

Labelling survey of edible items ordered

By Our Reporter

RAWALPINDI, Jan 5: The Punjab government here on Tuesday directed the district administrations of Rawalpindi division to start survey of all packed edible items for their manufacturing and expiry dates.

According to a press release, the chairman of the chief minister's task force on price control of necessary items, S. A. Hameed directed the district coordination officers of Rawalpindi, Attock, Chakwal and Jhelum to carry out a comprehensive survey to check whether the manufacturing formula and

expiry dates were being labeled on the packets by producers.

He was chairing a meeting attended by Commissioner Zahid Hamid, Additional Commissioner Chaudhry Habibullah, EDO Revenue Zubair Khan, DCO Attock Shakeel Ahmed Khan, DCO Chakwal Tariq Waqar Bakhshi and DCO Jhelum Hameedullah Khan.

Mr Hameed said all factory owners were given December 31 as a cut-off date for labeling the formula and other necessary information on the packed items and if anyone

was found not fulfilling the requirement, there could be a fine up to Rs300,000 or one year's imprisonment or both penalties against the violator.

He said consumer law should be enacted to protect consumer rights.

Separately, Director Health Services Dr Zafar Iqbal Gondal in a press statement said 1,281 food samples were obtained from the district in 2009. The results of 795 food samples were procured while those of 486 were still awaited. He said criminal cases were registered against those selling unhygienic food.