to ensure use of correct, tested, calibrated and certified weighing and measuring instruments. The Committee had also noted that the Government has made efforts in conjunction with State Governments and CPWD for establishment of two new Regional Research Standards Laboratories (RRSLs) at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and Nagpur, Maharashtra for which meetings with CPWD officials was also called. The Committee desire that efforts may be made to achieve concrete results in this regard and the Department of Consumer Affairs may set specific timeline for establishment and operationalization of the RRSLs. The Committee would like to be apprised of the developments in this regard.**

**H. Need for a review of the hallmarking scheme**

**(Recommendation Para No. 3.68)**

1.26. The Committee in their earlier report observed/ recommended as follows:-

"The Committee note that there are two schemes under implementation by the Department of Consumer Affairs namely Hallmarking Scheme for setting up of Gold Assaying & Hallmarking centres and National System for Standardization Scheme to promote the standardization at national and international level. The Committee feel that the 373 Assaying & Hallmarking centres in the country as on date are unable to meet the expectations of the consumers. There are two components of the hallmarking schemes namely Infrastructure Building and Capacity Building. Under infrastructure building, one time financial assistance for setting up of gold assaying and hallmarking centres where no such centre exist, 30% to private entrepreneurs and 50% to PSUs is provided. However, the same increases to 50% to private entrepreneurs and 70% to PSUs in case of North East States. Under the component of capacity building, training programmes like Artisan Training, A&H Personnel Training and BIS Officers Training are conducted.

The Committee are concerned with the less than satisfactory working of A&H sector as these sectors do not seem to have made much of a difference to the consumers in purchase of gold. The Committee have observed during their study tour last year to Udaipur A&H centre that proper testings are not being done before hallmark seal are made available for the gold which needs to be ensured by BIS/Department of Consumer Affairs very strictly. This scheme needs appropriate monitoring and regular testing of samples from the centres. The Committee are of the considered view that the consumers should have the benefit of hallmark gold not only at the time of buying but also at a time of selling. At present, there seems to be no benefit for a seller if he sells a hallmark or non-hallmark gold which fetches a similar value. The Committee would expect the Department of Consumer Affairs to review the functioning of hallmarking scheme and take necessary steps to improve its functioning among the consumers and traders. The Committee further view that this is a good scheme and needs proper implementation by the Department of Consumer Affairs and therefore recommend that the Department conduct a thorough review of the functioning of the scheme as well as A&H centres immediately by an independent external evaluator in a time bound manner and take corrective action wherever required as suggested by the reviewing agency. They would like to be apprised of the action taken on this aspect at an early date."

1.27 The Ministry in their action taken reply to have stated as under:-

"Possibilities of getting desired study done by a government agency on nomination basis are being explored. 'Indian Institute of Public Administration' has been contacted as they have done a similar study for BIS in the past.

As soon as the project of evaluation study is completed and its report becomes available, necessary action will be taken accordingly."

**1.28 The Committee in its earlier report had, inter-alia, recommended that a thorough review of the functioning of the hallmarking scheme and the Assaying & Hallmarking Centres by an independent external evaluator be conducted in a time bound manner. The Department of Consumer Affairs in their Action Taken reply have stated that possibility of getting desired study by a Government agency on nomination basis is being explored. Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) that did similar study on Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) in the past, had been contacted. As soon as the project of evaluation study is completed and report becomes available, necessary action would be taken accordingly. The Committee feel that the Department appears to be rather non-committal and casual while furnishing their Action Taken Reply to this very important recommendation as no efforts, whatsoever, seems to have been made for expeditious completion of the project evaluation study. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department to have a re-look into this issue seriously and apprised them about the concrete steps taken to implement the Assaying and Hallmarking scheme in a time bound manner.**

## **CHAPTER II**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **Recommendation (Para No. 2.8)**

2.1 "The Committee note that against Actual Expenditure incurred of Rs. 131.93 crore under the combined heads of Revenue and Capital on Plan Side and Rs. 69.47 crore on the non-plan side during the year 2014-15, the Department was allocated Rs. 180.00 crore on plan side and Rs. 81.77 crore on non-plan side at BE in 2015-16. This allocation was reduced to Rs. 176.47 crore and Rs. 129.66 crore at RE stage while the Actual Expenditure incurred was Rs. 139.63 crore and Rs. 120.50 crore under Plan scheme and Non-plan scheme respectively. The Committee are surprised to note that the Department was allocated Rs. 20.70 crore at BE and RE stages under Capital head during the same year but no expenditure was incurred under both Plan and Non-plan Schemes. The Committee are constrained to say that the upward/downward variation of funds at BE/RE/AE stages indicates lack of proper planning and monitoring on the part of the Department which needs to be avoided in future. The Committee also would like to be apprised of the reasons for upward/downward revision of budget allocation.

The Committee further note that the Department has been allotted Rs. 1050 crore under plan and Rs. 191.61 crore under non-plan totaling Rs. 1241.61 crore for the year 2016-17. The allocation of Rs. 1050 crore under the Plan Scheme includes Rs. 900 crore towards Price Stabilization Fund. Keeping in view the fact that the Department of Consumer Affairs has been entrusted with a very important responsibility of ensuring stability of prices of commodities, their continued availability in the market at reasonable prices and to control speculative activities etc. the Committee strongly urge the Department to strictly monitor the expenditure of funds from the initial stage itself so that the allocated funds are properly utilized during the financial year itself unlike the previous years."

#### **Reply of the Government**

2.2 "During the year 2015-16 BE of Rs 2 crore was allotted for Plan scheme of Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cell, against the allocated BE, a total actual expenditure of Rs 1.26 crore was incurred toward infrastructure and other support for Strengthening of Price Monitoring mechanism both at Centre and State/UTs. The allocated amount was not fully utilized for State/UTs because of lack of proposals received as per guidelines especially from NE States/UTs and Non submission of Utilization Certification for earlier grants. The BE allocated for 2016-17 is Rs 1 crore for the plan scheme of Strengthening of Price Monitoring Cell.

In respect of Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), it is clarified that out of Rs 900 crores allocated in BE 2016-17, around Rs 831 crores has been released to the procuring agencies for procurement of Rabi pulses and import of pulses for creating the buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT. Expenditure under PSF released with the approval of the Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee (PSFMC). The procurement operations along with the expenditures under PSF are also constantly reviewed by the PSFMC."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.7 of Chapter - I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.39)**

2.3 "The Committee furthermore note that unspent balances under Consumer Protection Unit as on 01.04.2014 and 01.04.2015 stand at Rs. 34.14 crore and Rs. 59.53 crore respectively. This is reportedly due to non-settlement of utilization certificates in respect of previous year's grants. The Committee find that between these two years, unspent balances increased by about Rs. 15 crore. They desire the Department to take up this matter of unspent balances and non-receipt of utilizations certificates earnestly with all concerned States to rectify the anomalous situation. They are of the firm view that rising unspent balances would result in lesser allocations in succeeding years which in turn would weaken the consumer movement in the form of monitoring pendency of cases etc. They desire to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard."

### **Reply of the Government**

2.4 The Department of Consumer Affairs has been writing to the State Governments from time to time to utilise the grants already released and to furnish utilisation certificates along with fresh proposals for further financial assistance. In the Regional Consultation Meetings with the State Governments the representatives of the State Governments are impressed upon furnishing the utilisation certificates in respect of the grants released. The officers of the level of Director/Deputy Secretary have also been visiting different States to discuss the problems faced by the State Governments in the implementation of the schemes and to review the utilisation position of the grants.

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

## **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.19 of Chapter - I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.73)**

2.5 "The Committee note that the Price Stabilization Fund which was a plan scheme earlier implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has been transferred to the Department of Consumer Affairs w.e.f. 1/4/2016 and Rs. 900 crore have been allotted for the scheme during the year 2016-17. This scheme is primarily aimed to support market interventions for price control of perishable agrohorticultural commodities. The Committee further note that this price stabilization fund is used to advance interest free loans to State Governments and Central agencies to support their working capital and other expenses on procurement and distribution interventions of such commodities. For this purpose, the States will set up revolving fund to which Centre and States will contribute equally at the ratio of 50:50 whereas in respect of North East States the ratio will be 75:25. The fund is to be used for price stabilization operation for onion, potato and pulses. The Committee also note that the procurement of these commodities will be undertaken directly from farmers or farmers' organisations at farm gate/Mandis and made available at a more reasonable price to the consumers. Losses incurred, if any, in the operations will be shared between Center and States.

They also note that the Department has been taking certain measures to keep a check on traders and importers/exporters to monitor prices of essential commodities such as pulses and onions etc. to arrest speculative tendencies in the markets. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department of Consumer Affairs in coordination with the other Central Government Agencies and State Governments to ward off speculative tendencies and excessive profiteering by traders and ensure that essential commodities required for the common man is made available in a timely and efficient manner."

### **Reply of the Government**

2.6 In this regard, the recent steps taken in case of pulses are as below:-

- Set up a mechanism for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. amongst the concerned agencies.
- Strict vigilance by the Government to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.
- Action as per law is being taken against unscrupulous importers, traders and financiers engaged in pulses trade.

- Tur and Urad from the buffer are also being allocated at subsidized rates (Rs 66/- per kg for Tur and Rs 82/- per kg for Urad) to the States/UTs and the Central Agencies for retailing at not more than Rs 120/- per kg
- Aggressive media campaign is also being undertaken to highlight the steps being undertaken by the Government mentioned above.

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.77)**

2.7 "The Committee note that the Department has been allocated Rs. 115.00 crore in BE of 2016-17 against the Actual Expenditure of Rs. 10.00 crore only last year under the scheme Consumer Cooperatives and Subsidies. The Committee further note that the funds are allocated for the purpose of reimbursing upto 15% of the actual losses for import of pulses undertaken by NAFED, PEC, STC and MMTC and supplied to domestic markets during the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. The percentage of reimbursement has since been increased upto 20% of losses and the vetted claim amount outstanding for reimbursement to the PSUs is Rs. 178.00 crore, out of which Rs.63.00 crore has since been reimbursed to the designated agencies. The Committee note that during last year certain Central Public Undertakings like MMTC and STC had suffered losses on account of import of pulses and these undertakings were reimbursed up to 20% losses after duly vetting of their accounts by Government agencies. The Committee desire that these PSUs and other Agencies are doing market intervention on the direction of the Government and hence need all support and should be adequately compensated for losses incurred in such activities. The Committee note that last year namely 2015-16 was drought year and would caution the Department of Consumer Affairs to be well prepared for the current year and take all necessary actions including building of buffer stocks of essential commodities. The Committee hope that the Department would utilize the BE amount fully and liquidate the outstanding amounts at the earliest."

### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 "With respect to the vetted pending arrears of Rs 178 crores of the PSUs toward losses incurred on import of pulses, Rs 63 crores was released to the designated agencies during 2015-16. The balance of Rs 115 crores has also been reimbursed to the designated agencies from the allocation of Rs 115 crores from BE 2016-17. Department of Consumer Affairs through PSF has supported the procurement of 17,747 MT of onions as on 12.7.2016 for appropriate market intervention during the lean season. Also, 50,422.5 MT of Kharif pulses and 69000 MT of Rabi pulses have already been procured toward building the buffer

stock of pulses. In addition, import of 48,500 MT of pulses has already been contracted as on 11.7.2016."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )



## **CHAPTER III**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES**

#### **Recommendation (Para No. 1.4)**

3.1 "The Committee note that the Action Taken Replies regarding the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Committee were furnished by the Government on 10 August, 2015 though the Report on Demand for Grants were presented to the House on 27 April, 2015 and the Statement of the Minister under Direction 73-A was made in Lok Sabha on 22 December, 2015 and Laid in Rajya Sabha on 18 December, 2015. An analysis of the Action Taken Notes revealed that the Government has accepted 50% Recommendations of the Committee. The Committee did not desire to pursue 16.67% Recommendations. 16.67% Recommendations have not been accepted by the Government thus requiring reiteration. Replies in case of 16.67% Recommendations are of interim nature. The Committee desire the Department to inform them the status of implementation of the recommendations which were of interim nature and those in respect of which the replies have not been accepted by the Committee at the earliest."

#### **Reply of the Government**

3.2 "Final action taken by the Government on the 16.67% recommendations at S.No. 1 and 4, that were not accepted by the Committee have been furnished to the Committee vide this Department's O.M. no N-13/6/2015 dated 10th November 2015. Also, final action taken by the Government for the 16.67% recommendations at S.No. 7 and 10, that were interim in nature have been furnished to the Committee vide this Department's O.M. of even no.s dated 13/06/2015."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

#### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.56)**

3.3 "The Committee note that a plan scheme for construction of laboratory building is under implementation at three regional centres of National Test House at Mumbai, Jaipur and Chennai with a view to creating more space for expansion of the existing Test Facilities at NTH(WR), Mumbai. A G+4 Phase II building was conceived during 12th Five Year Plan with an estimated cost of 25.26 crore as prepared by CPWD (WZ), the construction of the building was initiated in the year 2013-14. Out of the allocation of Rs.12.88 crore over a period 2013-14 to

2015-16 authorized to CPWD, an amount of Rs.7.12 crore could be utilized. The building is expected to be completed by the financial year 2016-17 subject to availability of sufficient fund under the major Plan Head "Land & Building". Similarly, construction of one additional floor over the existing Laboratory Building at NTH (NWR), Jaipur was conceived during the 12th Five Year Plan with a view to expanding the existing test facilities for based appliances, Testing for Food and Packaged Drinking Water. Construction was initiated in the year 2013-14 but much of the allocated funds could not be utilized by CPWD for some tender related issues. So far, Rs.2.16 crore has been utilized by CPWD (NWZ) and the building is on the verge of completion. Further, construction of the Impulse Voltage Laboratories at NTH(SR), Chennai was conceived during the 12th Five Year Plan with a view to create facilities for Testing of High Voltage Line Materials. The construction was initiated during the year 2014-15. During the year 2015-16 the construction process was hampered largely due to the Natural Calamity that occurred in Tamil Nadu. Rs. 141.00 crore has been utilized by CPWD for this purpose.

The Committee note that the requirement of funds projected for BE 2016-17 (Rs.15.00 crore) for construction of the new buildings (Jaipur Rs. 1.00 crore, Mumbai Rs. 11.00 crore and Chennai Rs. 3.00 crore) of the total requirement of Rs. 15.00 crore an allocation of Rs. 4.03 crore only was approved by Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, the internal distribution for construction activities got reduced – Rs. 0.50 crore to NTH Jaipur for completion of electrical works, Rs. 2.00 crore for NTH, Mumbai and Rs. 1.52 crore to NTH Chennai.

The Committee feel that the pace of construction by CPWD is very slow and there is lack of coordination between the two Departments. Further there is huge gap of Rs. 10.97 crore between the requirement and final allocation for BE 2016-17. Since current year is the last year of 12th Five Year Plan and at some places most of the work has been completed by the Agency, it should, therefore, be decided with the coordination of CPWD as to how much work could be completed by them and accordingly Ministry of Finance be approached for higher allocation of funds for this purpose. The Committee recommend that adequate funds be allocated for the purpose so that funds spent earlier for construction of laboratories could be utilized for testing services for consumers. Further all efforts should be made to locate savings from within the overall capital Budget of the Department. They also desire that these constructions should be completed in the current fiscal year.

The Committee are also happy to note the effort of the Department for Green Power generation by installing of 100 KW Roof Top Solar Power Project on the roof of the NTH salt lake building which would help in saving some funds towards charges for electricity consumption. The Committee desire the Department to replicate this effort of generating Green Power at other places particularly where new construction is being undertaken or envisaged in the near future."

## Reply of the Government

3.4

- **CO-ORDINATION WITH CPWD:**

To increase the Co-ordination between National Test House & CPWD, one Nodal Officer has been appointed by DG-NTH from each Regional Centre. The Nodal Officers are responsible to regularly Co-ordinate with the CPWD authorities and monitor the progress of the Constructions. They also Co-ordinate with the Local Authorities and try to resolve issues arising in connection with the constructions.

Regional In-Charges regularly hold meetings with the CPWD authorities and are trying to resolve issues which may hinder the progress of the work.

DG-NTH regularly visits the Regional Centres to review the performance of the Regions. He holds meetings with Higher Officers of the Respective centres of NTH and Senior Officer of the CPWD to review the progress of construction and resolve issues related to the constructions, with in the powers vested in him. NTH interacts with Department of Consumer Affairs regularly (DoCA) to appraise the progress and issues requiring intervention of the competent authority of the Department.

The collective effect of the efforts have resulted into a significant development in the Pace of the construction.

- **ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**

There is a huge Gap between the Fund Allocated in the Financial Year of 2016-17 and that of the demand raised by the CPWD authorities.

The Total demand of CPWD for 2016-17 is **around Rs.22 crore** whereas allocation is of **Rs. 4 crore** only. It will hamper the work and leave it incomplete.

CPWD Authorities of Jaipur, Chennai & Mumbai have indicated that the Construction may be completed within the current financial year of 2016-17 provided the demand of funds raised by them should be provided at the earliest.

Since, this is ongoing programme as approved for 12th Plan, the Department has projected demand of Rs. 19.62 crores through Ministry of Finance for enhancement of allocation by way of Supplementary Demand for Grants 2016-17.

- **SAVINGS OF FUND FROM THE OVERALL CAPITAL BUDGET:**

NTH is allocated two types of grant under Capital Budget. One is for procurement of Machinery & Equipment and the other is for Construction of

Laboratory Buildings. Procurement of Machinery & Equipment is directly linked with the Revenue Earning of NTH and the **available fund of Rs.5.80 crore under this Plan Head in 2016-17 is not enough** to full-fill the gap in testing facilities and creation of new facilities. As a result, there is little scope for any savings from this particular capital head.

2. NTH has requested for additional allocation of Rs.1.75 crore under the Head Machinery & Equipment during the year of 2016-17. The request of NTH for allocation of funds has been submitted to the Ministry of Finance through 1st Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2016-17.

**The efforts of generating Green power at other branches/laboratories particularly at Ghaziabad and Jaipur have been made by NTH. The inspection of the site has already been carried out by the agencies nominated for this purpose. The following Table shows the available Capacity of NTH for Generating Roof-Top Solar PV Power and action taken, so far, in this regard.**

Name of the Region	Available roof Top Area in sq. m (23aprox..)	Approximate Solar Power that can be generated ( kWp )	Work undertaken by /Inspection carried out by	Work started on and present status // Date of inspection
NTH (ER), Salt Lake, Kolkata	1000	100	M/s Bluearth Energy Pvt. Ltd., Patna (as per directives of SECI)	Installation & commissioning is completed. The Agreement to be signed jointly by DISCOM & NTH. The final connectivity to the “Net Metering” will be carried out shortly.
NTH (NR), Ghaziabad	1859	100	Inspection carried out by M/s CEL, Sahibabad. As per the minutes of the meeting only Roof Top Area can be used for generating approximate 100 kWp.	Inspected on 28/04/2016
NTH (NWR), Jaipur	1500	50	Inspection carried out by M/s REIL, Jaipur. As per the discussion the Official of REIL has stated that	Inspected on 28/04/2016

			approximately 50 kWp can be generated from the Roof Top only.	
NTH (WR), Mumbai	1367 (916 will be available on completion of new building)	100 <b>(Subject to inspection)</b>		
NTH (SR), Chennai	2000	160 <b>(Subject to inspection)</b>		
NTH (NER), Guwahati	856	60 <b>(Subject to inspection)</b>	Proposed to be set up within the available Plan Fund of NTH under ME (Plan) 2016-17	
NTH (ER), Alipore, Kolkata	4100	300 <b>(Subject to inspection)</b>		

**NTH has appointed the Nodal Officer to coordinate with DoCA.**

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

**Recommendation (Para No. 3.83)**

3.5 "The committee note that the Department of Consumer Affairs grants funds to Voluntary Consumer Organizations (VCOs)/NGOs for undertaking comparative testing of products and services so as to provide consumers with unbiased information that will enable them to make rational choice, raise public awareness regarding quality and safety, educate customers about the product amongst the many in the market fulfilling their needs, draw public attention to unsafe and unfair trade practices and verify claims made by different brands against relevant national standard for the product etc.

The Committee note the VOICE Society, New Delhi was sanctioned Rs. 40 lakhs during 2014 for undertaking comparative testing of 6 products and 2 services with the objective of disseminating empirical data. VOICE Society had

conducted comparative testing of packaged milk, honey, mixed fruit jam, besan, rice bran oil and broad band service evaluation etc. and the results have been disseminated through the website of VOICE Society and to the magazine Consumer Voice. Similarly, the Committee note that Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai was sanctioned an amount of Rs. 94 lakhs for five years from 2011 to 2016 to achieve certain objectives, dissemination of knowledge of law with reference to consumer advocacy and Advertisement Standards Council of India (ASCI), New Delhi have been sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs during 2015 for resolving complaints on misleading and false advertisements. The Committee has also noted that CERC, Ahmedabad has been released an amount of Rs. 20 lakhs during 2015-16.

The Committee note that such initiatives by the Ministry to encourage VCOs/NGOs to take up consumer awareness and consumer protection issues among the citizens in different parts of the country is a welcome step and more such initiatives and funding to different VCOs in diverse fields of consumer interest may be taken up. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should strictly monitor the performance of the VCOs in attainment of the objectives for which the funds are given to them in the areas of consumer awareness and consumer protection."

### **Reply of the Government**

3.6 "Recommendations of Standing Committee have been noted. Grants were issued to the VCOs as per Guidelines of Consumer Welfare Fund and recommendation of Standing Committee. The implementation of activities for which funds granted are monitored regularly through audit and periodic review meetings conducted at various levels."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE**

#### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.38)**

4.1 "The Committee note that as on 29.02.2016 the percentage of disposal of cases at the National, State and District Fora stands at 89.76%, 86.11% and 92.21% respectively with a total 395129 pending cases and overall percentage of disposals at 91.20%. They are further constrained to note that out of 657 District Fora, 626 are functional as on 31.12.2015 and 86 posts of President and 252 posts of members are vacant in different fora as on 29.02.2016. They strongly feel that the vacancies need to be filled up in a time bound manner which would go a long way in reducing the pendency position. The Committee find that though the performance of the consumer fora in the country is more or less satisfactory as per records, however, they are constrained to observe that the grievances of consumers in various sectors of the economy are not being adequately addressed. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should urge upon the State Commission/District Fora to make every effort to dispose of the pending cases with them at the earliest.

The Committee further note that timely justice is essential for the consumers and disposal of cases in a reasonable time would inspire the confidence of consumers to get their grievances redressed by the various consumer fora and strengthen the consumer movement in the country. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Department of Consumer Affairs should strictly monitor the disposal of cases at regular intervals and offer necessary guidance to State and District Fora in expediting the disposal of cases."

#### **Reply of the Government**

4.2 "As per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of the State/UT Governments to fill up the vacancies of President and Member in the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions and the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Fora (District Fora). The Central Government has been writing to the State/UT Governments from time to time to take advance action for filling up of the vacancies. This matter has also been taken up with the Chief Ministers of all States at the level of the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

As per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has administrative control over the State Commissions and District Fora with regard to calling for periodical return regarding the institution, disposal, pendency of cases. The NCDRC is also empowered to generally overseeing the functioning of the State Commissions

and District Fora to ensure that the objects and purposes of the Act are best served without any way interfering with their quasi-judicial freedom.

In addition to above, the Central Government has been holding National Conferences and regional Consultation Meetings with the Presidents of the State Commissions and the State Governments where the matter regarding disposal of cases are reviewed and they are impressed upon for expediting disposal of pending cases."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. No.N-13/10/2016-P&C )}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.16 of Chapter - I of the Report)



## **CHAPTER V**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED**

#### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.11)**

5.1 "The Committee note that one of the important functions of the Department of Consumer Affairs is protection of consumer interest/welfare and the scheme of consumer awareness is a step in that direction. With a population of more than 120 crore people, the job of creating consumer awareness will be a challenging task more so with the diversities on account of language, socio-economic profile, gender and demographic profile of the country. The Department has been carrying out 'Jago Grahak Jago' campaign on various issues relating to consumer rights and responsibilities across diverse subjects. The Committee also note that the Department has recently launched 'Joint Publicity Campaigns' in key sectors like health, Food, Finance service in partnership with other related Government Departments/Organizations like Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) etc. These joint campaigns are made through various electronic and print media such as television, radio, news papers and outdoor advertisements. The Committee appreciate the Department for taking several steps to create awareness of consumers.

The Committee note that the BE for 2016-17 has been fixed at Rs. 60.00 crore. The Committee, however, are dismayed to note that even after utilizing the budget fully during 2015-16, the Department has not been given increased funds under this scheme. The Committee understand the challenges of the Department in spreading consumer awareness among people and are of the view that a sustained national campaign is required to educate the consumers about their rights and welfare. The Committee further note that under this scheme, the Department also releases funds to States for educating consumers based on awareness programmes on local themes and other advertisements in local exhibitions, street plays, cultural functions etc. to educate the citizens about consumer rights. The Committee are of the firm view that the scheme of consumer awareness should be further strengthened for which allocation of more funds is required to extend the spread of scheme to various parts of the country so that citizens are aware about their rights and the mechanism available for redressal of their grievances or complaints they suffer from. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should approach the Ministry of Finance for increased allocations for the scheme at the RE stage. They be apprised of the steps taken in this regard with outcome thereof."

### **Reply of the Government**

5.2 "At the time of Revised Estimates, Ministry of Finance would be approached for more funds for Consumer Awareness Campaign."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. N-13/10/2016-P&C dated.)}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.10 of Chapter - I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.37)**

5.3 "The Committee note that the Department of Consumer Affairs administers Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Under Consumer Protection Unit various schemes/projects are being implemented to improve the functioning of consumer fora. A scheme for Strengthening Consumer Fora Phase-II, a scheme for Computerization and Networking namely CONFONET, State Consumer Helplines are some of the important programmes being implemented under Consumer Protection Unit. The Budget allocated under this scheme during the year 2016-17 is Rs. 34.00 crore. The Committee note that during 2015-16, the Department had allocated Rs. 45.00 crore for Consumer Protection Schemes and incurred actual expenditure of Rs. 31.54 crore (upto 31.01.2016) indicating a utilization of 70.08%. The Committee are disappointed to further note that the allocations under the scheme for 2016-17 has been reduced to Rs. 34.00 crore against RE of Rs. 45.00 crore out of which Rs. 31.54 crore was spent. The Committee are of the view that Consumer Protection is a very important component of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the strengthening of various consumer for a envisaged under this scheme needs to be fully supported with adequate funds. They, therefore, recommend that the Department should seek additional funds under this scheme, during the course of the year from the Ministry the Finance. They desire to be apprised of the outcome of the efforts made in this direction."

### **Reply of the Government**

5.4 "The Department has diligently noted the recommendations of the honorable Committee that the additional fund should be sought under the Plan Schemes at the RE stage for the current financial year and will be acted upon at appropriate point of time. In this regard, it is also being considered to strengthen of the existing scheme and seek funds for product testing laboratories, establishing of consumer studies and research cells in the next three years for which budgetary support will be requested."

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.13 of Chapter -I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.40)**

5.5 "The Committee note that the scheme of Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora in the country (CONFONET) was launched in March, 2005. Under the scheme, the consumer fora at all the 3 tiers were to be fully computerized to enable access to information and quicker disposal of cases. Hardware, software and technical manpower are provided to the Consumer Forum. An On-line Case Monitoring System Application has also been developed.

The Committee note that against the target of 613 for computerization during 2015-16, hardware had been supplied to 586, manpower was provided to 595 and 526 consumer foras are using on-line case management system. The Committee observe that in this age of computerization and with the Government initiative for Digital India, the Department should take up the computerization of consumer fora in right earnest and complete them quickly so that the entire consumer movement would get a fillip to its activities. The Department should also conduct a thorough review of the last ten years' efforts that were gone into the scheme by an independent evaluation agency and complete computerization of the remaining consumer fora in a time bound manner preferably by 2018-19.

The Committee note that for using the On-line Case Management System Application, internet connectivity is required at the Consumer Forum. However, due to certain technical problems in Uttarakhand, the computers are yet to be installed. The Committee note that similarly there are internet connectivity problems in Assam, Bihar and North-Eastern States. The Committee recommend that the Department should hold review meetings with concerned States and such issues be resolved at the earliest so that the On-line Case Management System can be used by all Consumer For a uninterruptedly."

### **Reply of the Government**

5.6 "As on 27th June'2016, new set of hardware has been supplied at 598 consumer fora (NCDRC, 34 State Commissions & 563 District Consumer fora) during 12th plan period under Confonet Scheme. Manpower has been provided at 596 field locations where Hardware was supplied.

For supplying hardware and deployment of technical manpower in the Consumer Fora, NIC requests the State Governments/ State Commissions

(through NIC State coordinators) to provide list of locations, their postal address, contact details of nodal officers and site readiness confirmation for the delivery and timely installation of the hardware. For want of these details it has not been possible to computerize some of the Consumer Fora. The Department wrote to the Secretaries of Consumer Affairs of all the States/UTs in March, 2015 to provide the list of balance locations, if any, where new set of hardware and manpower is required under the scheme. In May, 2016, Deputy Director General (NIC) wrote to the states where some locations were left to be covered under Confonet. Recently, the Secretaries of Consumer Affairs in the States have been requested to ensure availability of internet connection for successful implementation of the Confonet scheme.

The suggestion of the Committee to conduct a thorough review of the last ten years' efforts that were gone into the scheme by an independent evaluation agency has been noted and action is being taken in this regard."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. N-13/10/2016-P&C dated.)}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.22 of Chapter - I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.46)**

5.7 " The Committee note that the Legal Metrology Division of the Department of Consumer Affairs oversees the implementation of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 which is aimed to safeguard the interest of consumers to get the correct quantity for the price charged by ensuring use of the correct, tested, calibrated and certified weights and measures. The Legal Metrology Rules mandate certain consumer-friendly declarations like the name and address of the manufacturer/packer, the name of the commodity, the net quantity, the MRP, the month and year of manufacture/packing etc. The Committee hope that the funds allotted to the scheme 'Weights and Measures' during the year 2016-17 of Rs. 16.45 crore at BE would be judiciously utilized by the Department with the objective of achieving the set goal.

The Committee note that certain procedural difficulties are being faced by the Legal Metrology Division in implementation of its schemes like non-finalization of tenders by DGS&D and non-utilization of funds by CPWD for construction/renovation of buildings etc. The Committee are unhappy at such delays and the reasons furnished are not satisfactory and convincing and require intervention by senior officials in the Department of Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology Division. The Committee, therefore, recommend that all irritant issues be sorted out with DGS&D and CPWD should hold regular interactions with DGS&D and ensure that the requirements of the Legal Metrology Division are

made available and the infrastructure is set up as envisaged in the plans in a time bound manner. They desire the Department to closely monitor the progress of implementation."

### **Reply of the Government**

5.8 "The issues will be sorted out with DGS&D and CPWD. Regular interactions will be held with DGS&D to ensure the requirements of the Legal Metrology Division and to setup the infrastructure as envisaged in the plans in a time bound manner. The Department will closely monitor the progress of implementation and will make every sincere effort to get the funds utilised by the DGS&D.

Concerted efforts were made for procurement of standards equipments with DGS&D by way of meeting with senior officers of DGS&D and sending regular letters asking the status of the indents and tenders floated by them. A copy of some of the letters issued to DGS&D is **at Annexure-A**. The possibility of floating of e-tenders by this Department itself is also under consideration.

Also efforts were made with State Government and CPWD for establishment of two new RRSLs at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and Nagpur, Maharashtra. Meetings with CPWD officers were also called. A copy of minute of meeting and letters is at **Annexure-B..**"

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. N-13/10/2016-P&C dated.)}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.25 of Chapter -I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Para No. 3.68)**

5.9 " The Committee note that there are two schemes under implementation by the Department of Consumer Affairs namely Hallmarking Scheme for setting up of Gold Assaying & Hallmarking centres and National System for Standardization Scheme to promote the standardization at national and international level. The Committee feel that the 373 Assaying & Hallmarking centres in the country as on date are unable to meet the expectations of the consumers. There are two components of the hallmarking schemes namely Infrastructure Building and Capacity Building. Under infrastructure building, one time financial assistance for setting up of gold assaying and hallmarking centres where no such centre exist, 30% to private entrepreneurs and 50% to PSUs is provided. However, the same increases to 50% to private entrepreneurs and 70% to PSUs in case of North East States. Under the component of capacity

building, training programmes like Artisan Training, A&H Personnel Training and BIS Officers Training are conducted.

The Committee are concerned with the less than satisfactory working of A&H sector as these sectors do not seem to have made much of a difference to the consumers in purchase of gold. The Committee have observed during their study tour last year to Udaipur A&H centre that proper testings are not being done before hallmark seal are made available for the gold which needs to be ensured by BIS/Department of Consumer Affairs very strictly. This scheme needs appropriate monitoring and regular testing of samples from the centres. The Committee are of the considered view that the consumers should have the benefit of hallmark gold not only at the time of buying but also at a time of selling. At present, there seems to be no benefit for a seller if he sells a hallmark or non-hallmark gold which fetches a similar value. The Committee would expect the Department of Consumer Affairs to review the functioning of hallmarking scheme and take necessary steps to improve its functioning among the consumers and traders.

The Committee further view that this is a good scheme and needs proper implementation by the Department of Consumer Affairs and therefore recommend that the Department conduct a thorough review of the functioning of the scheme as well as A&H centres immediately by an independent external evaluator in a time bound manner and take corrective action wherever required as suggested by the reviewing agency. They would like to be apprised of the action taken on this aspect at an early date."

### **Reply of the Government**

5.10 "Possibilities of getting desired study done by a government agency on nomination basis are being explored. 'Indian Institute of Public Administration' has been contacted as they have done a similar study for BIS in the past.

As soon as the project of evaluation study is completed and its report becomes available, necessary action will be taken accordingly."

{(Department of Consumer Affairs  
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution)  
O.M. N-13/10/2016-P&C dated.)}

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para No. 1.28 of Chapter -I of the Report)

**NEW DELHI;  
9 January, 2017  
19 Pausha, 1938(Saka)**

**J.C. DIVAKAR REDDY,  
Chairperson,  
Standing Committee on Food,  
Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.**

## ANNEXURE A

### ANNEXURE - A

1 of Annexure A

Speed post

WM-8(14)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Unit

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 3.3.2016

To  
The Director (ST)  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeevan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

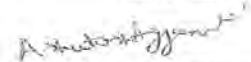
**Subject:** Tender Enquiry of even no. opened on 22.1.2014 for procurement of 200 sets of CNG, LPG Mass Flow Meter for verification of CNG/ LPG Dispenser -reg.

Sir,  
The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter No. ST-1/CNG/LPG Mass Flow Meter/224/047/26.12.2012/21/Pt. dated 3.3.2016 on the above mentioned subject and to enclose herewith indent for procurement of 200 LPG/ CNG testing kits for testing of CNG/LPG Dispensers for Legal Metrology Department of States/ UTs with the same technical specifications, which were floated earlier by DGS&D for necessary action.

2. It is also requested to inform the status of all other four tenders, for procurement of Thermometer testing kits, sphygmomanometer testing kits, digital tape measuring device and taxi meter testing kits, floated by DGS&D and opened on 3.2.2016.

3. An early action is requested.

Yours faithful



(Ashutosh Agarwal)  
Assistant Director (Legal Metrology)  
For, Director (LM)  
Tel: 011-23386194/23386195  
Email: adwm2-ca@nic.

s/c  




2 of Annexure A

Speed pos

WM-8(14)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Unit

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 28.1.2016

To

The Director (ST)  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

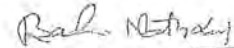
**Subject:** Procurement of 200 Nos. of CNG & LPG Mass Flow Meter for Legal Metrology Department against our indent dated 13.12.2012 vide T/E no. ST-1/CNG & LPG Mass Flow Meter/ST-1/224/0497/26.12.2012/21 -reg.

Sir,

The undersigned is to refer to your letter No. ST-1/CNG & LPG Mass Flow Meter/ST-1/224/0497/26.12.2012/21 dated 18.1.2016 and the meeting held on 22.1.2016 in the chamber of ADG (S) (OPK), DGS&D on the above mentioned subject and to state that sufficient funds are available during 2015-16 and 2016-17.

2. An early action is requested.

Yours faithfully



(B N Dixit)  
Director (Legal Metrology)  
Tel. No. 23389489, 23386194  
Fax No. 23385322, Email: [dirwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in)



**BHARATI DAS**  
**JOINT SECRETARY**

2 of Annexure - A  
भारत सरकार  
उद्योगिक मामलों, खाद्य एवं  
जनसंचार विभाग  
(उद्योगिक मामलों विभाग)  
कानून भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS)  
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI - 110001  
D.O.No.WM-8(16)/2014  
10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

Dear Shri *Bhalla*

The Legal Metrology Department of this Organisation plays a very vital role in Quantity regulation across the country. Sound weights of commodities are also a vital feature for consumer safety & regulation.

2. This department has submitted various indents with DGS&D as follows:

- (a) CNG/ LPG kits for testing of CNG/ LPG Dispensers, year- 2012
- (b) Water Bath for Clinical Thermometers, year- 2014
- (c) Blood Pressure Testing kits, Year- 2014
- (d) Taxi meter testing units, year- 2014
- (e) Testing facility for Tape Measure, year- 2014
- (f) Proving Measures for calibration of tank Lorries, year- 2011
- (g) Working Standard Balances, year- 2014

3. You would appreciate that considerable delay has occurred in the finalisation of these tenders resulting repeated surrender of funds. In addition the non-implementation of the mandate for Legal Metrology has been commented adversely by higher authorities.

4. I would request you to kindly intervene and expedite the process so that we are able to fulfil our mandate across the country.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Bharati Das*  
(Bharati Das)

Shri B S Bhalla,  
Director General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeevan Tara Building,  
5, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

WM-8(2-)/2014  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Unit

4 of Annexure - A  
Speed post

Krishi Bhawan New Delhi-01  
Dated: 10.10.2015

To  
The Director (ST)  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

**Subject:** procurement of equipments for Legal Metrology Departments of States/ UTs:

- (i) 210 Nos. of sphygmomanometer testing kits,
- (ii) 83 nos. of taxi meter calibration/ verification units,
- (iii) 170 nos. of water bath for testing of clinical thermometers
- (iv) 10 nos. of digital tape measuring units

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter No. ST-1/224/1439/16.10.2014/21 dated 8.10.2015 on the above mentioned subject and to state that these master meters are equivalent to the working standard equipments used by the inspectors of Legal Metrology to calibrate/ verify the sphygmomanometers, taxi meters, clinical thermometers and tape measures used by the end users and will not be used to calibrate second level Masters. However, the accuracy and traceability of these testing kits should be same as requested in the indent.

2. As far as calibration of all these kits at National Physical Laboratory is concerned it is to inform that it may take lot of time, therefore, it is requested to ask the supplier to get one testing kit of each lot, calibrated/ tested at National Physical Laboratory and other kits may be supplied after calibration from any Government Laboratory. However, DGS&D may take the final decision.

3. Action may kindly be taken for immediate supply of the equipments to avoid any lapse of funds. It is also requested to provide the status of procurement of all equipments, for which indent was submitted by this Department.

Yours faithfully

*Ashutosh Aggarwal*

(Ashutosh Aggarwal)  
Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology  
Tel: 01123386100  
Email: [adv.m2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adv.m2-ca@nic.in)

*10/10/15*  
*03/11/15*

5 of Annexure - A

Speed post

WM-8(21)/2014  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Unit

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 01.09.2015

To  
The Director (ST)  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

**Subject:** procurement of equipments for Legal Metrology Departments of States/ UTs:

- (i) 210 Nos. of sphygmomanometer testing kits,
- (ii) 83 nos. of taxi meter calibration/ verification units,
- (iii) 170 nos. of water bath for testing of clinical thermometers
- (iv) 10 nos. of digital tape measuring units

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter No. ST-1/224/1439/16.10.2014/21 dated 3.9.2015 on the above mentioned subject and to state that model approvals, licenses for manufacture, repair and sale is not required for these master meters, however these testing kits/ master meters may be supplied after calibration from any Government Laboratory/ Government Approved Laboratory, as decided by DGS&D.

2. Action may kindly be taken for immediate supply of the equipments to avoid any lapse of funds. It is also requested to provide the status of procurement of all equipments, for which indent was submitted by this Department.

Yours faithfully,

*(Signature)*

(Ashutosh Agarwal)  
Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology  
Tel: 01123386194  
Email: adwm2-ca@nic.in

155/15

WM-8(6)/2011  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Dated: 31-08-2015

The Director (ST-1),  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals (DGS&D),  
Jeevan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Parliament Street,  
New Delhi

Subject: Scrapping of T/E dated 09.01.2014 opened on 31.01.2014 for procurement of 44 sets of Proving Measure for calibration of Vehicle Tanks of capacity 50 liters, 100 liters, 500 Liters 1000 Liters & 5000 Liters -reg.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter no Proving Measure Tank Lorries / ST-1/220/9702/11.05.2011/21 dated 13.01.2015 on the above mentioned subject and to request you to float the said tender once again for the said store, as this office does not have expertise for the purchase of stores.

Yours faithfully,

(Ashutosh Agarwal)  
Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology  
Tel: 01123386194  
Email: [adwm2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adwm2-ca@nic.in)

विश्वनाथ  
सी.सी.एस.  
C. VISWANATH  
Secretary  
Tel. : 011-23782807, 23070121  
Fax : 011-23384716  
E-mail : secy-ca@nic.in



77 Anurag  
भारत सरकार  
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग  
उपभोक्ता मामले, विभाग  
भुवि भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110001  
Department of Public Distribution  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
C. VISWANATH - NCV/DELHI - 110001

D.O. No. WM-(16)/2014

July 20, 2015

Dear Shri Siddharth,

Kindly recall my telecom. Department of Consumer Affairs procures huge quantity of testing equipments for supply to various Legal Metrological Laboratories in several States/UTs. The orders are placed centrally by this Department and funds are placed with DGS&D for tenders and finalising the placement of orders. Due to delay in processing of these cases at various levels, this Department is not able to utilise the funds for the development of this sector, which is directly linked with the common man. The Parliamentary Standing Committee has also shown its concern for less utilization of funds.

2. As of now the following work orders are pending at different stages:

S.No.	Equipment/Store	Amount	Status
1.	Proving Measures for calibration of tank lorries	Rs.7.0 crore	Tender has to be re-floated
2.	200 CNG/LPG Kits for testing of CNG/PNG Dispensers	Rs.15.0 crore	Technical bid and financial bids opened, order awaited
3.	147 sets of Working Standard Balances	Rs.25.0 crore	Tender has to be floated
4.	Water Bath for Clinical Thermometer	Rs.2.50 crore	Fresh tender to be floated
5.	Blood Pressure Testing Kits	Rs.5.0 crore	Fresh tender to be floated
6.	Taxi meter testing units	Rs.2.5 crore	Fresh tender to be floated
7.	Testing facility for Tape Measures	Rs.0.50 crore	Fresh tender to be floated
Total		Rs.50.50 crore	

3. I shall be grateful if you could direct the concerned officers to finalise the matter at the earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(C Viswanath)

Issued  
20/7/15

Shri Siddharth,  
Director General,  
Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals,  
Jeevan Tara Building,  
5, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi





87 Annexure-A

Speed post

WM-8(21)/2014  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Unit

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 01.07.2015

To  
The Director (ST)  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.

**Subject:** procurement of equipments for Legal Metrology Departments of States/ UTs:

- (i) 210 Nos. of sphygmomanometer testing kits,
- (ii) 33 nos. of taxi meter calibration/ verification units,
- (iii) 170 nos. of water bath for testing of clinical thermometers
- (iv) 10 nos. of digital tape measuring units

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter dated 29.6.2015 on the above mentioned subject and to state that the model approvals for these testing kits are not required under the Legal Metrology Act, and therefore these testing kits are not approved by this Department.

2. Further, only the digital tape measuring units were procured through DGSCD during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan for States/ UTs Governments from M/s Kudale Instruments (P) Ltd, Pune and all other three equipments could not be procured earlier by this Department for the States/ UTs.

3. Therefore it is requested to re-float all the indents submitted by this Department, at the earliest.

4. A copy of the letter for increasing the number of taxi meter calibration/ verification units sent by this office is also enclosed herewith for needful.

5. Action may kindly be taken for immediate supply of the equipments to avoid any lapse of funds.

6. It is also requested to provide the status of procurement of all equipments, for which indent was submitted by this Department.

Yours faithfully

*(B. N. Dixit)*  
(B. N. Dixit)

Director, Legal Metrology  
Tel: 011-23389489

Email: [dlrwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dlrwm-ca@nic.in)

Issued  
Copy to: ADG, DGS&D, Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street, New Delhi for necessary action.

9 g Answer A

WM-8(22)/2014  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Weights and Measures Unit

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 29.06.2016

To,

The Director (ST),  
Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals,  
Jeewan Tara Building, 5<sup>th</sup>, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi

Subject: Tender No 2015\_DGSND\_60931\_1 for supply of Water Bath - reg

Sir

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith copy of email received from M/s Culture Instruments, #D-428, 10<sup>th</sup> Main, Peenya end Stage, P. I. A., Bangalore on the above mentioned subject and to request you to inform the status of tender for supply of Water Bath.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully

*Ashutosh Agarwal*

(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology

Tel: 01123386194

Email: [adwm2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adwm2-ca@nic.in)

Copy to: M/s Culture Instruments, #D-428, 10<sup>th</sup> Main, Peenya end Stage, P. I. A., Bangalore  
for kind information

Issued  
29/6/2016



## ANNEXURE B

ANNEXURE B

1 g Annexure B  
speed post

WM-16(16)/2015  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division

Krishna Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Dated: 07.07.2016

To,

The Executive Engineer,  
Allahabad Central Division,  
CPWD, 76, Lukarganj, Allahabad

Sub: Establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh -  
reg  
Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter no 1560 dated 09.06.2016 on the  
above mentioned subject and to request you to start the work of RPSL, Varanasi without  
any delay, as land has already been transferred in the name of Department.

Yours faithfully,

*Ashutosh Agarwal*  
(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology  
Tel: 01123386194

Email: [adwm2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adwm2-ca@nic.in)

15/7/16  
14/7/16

Copy to:

1. The Assistant Engineer, Central Public Works Department, Kendra Chai, Varanasi, BHU Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh for kind information and necessary action.
2. The Director, Project Management, CPWD, Krishna Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information and necessary action.

Speed Post

29/05/2016

WM-16(16)/2015  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Dated: 27.05.2016

To,

The Additional Director General,  
Central Public Works Department,  
NR-ADG (NR)II-NZ-BHU Project Circle-BHU Project Division-I,  
Behind Central Office, BHU Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Sub: Establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh -  
reg  
Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that under the XII Five Year Plan, one Regional Reference Standards Laboratory (RRSL) is proposed to be set up at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

2. An amount of Rs. 59,89,000/- for Construction of Boundary Wall and Gate of RRSL, Varanasi was sanctioned under XII Five Year Plan Scheme "Strengthening RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi".

3. It is requested to submit the status of Boundary Wall constructed and Gate of RRSL, Varanasi.

4. It is also requested to submit the estimate for construction of Laboratory building with administrative block immediately.

5. An early action is requested.

Yours faithfully,

(Ashutosh Agarwal)  
Assistant Director, Legal Metrology  
for Director of Legal Metrology  
Tel: 11123386194  
Email: adwm2-ca@nic.in

Copy to:

1. The Executive Engineer, Allahabad Central Division, CPWD, 76, Lukarganj, Allahabad for kind information and necessary action.
2. The Director, Project Management, CPWD, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information and necessary action.

3 of Annexure

WM-16(16)/2015

Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Department of Consumer Affairs

Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

Date: 13/5/2016

To,

Assistant Engineer,  
CPWD Varanasi,

**Subject:** Establishment of Regional Reference Standard Laboratory at Varanasi

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that new Regional Reference Standards Laboratory is being established at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh under the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan scheme 'strengthening Regional Reference Standard Laboratories (RRSLs) and Indian Institute of Legal Metrology (IILM), Ranchi' under Administrative Control of this Department.

2. The 12<sup>th</sup> Five year plan scheme will be ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. The possession was handed over to CPWD, Varanasi for the Construction work of the Laboratory during 2016-17. An amount of Rs. 59 Lakhs (approx.) was released during 2015-16 for construction of Boundary wall etc. with a request to submit the design and estimate for the construction of the laboratory. The laboratory has to be made functional during this financial year.

3. It is requested to kindly inform the status of the construction work of the boundary wall etc. and submit the design & estimate for the construction of the laboratory, to release the funds immediately. It is also requested to provide some photographs of the construction work for needful.

Yours faithfully

*Ashutosh Agarwal*

(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Assistant Director (Legal Metrology)

For, Director (Legal Metrology)

Ph: 011-23386194, 23389489

Email: [adwm2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adwm2-ca@nic.in)

**Copy to :** (1) The Additional Director General, Central Public Works Department, NR-ADG (NR)II-NZ-BHU Project Circle- BHU Project Division-I, Behind Central Office, BHU Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

(2) Executive Engineer, CPWD, Allahabad zone

4 of Annexure - B

WM-8(7)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-11000  
Date: 26.8.201

To,

The Executive Engineer,  
Allahabad Central Division  
CPWD, 76, Lukarganj,  
Allahabad

**Sub: Establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, U.P.**

Sir,

The undersigned is to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that under the XIIth Five Year Plan, one Regional Reference Standards Laboratory (RRSL) is to be setup at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

2. In this regard it is to inform that an amount of Rs. 1,09,20,000/- towards the transfer of land and Rs. 9630/- towards revenue fees has already been paid to the District Magistrate (Jila Adhikari) for 1.3 hectare (3.2 acre) land of Gram Samaj at Pindra Tehsil, Varanasi at Village Gajapur, Mouja-Payakpur, Tehsil Pindara Araj No, 152 Rakba 1.3 hectare for the establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh under the XIIth Five Year Plan Scheme "Strengthening RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi".

3. A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs with the CPWD Officers, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi for an early action to complete the boundary wall, gate, signboard etc. of the said laboratory. It is requested to direct the local CPWD authorities at Varanasi to conduct the survey of the land, already transferred in the name of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory and take over the said land for further necessary action.

4. It is further to inform that the undersigned visited Varanasi during 19-21 August, 2015 wherein the relevant documents were handed over to Shri Ram Pratap Singh Yadav, Assistant Engineer for needful as per the discussion held with Chief Engineer, CPWD, Lucknow. For any assistance Sh. Mukesh Kumar, Asstt. Contoller, Legal Metrology, Varanasi, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh may be contacted at : 09415186562.

202

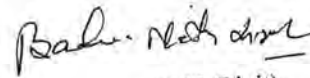
-2-

5. An early action is requested to provide the Budget Estimate for constructing the boundary wall, gate, signboard, security hut and Laboratory building with an office block and Guest house etc. of the said laboratory on **Priority Basis**, as sufficient funds are available for the said work during the current financial year.

6. An early action is highly solicited.

Encl: A copy of the design of the Laboratory Building.

Yours faithfully,



(B.N. Dixit)

Director Legal Metrology  
Ph.23389489/23386194  
Email: [dirwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in)

Copy to:

1. The District Magistrate, Varanasi, U.P. for kind information.
2. The Controller, Legal Metrology, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, For kind information.
3. Sh. C. Suresh, Director, Project Management, CPWD, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi for kind information and necessary action.
4. Sh. Mukesh Kumar, Asstt. Controller, Legal Metrology, Varanasi, U.P.
5. Sh. R.P. Singh Yadav, Asstt. Engineer, Kendranchal Colony, CPWD Office, Sindhora Road, Lamhi, Varanasi.



5 of Annexure B

WM-8(23)/2015  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 6.8.2015

**MEETING NOTICE**

**Subject:** Minutes of meeting dated 29.7.2015 at 15:30Hrs in Room No. 46, Krishi Bhawan, with CPWD, Officers to review the progress of the work at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of meeting held on 29.7.2015 at 15:30Hrs in Room No. 46, Krishi Bhawan, with CPWD, Officers to review the progress of the work at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary (CA).

*Ashutosh Agarwal*  
(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Assistant Director (Legal Metrology)  
for, Director (Legal Metrology)

Ph.: 011-23389489/ 23386194, Fax: 011-23385322

Email: [adwm2-ca@nic.in](mailto:adwm2-ca@nic.in)

*6/8*  
**To:** 1. PPS to Addl. Secy. (CA)/ PS to JS(CA)/ Dir (LM)/ DS(IF)/ US(IF)/ Consultant  
(Budget) for kind information.

2. Shri. C Suresh, Director (Project Management), CPWD

3. Shri Vijay Singh, EE (PM), CPWD

*6/8/15*

### Legal Metrology Division

**Subject:** Minutes of meeting dated 29.7.2015 at 15:30Hrs in Room No. 46, Krishi Bhawan, with CPWD, Officers to review the progress of the work at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi.

A meeting was held on 29.7.2015 at 15:30Hrs under the chairmanship of Jt. Secy. (CA)/ CCA in Room No. 46, Krishi Bhawan, with CPWD, Officers to review the progress of the work at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi. The list of participants in the meeting is in Annexure.

Joint secretary welcome all the participants and briefly discuss the proposals of Legal Metrology. The following decisions were taken:

**1. RRSL, Bangalore:** It was informed by CPWD that an amount of Rs. 68.53 Lakh was sanctioned during May, 15, out of which Rs. 48.53 Lakh expenditure has been made and by August, 15 the whole work will be completed and the entire booking will be made by Sept 15, 2015.

**2. RRSL, Ahmedabad:** CPWD has informed that an amount of Rs. 17 Lakh was sanctioned recently for repairing work, which will be completed by Dec, 2015 and the entire booking will be made immediately after.

**3. IILM, Ranchi:** It was informed that there are three following components for IILM, Ranchi, for which the estimate was given by CPWD, Ranchi long back:

- (i) Executive Hostel
- (ii) Guest House
- (iii) Auditorium

It was informed by CPWD officers that there will be an escalation of 6-7% per year. It was informed that the planning will be for the whole project but execution will be in parts/ phased manner. It was informed that the administrative and financial approval will be given for the whole project and Rs.1.0 Crore may be released this year. Being a bigger project, comprehensive sanction is required.

**4. RRSL, Faridabad:** The estimate submitted by CPWD is quite old, therefore revised estimate may be asked.

**5. RRSL, Guwahati:** It was informed by the CPWD officers that the proposals for Rs. 16.48 Lakh of RRSL, Guwahati can be completed by this year, if the sanction is issued at the earliest, keeping in mind that it takes around five months from sanction.

**6. RRSL, Varanasi:** CPWD officers asked to issue a letter requesting CPWD, Varanasi for taking possession of the land at Varanasi and to submit the estimate for boundary wall, Gate, Security Hut and soil testing etc. A request for construction of Laboratory with preliminary sketch is also to be sent to CPWD, Varanasi for preliminary planning.

**7. RRSL, Nagpur:** It was decided that as soon as the land will be provided by the State Government, the proposal similar to RRSL, Varanasi will be submitted to CPWD for similar action.

8. It was also decided that the renovation work of RRSL, Ahmedabad may be considered from Major Head, as there is need of complete renovation of the building.

9. For solar power project, it was informed by CPWD that they are installing solar power plants at various Government Buildings and this Department may also request for installation of solar power plants at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to chair.

#### **Annexure:**

1. Ms. Bharti Das, Joint Secretary & CCA In Chair
2. Shri B N Dixit, Dir (Legal Metrology)
3. Shri. C Suresh, Director (Project Management), CPWD
4. Shri Vijay Singh, EE (PM), CPWD
5. Shri B.B. Roy, Deputy Secretary (IF)
6. Shri P K Tyagi, US(IF)
7. Shri Ashutosh Agarwal, Asst. Dir. (LM)
8. Shri S.K. Gupta, Consultant (Budget)



6 of Annexure - B

WM-8(7)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Date: 31.7.2015

To,  
The Director,  
Project Management,  
CPWD, Nirman Bhawan,  
New Delhi.

**Sub: Establishment of Solar Power Project at RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi.**

Sir,

Kindly recall our discussions with Joint Secretary, Consumer Affairs on 29.7.2015 regarding the establishment of solar power system at Regional Reference Standards Laboratories situated at Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Faridabad, Guwahati and Indian Institute of Legal Metrology, Ranchi.

2. We would request you to kindly survey the premises in the regions mentioned & thereafter submit the Budget Estimate for issue of sanction to this office at the earliest in respect of the above subject. A copy of the addresses of the said organizations is enclosed for your kind information.

Yours faithfully,

*B.N. Dixit*

(B.N. Dixit)

Director Legal Metrology  
Ph.23389489/23386194  
Email: [dirwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in)

Copy to:

1. The Director, IILM, Ranchi, Kanke, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
2. Deputy Director/Asstt. Director, RRSLs -Bangalore, Guwahati, Faridabad, Ahmedabad and Bhubneswar.

WM-8(7)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Date: 31.7.2015

To,

The Additional Director General,  
Central Public Works Department,  
NR-ADG (NR)II-NZ-BHU Project Circle-BHU Project Division-I,  
Behind Central Office, BHU Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

**Sub: Establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, U.P.-reg.**

Sir,

The undersigned is to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that under the XIIth Five Year Plan, one Regional Reference Standards Laboratory (RRSL) is to be setup at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

2. In this regard it is to inform that an amount of Rs. 1,09,20,000/- towards the transfer of land and Rs.9630/- towards revenue fees has already been paid to the District Magistrate (Jila Adhikari) for 1.3 hectare (3.2 acre) land of Gram Samaj at Pindra Tehsil, Varanasi at Village Gajapur, Mouja- Payakpur, Tehsil Pindara Araj No. 152 Rakba 1.3 hectare for the establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh under the XIIth Five Year Plan Scheme "Strengthening RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi".

3. A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs with the CPWD Officers, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi for early action to be taken to complete the boundary wall, gate, signboard etc, of the said laboratory. It is requested to contact the local authorities and to conduct survey of the land and take possession for necessary action with the help of the District authorities.

4 Further it is requested to submit proposal for boundary wall, gate, signboard etc, immediately and followed by drawing and construction plan of the laboratory. A specimen copy is enclosed for your kind information.

Yours faithfully,

*B.N. Dixit*

(B.N. Dixit)

Director Legal Metrology  
Ph.23389489/23386194  
Email: [dirwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in)

Copy to:

1. The District Magistrate, Varanasi, U.P. for kind information and necessary action.
2. The Controller, Legal Metrology, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, for kind information and necessary action.
- ✓ 3. Sh. C. Suresh, Director, Project Management, CPWD, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. for kind information and necessary action.

89 Annexure-B  
263

Speed Post

WM-8(7)/2012  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 28.7.2015

To

The Additional Director General,  
Central Public Works Department,  
NR-ADG (NR)II-NZ-BHU Project Circle- BHU Project Division-I,  
Behind Central Office, BHU Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

**Subject:** Establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh -reg.

Sir,

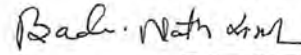
The undersigned is to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that under the XII Five Year Plan, one Regional Reference Standards Laboratory (RRSL) is proposed to be setup at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

2. An amount of Rs. 1,09,20,000/- towards the transfer of land and Rs. 9630/- towards revenue fees has already been paid to the District Magistrate (Jila Adhikari) for 1.3 hectare (3.2 acre) land of Gram Samaj at Pindra Tehsil, Varanasi at Village Gajapur, Mouja- Payakpur, Tehsil Pindara Araj No. 152 Rakba 1.3 hectare for the establishment of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh under the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan Scheme "Strengthening RRSLs and IILM, Ranchi".

3. Therefore it is requested to submit the estimate for the construction of the Laboratory Building and boundary wall etc. A copy of the design of Regional Reference Standards Laboratory, Faridabad is enclosed herewith for kind information.

4. An early action is requested.

Yours faithfully,



(B. N. Dixit)  
Director, Legal Metrology  
Tele No 011-23389489, 23386194  
Email: dirwm-ca@nic.com

**Copy to:** The Controller of Legal Metrology, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow for kind information and necessary action.

## **APPENDIX I**

### **MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2016-17) HELD ON MONDAY, 9 JANUARY, 2017**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1145 hrs. in Committee Room No. '53', First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

Shri J.C. Divakar Reddy - Chairperson

#### **Members**

#### **Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Babu Lal Choudhary
3. Shri Sanjay Haribhau Jadhav
4. Shri Dinesh Kashyap
5. Shri Dharmendra Kumar
6. Shri Ravinder Kushawaha
7. Smt. Sakuntala Laguri
8. Dr. Swami Sakshiji Maharaj
9. Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal
10. Shri Ram Chander Paswan
11. Shri Bhola Singh
12. Shri Nandi Yellaiah

#### **Rajya Sabha**

13. Shri Shadi Lal Batra
14. Shri Vinay Katiyar

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri P.V.L.N. Murthy - Joint Secretary

2. At the start of the meeting, only three members were present. The Chairperson decided to wait for the members. After few minutes, other members started coming. After completion of the quorum, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for consideration and adoption of the Draft Reports on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Reports of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution pertaining to the (i) Department of Food and Public Distribution, and (ii) Department of Consumer Affairs.

3. Thereafter the Committee took up for consideration the Draft Reports. After due deliberations, the Committee unanimously adopted the said two Action Taken Reports without any amendment/modification.

4. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize the aforesaid Draft Reports and present the same to Parliament in the ensuing Budget Session of Parliament.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **APPENDIX II**

(Vide Para No. 4 of Introduction of the Report)

### **ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (2015-16)**

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

- (i) Total number of Recommendations: 13
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government :

Para Nos.:- 2.8, 3.39, 3.73, 3.77.

(Chapter – II, Total - 4)

Percentage : 30.76%

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies received from the Government

Para Nos. 1.4, 3.56, 3.83.

(Chapter – III, Total - 3)

Percentage : 23.07%

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:

Para No. 3.38

(Chapter – IV, Total -1)

Percentage : 7.70%

- (v) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the interim replies of the Government have been received.

Para No.:- 3.11, 3.37, 3.40, 3.46 and 3.68

(Chapter – V, Total - 5)

Percentage : 38.47%