

Centre allows import of 12 lt GM soyameal

Move will help the Covid-hit domestic Livestock industry

New Delhi, August 24:

The government on August 24 relaxed norms to allow import of 12 lakh tonnes of de-oiled and crushed genetically-modified (GM) soyabean with the Environment Ministry (MoEF) clarifying there was no concern from the environmental angle as it does not contain any living organism, a statement issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said. The relaxation of the import norms will benefit farmers, poultry farmers and fishermen, who have been affected badly after soyabean meal prices soared across the country. The imports will be allowed till October 31.

Breather for livestock sector:

The poultry industry has been leading the demand to allow import of GM soyameal, stating that soyabean meal prices have topped Rs 1 lakh a tonne. Prices of soyabean meal



The imports will be allowed till October 31

surged as soyabean prices increased in line with the global trend in view of soyabean crop in South America being affected. In addition, production of palm oil and sunflower have also been affected across the globe due to Covid pandemic and drought-like conditions.

Currently, soyabean is quoted at Rs 97,500 a tonne at Indore in Madhya Pradesh, the hub of soyabean industry, while soyabean meal at Rs 87,000. Prices of both have tended to ease of late on reports of the Centre allowing imports of GM soyameal, besides the pending arrival of the new soyabean crop. The relaxation by the Centre

came after clarification and prior permission from MoEF that "since soya de-oiled and crushed cake does not contain any living modified organism, this Ministry has no concerns and no objection for import of soya cakes from an environmental angle".

Armed with the no-objection certificate from the Environment Ministry, the DAHD approached the Commerce Ministry requesting it for facilitating import of the soyabean meal through Nhava Sheva (sea port) and Petrapole border (land port). An official communication from the Director-General of Foreign Trade asked authorities at respective ports to do strict monitoring to ensure that the import quantity of 12 lakh tonnes is not breached, the statement said.

"Application of provision as in Condition 6 (b) of General Notes Regarding Import Policy Schedule — I

(Imports) of the ITC (HS) 2017 is relaxed to allow imports of 12 lakh tonnes of crushed and de-oiled GM soya cake (only non-living organism) under ITC HS codes 23040020 and 23040030 from Nhava Sheva port and LCS Petrapole, till 31st October 2021 or until further orders, whichever is earlier," it said.

Rising input costs:

The surge in soyabean meal prices resulted in input costs rising for the poultry sector, which in turn passed it on to the poultry item consumers. This resulted in broiler chicken prices soaring to over Rs 250 a kg recently. On the other hand, anti-GMO (genetically modified organisms) activists have opposed the Centre's decision to allow the import of GM soyabean meal. "What the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee have reportedly stated is highly objectionable and legally untenable," the coalition for a GM-Free India said in a statement on August 13, according to a report published in The Hindu Business Line.

Webinar held on Animal Husbandry infrastructure Development Fund

28 July 2021: CLFMA organized a webinar on "Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)" in association with the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying on 28 July 2021 from 15:00 hrs / 3:00 pm onwards. Dr O.P. Chaudhary, Joint Secretary (NLM/PC) Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India, Dr S.K. Dutta, Joint

Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India, Dr Lipi Sairiwal Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India, Shri Sadique Akhtar, Team Leader, PMA (Manager, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP), Shri Udit Paliwal, Program Management Expert, PMA (Consultant, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP) from GOI showed their valuable presence

for the Webinar. Dr O. P. Chaudhary, Joint Secretary (NLM/PC), Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India was unable to connect the Webinar.



Dr S.K. Dutta, Joint Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India

CLFMA's Second Online Webinar on the AHIDF with Government of India started with Opening Remarks & Introduction by Dr S.K. Dutta, Joint Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India. He briefed on the AHIDF (Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Scheme) of Rs 15,000 Crores, under which, animal feed component was also included. He said that, the scheme enables the beneficiary to take the benefit of 90% the loan

from the Bank, on which, 3% interest subvention is provided by the GOI., apart from this there is also a provision for availing 25% of the total borrowings as credit guarantee.



A short movie on AHIDF scheme was played during the Webinar to give a glimpse of the entire Scheme. Shri Sadique Akhtar, Team Leader extended his thanks to the participants. He welcomed Shri Neeraj Kumar Srivastava, Hon'ble Chairman of CLFMA. Shri Suresh Deora, Hon'ble Secretary of CLFMA. He has also thanked Mr Divya Kumar Gulati, Dy. Chairman of CLFMA and all the participants & Dr Lipi Saiirwal, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India to participate in this program. He welcomed all the participants and the member of CLFMA for giving their valuable time to participate in the webinar.



Neeraj Kumar Srivastava,
Hon'ble Chairman,
CLFMA of India

Chairman, Mr Neeraj Kumar Srivastava introducing CLFMA OF INDIA to the panellists and participants and gave a presentation on "Emerging Trend and Prospects of Feed Manufacturing". He said that, CLFMA was very enthusiastic about this Webinar as the AHIDF scheme of Rs 15,000 Crores floated by GOI., and the same is very beneficial for the upliftment of the Livestock Industry. He also briefed on CLFMA policy, which included three core values viz.

1. Membership Value
2. Visibility and Credibility of the Organization
3. The recognition and influence.

Chairman, Mr Neeraj Kumar Srivastava also briefed on the Poultry Feed Scenario & Industrial Scenario, current soaring price of the grains, especially the soybean meal & other protein sources which has created a huge havoc in the livestock industry. He gave an outlook of the challenges / difficulties faced by Livestock Sector during Covid 19, rising feed cost Post Covid-19 and gave the opinion of implementing better value chains, trainings, equipment, equipment's, and employee's safety. He briefed on the pivotal role played by CLFMA for the upliftment and sustainability of compound feed industry and animal farmers, present ongoing trends and how the Livestock Industry could be helpful in reviving the Animal Husbandry Sector in the Country.



Dr Lipi Saiirwal, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India

Dr Lipi Saiirwal, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India explained AHIDF Guidelines and the entire process of application process in detail, which are available on the GOI. She has also guided on how to apply for the loan to all the participants.

Website: dahd.nic.in & ahidf.udyamimitra.in

Shri Udit Paliwal, Program Management Expert, Dr Lipi Saiirwal, Assistant Commissioner, Dr S.K. Dutta, Joint Commissioner, Shri Sadique Akhtar, Team Leader interacted very well in Q&A Session with the participants and tried to resolve every question and for any further queries, they requested to contact either CLFMA OF INDIA or directly on the website, where contact details are available, so that they can try to handhold and help the related stakeholders. He said the, AHIDF fund was a very good project



Suresh Deora, Hon'ble Secretary, CLFMA

Closing Remark was made by Shri Suresh Deora, Hon. Secretary of CLFMA.

for people in Industry whether they are Farmers, Section 8 companies, Proprietor, Partnership Firm, etc., as they can avail interest subvention of 3% on 90% of the Loan. He appreciated Dr Lipi Saiirwal for presenting the detailed guidelines of the scheme. He suggested the Government of India to consider the following requests to be included under the scheme:

1. Please expand the scope of the Scheme;
2. To add some more products like feed supplements and additives, by pass fat, breeder broiler and hatchery farms;
3. To link up this scheme with CGTME scheme.

Where, there is a non-collateral loan up to Rs 2 Crores & he said that, if this scheme is combined with CGTME Scheme CLFMA will be very grateful to the whole Ministry.

Mr Suresh Deora, Hon. Secretary CLFMA extended thanks to everyone on behalf of himself and CLFMA for organizing this webinar & requested Dr S K Dutta, Joint Commissioner that Government of India shall consider CLFMA's requests.

Vote of thanks was proposed by Shri Sadique Akhtar, Team Leader, PMA (Manager, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP)

Total participation for the Webinar was 150 & 63 participants registered for the same.

Anandan Elected the President of NTA

Remove
Mr Anandan of Omni-gate Enterprises has been elected as the new President for Namakkal Traders Association.

Bangladesh offers hope for corn shipments

Exports to South-East Asia slow down as Delta variant spreads; domestic prices rise

August 26:

With corn (maize) prices rising in the domestic market due to demand from the poultry and starch sectors, its exports have slowed down, particularly to South-East Asia.

Factors such as spread of Delta variant of Corona Virus in countries such as Vietnam and Thailand and high freight charges have affected its shipments. However, exporters are now focusing on Bangladesh as they enjoy freight advantage and are able to send the consignments through various modes of transportation, traders say.

Surge in freight rates:

"We have not done any shipments to South-East Asia for almost a month now. The last we exported was a small quantity at \$320 (Rs 23,775) cost and freight", said M Madan Prakash, President, Agri Commodities Exporters' Association (ACEA).

"We were offered corn for exports from Andhra Pradesh at Rs 19,000 but it wasn't feasible given the surge in freight rates, particularly for containers", said Prakash, whose Chennai-based Rajathi Group exports agri-commodities such as maize, onions and chilli.

On Wednesday, August 25 the active corn contract on the Chicago Board of Trade was quoted at \$5.52 a bushel (Rs 16,100 a tonne). A Delhi-based trade analyst said a major reason for

corn exports slowing down is the Covid shutdown in Vietnam and Thailand, which use the grain for feed purposes.

"Brazil has also made a comeback on the corn front, making it tough for India", he said.



Covid shutdown in Vietnam and Thailand a main reason for decline in exports.

Mukesh Singh, Managing Director, MuBala Agro Commodities Pvt Ltd, said this has resulted in Indian corn losing its competitiveness in South-East Asia.

According to the International Grains Council, corn from Argentina is currently quoted at \$236 (Rs17,550) a tonne, while Brazil's grain is offered at \$270 (Rs 20,075) and US corn at \$254 (Rs 18,875). Though corn prices are over 40 per cent higher year-on-year, they are off their peaks seen this year by 10-20 per cent.

Rise in local prices:

Data from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) show that Vietnam imported over 2.5 lakh tonnes (lt) of corn during April-May this fiscal. The whole of last fiscal it had imported nearly five lt.

On the other hand, prices in the domestic market have increased by over Rs 2,000 a tonne in the last couple of months, making it tough for exporters to be competitive in markets such as Vietnam and Thailand.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, corn prices at agricultural produce marketing committee (APMC) yards are currently ruling from Rs 14,500 a tonne in Chhattisgarh to Rs 18,000 in Uttar Pradesh.

From Bihar to Bangladesh:

The Centre fixed Rs 18,500 a tonne as minimum support price for corn last season (July 2020 - June 2021). For the current season, it has been fixed at Rs 18,700.

"We were competitive as long as domestic prices ruled below Rs 16,500 a tonne. Once prices topped that level, we were outpriced", said Singh.

But hope for corn exporters has come in the form of Bangladesh,

which is importing a good quantity from India. "We are able to get corn at a competitive price from farmer producer organisation in Bihar, where ample supplies are available. From there, it is easy to transport to Bangladesh", the MuBala Agri Commodities official said.

Corn is sent by trucks via India-Bangladesh borders, while some shipments are also sent by rail.

"At least 150 trucks laden with corn go to Bangladesh every day as demand for feed in Bangladesh is high", said Singh. This would mean that over one lakh tonnes of corn are being sent across the border every month.

"We cannot be competitive if corn prices are above Rs 18,500 a tonne", he said.

Last fiscal, Bangladesh imported over 12 lt of corn from India. During April-May this year, it bought over one lt, according to APEDA data.

CLFMA to hold AGM & National Symposium on September 24, 25

Hyderabad: The 54th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and 62nd National Symposium of CLFMA of India will be held on

September 24 & 25, 2021 at Hotel Taj Deccan, Road No. 1, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, informed It's Chairman Mr Neeraj Kumar Srivastava.

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