

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: July 17,2020

Report Number: IN2020-0087

Report Name: COVID-19 in India - Weekly Food Retail Update

Country: India

Post: Mumbai

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News, Retail Foods

Prepared By: Lazaro Sandoval, Prashant Patil, Sharon Sonali Kalsi, Arundhati Sawant, and Uma Patil

Approved By: Jeanne Bailey

Report Highlights:

Weekly report as of July 17, 2020, of COVID-19 impact on India's food retail sector.



1. **Pune:** Municipal authorities have imposed a 10-day lockdown beginning on July 14 to curb the spread of COVID-19. The supply of fresh produce and food staples will be affected, as Pune's wholesale markets will remain closed. Moreover, grocery stores will not be allowed to operate (except for dairy shops) during the first five days of the lockdown. After that five-day period, grocery and other essential services shops will be allowed to operate on a limited basis.
2. **Visakhapatnam:** Tomato and green chile prices have nearly doubled in retail markets, due to a shortfall in supply.
3. **Hyderabad:** According to local media reports, milk prices are expected to increase by 25 percent, if authorities do not intervene. Dairy producers are planning to sell milk at 120 INR, per liter. The current official price of milk is 96 INR per liter, although a number of retailers are already selling at 100 INR because the official price is not being enforced. According to the cattle farmers' association, this price increase is necessary to invest in operations and increase production.
4. **Ahmedabad:** The Mahuva agricultural produce market committee (APMC) market will be shutdown for 10 days beginning July 16, due to recent COVID-19 detections.
5. **Cochin:** The Ernakulam district is facing a fish shortage due to the closure of four fishing harbors and three markets, which were closed due to an increase in COVID-19 detections. This will force many fishermen to sell their supplies in small, unorganized markets.
6. **Kolkata:** Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation is considering the implementation of an alternate-day schedule for grocery shops, malls, and other retail outlets, due to a recent rise in COVID-19 cases. These authorities are also considering a complete lockdown if cases continue to rise.
7. **Goa:** After nearly four months, South Goa Planning and Development Authority's (SGPDA) wholesale fish market in Margao will reopen on July 17. Health and municipal authorities will monitor cargo and consumers entering the market and will conduct COVID tests, if needed.

Attachments:

No Attachments.