

Print & Digital Media Coverage

17 April 2024

**CCP Issues Policy Note Recommending
Mandatory Disclosure of Manufacturing
and Expiry Dates on Cement Packaging**

5 types of cement

CCP issues policy note to amend 'PSS'

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a crucial policy note to the Ministry of Science and Technology and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) recommending them to amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement.

Cement manufacturers currently refrain from printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags. This practice is aimed at concealing the actual age of cement bags from consumers, who remain unaware of when the cement they have purchased might expire. However, they do print expiry and manufacturing dates on the cement bags that they export.

CCP has called for making it mandatory for the cement manufacturers to disclose the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates on their cement bags.

The CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags

in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity. The CCP has, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not voluntarily print the manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before dates on their cement bags.

The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects. The policy note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags

is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands. Additionally, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchase.

The CCP emphasizes that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers' ability to make informed decisions. Therefore, the Commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags to protect consumers' interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry.

As advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members requiring them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates of their products.—SOHAIL SARFRAZ

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Cement makers told to print expiry dates

CCP says cement loses strength after 4-6 weeks of storage

OUR CORRESPONDENT
ISLAMABAD

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note under Section 29 of the Competition Act, 2010 to the Ministry of Science and Technology and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA).

The policy note recommends them to amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement and make it mandatory for manufacturers to disclose the “manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before” dates on their cement bags.

The CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after four to six weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity. The CCP, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not volun-

tarily print the manufacturing, packaging, expiry and best before dates on their cement bags.

“Non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects,” it said.

The policy note suggested aligning Pakistan’s standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exports, creating information disparity and discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to the packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands.

Additionally, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchased.

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Cement bags must carry making, expiry dates: CCP

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: To enhance consumer protection and ensure transparency, the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has proposed amendments to the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement.

In a policy note issued on Tuesday, the CCP has recommended a mandatory disclosure of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement packaging.

Highlighting the significance of this recommendation, the CCP pointed out that cement's hygroscopic nature makes it susceptible to strength loss after 4 to 6 weeks of storage. The absence of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags poses a consumer risk. It could lead to the purchase of expired products and compromise the integrity of construction projects.

The policy note emphasises the need to align Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market. It also aims to address the disparity between domestic and export labelling requirements, thereby safeguarding the interests of local consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan adhere to packaging standards set by the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA).

The introduction of mandatory manufacturing and expiry date disclosures is expected to empower consumers, foster competition among brands, and streamline inventory management processes.

The CCP condemns the omission of material information on cement packaging as deceptive marketing and advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates to protect consumer interests and promote fair competition within the industry. An advisory has been sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members, urging compliance with the new labelling requirements to prioritise consumer safety and satisfaction.

Unpaid marking fees

It may be worth mentioning that during a previous meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology, it was revealed that the cement industry had not paid the marking fee to the PSQCA for the past 15 years, resulting in outstanding dues of over Rs4.5bn as of June 2022.

Expiry dates must be mentioned on cement bags: CCP

IMRAN ALI KUNDI
ISLAMABAD

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has recommended to amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement and make it mandatory for the cement manufacturers to disclose the 'manufacturing/ packaging and expiry/ best before' dates on their cement bags.

The CCP has issued a policy note under Section 29 of the Competition Act, 2010 to the Ministry of Science and Technology and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA). The CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity. The CCP has, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not voluntarily print the manufacturing/ packaging and expiry/ best before dates on their cement bags.

The non-disclosure of such material

information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects. The policy note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking require-

facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchase.

The CCP emphasises that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers' ability to make informed decisions. Therefore, the commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags

The commission observes cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags

ments for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands. Additionally, it would

to protect consumers' interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry. As advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members requiring them to prioritise consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the 'manufacturing/ packaging and expiry/ best before' dates of their products.

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Economy Watch

Disclosure of manufacturing, expiry dates on cement packaging recommended

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

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The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects. The Policy Note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices

to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

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CEMENT MANUFACTURERS ASKED TO PRINT MANUFACTURING AND EXPIRY DATES ON PACKAGING

■ PSQCA ASKED TO ENSURE EXPIRY DATE PRINTING ON PACKAGING BY CCP

■ INDUSTRY CHALLENGES ISSUE OF UNPAID MARKING FEES IN COURT

PROFIT
GHULAM ABBAS

THE Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note urging amendments to the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement. This note recommends mandatory disclosure of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement packaging.

Despite being one of the biggest industries in the country, the cement industry in Pakistan has sidestepped this basic requirement for decades. Cement's hygroscopic nature makes it susceptible to strength loss, particularly after 4 to 6 weeks of storage.

The absence of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags poses a risk to consumers, potentially leading to the purchase of expired products. Not only is this a deceptive sales practice, but it compromises the integrity of construction projects. The practice is enabled by

the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority's (PSQCA) rules and regulations and allows the cement industry to reduce losses by selling overdue cement.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. The introduction of mandatory manufacturing and expiry date disclosures is a small step to empower consumers and foster true competition among brands.

The note by CCP emphasizes the need to align Pakistan's standards with international labeling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market. It also aims to address the disparity between domestic and export labeling requirements, thereby safeguarding the interests of local consumers.

The CCP in its note, has condemned the omission of material information on cement packaging as deceptive marketing and advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates to protect con-

sumer interests and promote fair competition within the industry.

An advisory has been sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members, urging compliance with the new labeling requirements to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction.

Unpaid marking fees exceed Rs4.5b

However, not disclosing manufacturing dates is not the only way in which cement manufacturers are deluding Pakistani consumers and authorities. It may be worth mentioning here that during a previous meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology, it was revealed that the cement industry has not paid marking fees to the PSQCA for the past 15 years, resulting in outstanding dues of over Rs 4.5 billion as of June 2022. Despite inclusion in mandatory PSQCA rules as far back as the 1980s and 1990s, the committee noted a lack of payment in fines imposed on cement units.

"Marking fee" here, refers to a fee charged by the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) to cement manufacturers, for affixing the necessary quality marks on their products. These quality marks signify that the products meet the required standards set by the PSQCA. The marking fee is intended to cover the costs associated with quality testing, inspection, and certification processes carried out by the PSQCA to ensure compliance with national quality standards.

The lack of payments was condemned and concerns were raised regarding the prolonged vacancy of the DG PSQCA position for one and a half years. The committee questioned the authority's actions and recommended the involvement of the attorney general of the Supreme Court to address potential malfeasance, in this instance. However, the issue of unpaid marking fees remains unresolved as the cement industry has challenged it in court.

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Cement packaging CCP recommends mandatory disclosure of expiry dates

F.P. Report

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سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور

ایکسپاٹری تاریخ کا اندراج لازمی قرار

اسلام آباد (تنویر ہاشمی) سٹیٹیشن کمیشن آف پاکستان نے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپاٹری تاریخ کے اندراج کو لازمی قرار دے دیا اور اس کے لئے پالیسی نوٹ جاری کیا ہے۔ سی سی پی نے کمپنیشن ایکٹ 2010 کے سیکشن 29 کے تحت وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان سٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو ایک جامع پالیسی نوٹ جاری کیا ہے۔ جس کے مطابق پاکستان میں تمام پانچ اقسام کے سیمنٹ کے لئے پاکستان سٹینڈرڈز پبلیکیشن میں ترامیم کی جائیں اور سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کے لئے اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپاٹری تاریخوں کو لازمی ظاہر کیا جائے۔ سی سی پی نے نوٹ کیا کہ سیمنٹ فطری طور پر ہائیڈروسکوپک ہے اور عام حالات میں تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتوں کے ذخیرہ کرنے کے بعد اور منفی موسمی حالات یا زیادہ نمی میں کافی جلد اپنی طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر کھونے لگتا ہے۔

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سیمنٹ تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ، ایکسپاٹری تاریخیں لکھنا لازم

پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کیلئے سٹینڈرڈ سپیسیفیکیشن میں ترمیم کی تجویز

سیمنٹ پیکنگ میں 6 ہفتے ذخیرہ رہنے کے بعد طاقت کھونے لگتا ہے: سی سی پی

اسلام آباد (ارشاد انصاری سے) کمیشنیشن آف پاکستان (سی سی پی) نے وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان سٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کے لیے اپنے سیمنٹ کیلئے سٹینڈرڈ سپیسیفیکیشن میں ترمیم کی تجویز کی ہے۔ پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کی تاریخوں کو بہتر انداز میں ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار دینے کی سفارش کر دی ہے۔

اسلام آباد (ارشاد انصاری سے) کمیشنیشن آف پاکستان (سی سی پی) نے وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان سٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کے لیے اپنے سیمنٹ کیلئے سٹینڈرڈ سپیسیفیکیشن میں ترمیم کرنے کی تجویز بھی دی ہے۔ سی سی پی کے پالیسی نوٹ کے مطابق سیمنٹ فطری طور پر ہائیڈروسکوپک ہے اور عام حالات میں تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتوں کے ذخیرہ کرنے کے بعد اور منفی موسمی حالات یا زیادہ نمی میں کافی جلد اپنی طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر کھونے لگتا ہے۔ سی سی پی نے بڑی تشویش کے ساتھ نوٹ کیا ہے کہ سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کا کارانہ طور پر اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ ایکٹیویٹی اور ایکسپاٹری/بہتر تاریخوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے ہیں اس طرح کی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے اور معیار ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے۔

سی سی پی 33

اسپیسیفیکیشن میں ترمیم کرنے کی تجویز بھی دی ہے۔ سی سی پی کے پالیسی نوٹ کے مطابق سیمنٹ فطری طور پر ہائیڈروسکوپک ہے اور عام حالات میں تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتوں کے ذخیرہ کرنے کے بعد اور منفی موسمی حالات یا زیادہ نمی میں کافی جلد اپنی طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر کھونے لگتا ہے۔ سی سی پی نے بڑی تشویش کے ساتھ نوٹ کیا ہے کہ سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کا کارانہ طور پر اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ ایکٹیویٹی اور ایکسپاٹری/بہتر تاریخوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے ہیں اس طرح کی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے اور معیار ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے۔



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سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر ایکسپاٹری تاریخ اندراج کی ہدایت

تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتے بعد سیمنٹ طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر رکھونے لگتا ہے، سی سی پی

اسلام آباد (اوصاف نیوز) کمپنیشن کمیشن آف پاکستان (سی سی پی) نے کمپنیشن ایکٹ 2010 کے سیکشن 29 کے تحت وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو ایک جامع پالیسی نوٹ جاری کیا ہے۔ پالیسی نوٹ ان سے سفارش کرتا ہے کہ وہ پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کیلئے پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی میں ترمیم کریں اور

سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کیلئے اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ/پیکنگ اور ایکسپاٹری/بہتر، تاریخوں کو ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار دیں۔ سی سی پی نے نوٹ کیا کہ سیمنٹ فطری طور پر ہائیڈرو سکوپک ہے اور عام حالات میں تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتوں کے ذخیرہ کرنے کے بعد اور منفی موسمی حالات یا زیادہ نمی میں کافی جلد اپنی طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر رکھونے لگتا ہے۔

میر و ایچ

روزنامہ

المیر
راولپنڈی / اسلام آباد

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سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپاٹری تاریخ کی لازمی تشہیر پر زور

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) کمپنیشن کمیشن آف
پاکستان (سی سی پی) نے کمپنیشن ایکٹ 2010 کے
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پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز (باقی صفحہ 6 بقیہ نمبر 19)

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اینڈ کو الٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو ایک جامع پالیسی نوٹ جاری
کیا ہے۔ پالیسی نوٹ ان سے سفارش کرتا ہے کہ وہ
پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کے لیے پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز
ایکسپلینیشن میں ترمیم کریں اور سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کے
لیے اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ / سبجنگ اور
ایکسپاٹری / بہتر تاریخوں کو ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار دیں۔

CCP Issues Policy Note Disclosure on 'Cement Packaging'



The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note recommending mandatory disclosure of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement packaging

ISLAMABAD, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 16th Apr, 2024) The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note recommending mandatory disclosure of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement packaging.

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a policy note under Section 29 of the Competition Act, 2010 to the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA), according to a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The Policy Note recommends they amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement and make it mandatory for the cement manufacturers to disclose the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates on their cement bags.

The CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity.

The CCP has, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not voluntarily print the manufacturing, packaging, and expiry/best before dates on their cement bags.

The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects.

The Policy Note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labeling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity and discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiration dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands. Additionally, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchases.

The CCP emphasizes that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers' ability to make informed decisions.

Therefore, the Commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags to protect consumers' interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry.

An advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members, requiring them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates of their products.

17 April 2024
Online

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By [ProPK Staff](#) | Published Apr 16, 2024 | 6:42 pm



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The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects. The Policy Note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands. Additionally, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchase.

The CCP emphasizes that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers' ability to make informed decisions. Therefore, the Commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags to protect consumers' interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry.

As advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members requiring them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates of their products.

CCP Recommends Printing Expiry Date on Cement Bags

April 16, 2024

Islamabad, April 16, 2024 – In a bid to enhance consumer protection and promote transparency in the cement industry, the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has advocated for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags.

The move aims to empower consumers with vital information and mitigate the risk of purchasing expired cement, which could compromise the integrity of construction projects.

The CCP has issued a policy note addressed to the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA), urging them to amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement. The proposed amendment would make it obligatory for cement manufacturers to disclose manufacturing, packaging, and expiry or best-before dates on their cement bags.

Highlighting the inherent hygroscopic nature of cement, the CCP emphasized that it begins to lose its strength significantly after four to six weeks of storage in bags under normal conditions, and even sooner in adverse weather or high humidity. The absence of expiry date information on cement bags poses a risk to consumers, potentially leading to the purchase of expired products that may compromise the quality of construction projects.

The policy note also underscores the need to align Pakistan's standards with international labeling practices, ensuring parity between domestic and export markets. While Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, the lack of similar requirements in the domestic market creates an information disparity that disadvantages local consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. By mandating the printing of manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags, consumers will be empowered to make informed choices, fostering competition among brands and improving confidence in the quality of cement purchases.

The CCP views the omission of material information, such as expiry dates, as a form of deceptive marketing that hampers consumers' ability to make informed decisions. Therefore, advocating for

the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags aligns with the Commission's commitment to safeguarding consumer interests and promoting fair competition in the industry.

In line with this recommendation, the CCP has sent an advisory to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members, urging them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction. Cement manufacturers are urged to ensure that all packaging prominently displays manufacturing, packaging, and expiry or best-before dates, thereby enhancing transparency and consumer confidence in the market.

As Pakistan continues to strive for excellence in its industrial standards and consumer protection measures, initiatives such as these play a vital role in fostering trust between businesses and consumers, ultimately contributing to the country's economic growth and development.

17 April 2024
Online

CCP Issues Policy Note Recommending Mandatory Disclosure of Manufacturing and Expiry Dates on Cement Packaging

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a Policy Note under Section 29 of the Competition Act, 2010 to the Ministry of Science and Technology and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA). The Policy Note recommends them to amend the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement and make it mandatory for the cement manufacturers to disclose the ‘manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before’ dates on their cement bags.

CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity. The CCP has, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not voluntarily print the manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before dates on their cement bags. The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects. The Policy Note suggests aligning Pakistan’s standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA. Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands. Additionally, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchase.

The CCP emphasizes that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers’ ability to make informed decisions. Therefore, the Commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags to protect consumers’ interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry. As advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members requiring them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the ‘manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before’ dates of their products.

CCP urges cement standards overhaul & date disclosure mandate



CCP urges cement standards overhaul & date disclosure mandate

April 17, 2024 (MLN): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has issued a Policy Note to the Ministry of Science and Technology and Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA), recommending amendments to the Pakistan Standard Specification for all five types of cement.

Additionally, it mandates all cement manufacturers to disclose the ‘manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before’ dates on their cement bags.

CCP observed that cement is inherently hygroscopic and begins to significantly lose its strength after 4 to 6 weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity.

The CCP has, therefore, noted with great concern that the cement manufacturers do not voluntarily print the manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before dates on their cement bags.

The non-disclosure of such material information can mislead consumers and put them at risk of purchasing expired cement, which may compromise the strength and effectiveness of construction projects.

The Policy Note suggests aligning Pakistan's standards with international labelling practices to ensure consistency and transparency in the domestic market as Pakistani cement exporters comply with marking requirements for exported quantities, creating unfair information disparity discriminating against domestic consumers.

Currently, all types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA.

Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags is expected to empower consumers to make informed choices and enhance competition among brands.

Moreover, it would facilitate just-in-time inventory management and improve consumer confidence in the quality of cement purchase.

The CCP emphasizes that the practice of omitting material information amounts to deceptive marketing, as it impairs consumers' ability to make informed decisions.

Therefore, the Commission advocates for the mandatory printing of expiry dates on cement bags to protect consumers' interests and promote fair competition in the cement industry.

As advisory has been accordingly sent to the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) and its members requiring them to prioritize consumer safety and satisfaction by ensuring that all packaging clearly displays the 'manufacturing/packaging and expiry/best before' dates of their products.

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17 April 2024

Printing manufacturing and expiry dates on cement bags.

All types of cement in Pakistan must adhere to packaging standards set by the PSQCA.

ON: APRIL 17, 2024

CCP Issues Policy Note Recommending Mandatory Disclosure of Manufacturing and Expiry Dates on Cement Packaging

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سیمنٹ بنانے والی کمپنیوں پر بڑی 'پابندی' لگانے کا فیصلہ

اسلام آباد (ویب ڈیسک) مسابقتی کمیشن پاکستان نے وزارت سانس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز اینڈ کوالٹی کنٹرول اتھارٹی کو سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز کے لیے اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر "مینوفیکچرنگ، ہیجنگ اور ایکسپازی" تارنحوں کو بہتر انداز میں ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار دینے کی سفارش کی ہے۔

تفصیلات کے مطابق پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کیلئے پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈز اسٹیبلشمنٹ میں ترمیم کرنے کی تجویز بھی دی ہے۔ پالیسی نوٹ کے مطابق سیمنٹ فطری طور پر ہائیکرو اسکوپک ہے اور عام حالات میں تھیلوں میں 4 سے 6 ہفتوں کے ذخیرہ کرنے کے بعد اور منفی موسمی حالات یا زیادہ نمی میں کافی جلد اپنی طاقت کو نمایاں طور پر کھونے لگتا ہے۔

سی سی پی نے بڑی تشویش کے ساتھ نوٹ کیا ہے کہ سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز رضا کارانہ اپنے سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ، ہیجنگ اور ایکسپازی بہتر تارنحوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے، اس طرح کی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے اور معیاد ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے، جس سے تعمیراتی منصوبوں کی طاقت اور معیار متاثر ہو سکتا ہے۔



تازہ ترین پاکستان دنیا معیشت کھیل تعلیم صحت فوڈ انٹرٹینمنٹ ٹیکنالوجی پروگرام



سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپائری تاریخ کی تشہیر لازمی قرار

ویب ڈیسک April 16, 2024 □

سی سی پی نے کہا ہے کہ سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپائری تاریخ کی لازمی
تشہیر ہونا چاہیے۔

کمپی ٹیشن کمیشن نے وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پی ایس کیو سی اے کو پالیسی نوٹ جاری کیا ہے جس
میں کہا گیا ہے کہ معلومات کو چھپانے کا عمل دھوکہ دہی پر مبنی مارکیٹنگ کے مترادف ہے۔
پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کیلئے پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈ اسپیس فیکشن میں ترمیم کریں، مینوفیکچررز خود ساختہ
طور پر تاریخوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے ہیں۔

اس طرح کی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے، معیاد ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی
خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے۔

سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپائری تاریخ کی تشہیر لازمی قرار

Apr 16, 2024 | 23:39

ویب ڈیسک

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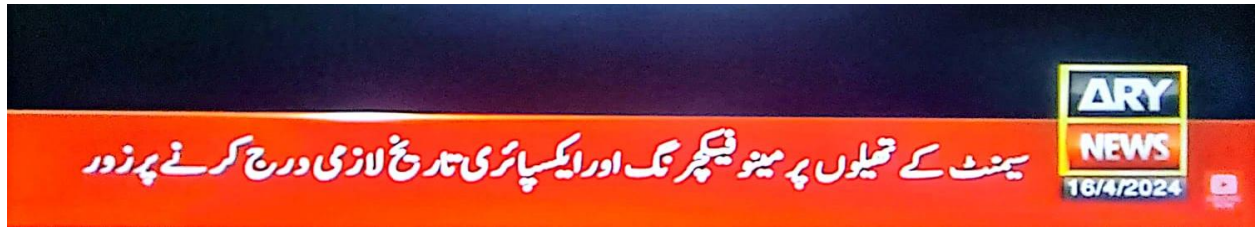


سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ ایکسپائری بہتر تاریخوں کو ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار دینا گیا ہے۔ سی سی پی نے کہا ہے کہ سیمنٹ کے تھیلوں پر مینوفیکچرنگ اور ایکسپائری تاریخ کی لازمی تشہیر ہونا چاہیے۔ کمیٹی ٹیشن کمیشن نے وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پی ایس کیو سی اے کو پالیسی نوٹ جاری کیا ہے۔ جس میں کہا گیا ہے کہ معلومات کو چھپانے کا عمل دھوکہ دہی پر مبنی مارکیٹنگ کے مترادف ہے۔ پانچوں قسم کے سیمنٹ کیلئے پاکستان اسٹینڈرڈ اسیسی فکیشن میں ترمیم کریں، مینوفیکچررز خود ساختہ طور پر تاریخوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے ہیں۔ اس طرح کی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے، معیاد ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے۔

Electronic Media Coverage

16 April 2024

**CCP Issues Policy Note Recommending
Mandatory Disclosure of Manufacturing
and Expiry Dates on Cement Packaging**



میٹو فیکچررز خود ساختہ طور پر سینٹ کے تھیلوں پر تہہ نہیں پرنت نہیں کرتے، سی سی پی

ARY
NEWS
7:46 PM

سینٹ کے تھیلوں پر میٹو فیکچرنگ پیکیجنگ، ایکسپاٹری لازمی قرار دیتا ہے، سی سی پی

ARY
نہیں
16/4/2024

کراچی: پانچوں قسم کی سینٹ سازی کیلئے مقررہ معیار میں ترامیم کی جائے، سی سی پی

ARY
NEWS
7:45 PM

معیار ختم ہونے والے سینٹ کی خریداری صارفین کو خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے، سی سی پی

ARY
NEWS
7:46 PM

کراچی: معاملے پر آل پاکستان سینٹ میٹو فیکچررز کو بھی ایڈوائزری بھیجی گئی ہے، سی سی پی

ARY
نہیں
Tuesday



ساما SAMAA
پورے پاکستان میں ادوربنگ سے متعلق کام شروع کریں گے، وزیر داخلہ
مسابقتی کمیشن کا وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور پی ایس کیوسی اے کو پالیسی نوٹ

پشاور
27°

ساما SAMAA
ہمارا کیس ڈسچارج نہیں ہوا فیصلہ ہمارے حق میں ہوگا، محمد صابر
سیمنٹ مینوفیکچررز تھیلوں پر تاریخوں کو پرنٹ نہیں کرتے، مسابقتی کمیشن

08
شوال

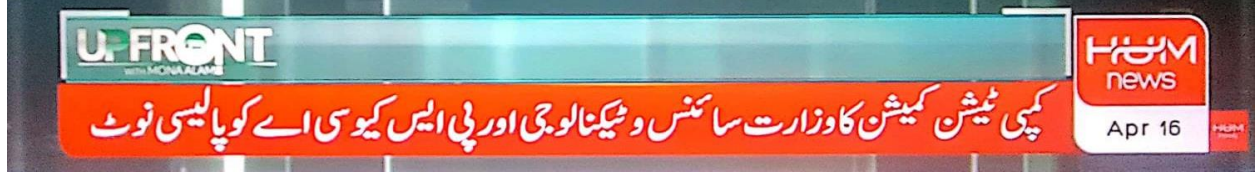
ساما SAMAA
ادوربنگ کے معاملے پر وزیر داخلہ پالیسی اپنائی جائے، وزیر داخلہ
معلومات چھوڑنے کا عمل دھوکا دہی پر مبنی مارکیٹنگ کے مترادف ہے، کمیشن

کوئٹہ
18°

ساما SAMAA
ادوربنگ کیخلاف مہم نہیں رکے گی، عوام کو فوراً ریلیف دیا جائے، محسن نقوی
ایسی معلومات کا انکشاف نہ کرنا صارفین کو گمراہ کر سکتا ہے، مسابقتی کمیشن

کراچی
31°





فیصلہ آپ کا **تحریک انصاف سابق چیئر مین پی ٹی آئی کی رہائی کیلئے کیوں پُر امید؟؟؟**

معیاد ختم ہونے والے سیمنٹ کی خریداری انہیں خطرے میں ڈال سکتی ہے، سی سی پی

Front news
Tuesday

U. FRONT **تین اباد دوسرا = تین لاکھ روپے کیلئے تین لاکھ روپے = تین لاکھ روپے**

معلومات کو چھپانے کا عمل دھوکہ دہی پر مبنی مارکیٹنگ کے مترادف ہے، سی سی پی

Front news
07:50 PM

U. FRONT **بانی چیئر مین پی ٹی آئی کسی ڈیل کے تحت باہر نہیں آئیں گے، سیرسٹر گوہر خان**

سیمنٹ مینو فیکچرزز تھیلوں پر مینو فیکچرنگ ایکسپانڈری بہتر تاریخوں کو ظاہر کرنا لازمی قرار

Front news
Apr 16