

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** August 13, 2024

**Report Number:** IN2024-0035

**Report Name:** Indian Government Amends Rule 3 of Legal Metrology  
Packaged Commodities Rules

**Country:** India

**Post:** New Delhi

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report

**Prepared By:** Radha Mani, Agricultural Specialist

**Approved By:** Clay Hamilton

**Report Highlights:**

On July 15, 2024, the Government of India's Department of Consumer Affairs, Weights and Measures Unit/Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, published its proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011. The amendment, if implemented, would require mandatory declaration of information as specified in the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011, for pre-packaged products over 25 kilograms in quantities and sold in retail. Comments from interested parties are invited on the proposed amendment and the timeline to comment is now extended until August 30, 2024. The proposed amendment is yet to be notified to the World Trade Organization.

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) website <http://www.fssai.gov.in>. The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, USDA, and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Internet Explorer. Indian host sites will geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

## **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, mandates the declaration of mandatory information like name and address of the manufacturer/ packer/ importer, country of origin, common or generic name of the commodity, net quantity, month and year of manufacture, maximum retail price, unit sale price, best before/use by date, in case the products become unfit for human consumption, consumer care details etc., on all pre-packaged commodities in the interest of Indian consumers. On July 15, 2024, the Government of India's Department of Consumer Affairs, Weights and Measures Unit/Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, published its proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011. The amendment, if implemented, would require mandatory declaration of the above information as specified in the Rules for pre-packaged products sold in retail, weighing over 25 kilograms in quantities. For example, single packages of food products like rice, wheat flour, cereals, pulses, etc., weighing over 25 kilograms in quantity would fall under this requirement. The amendment, however, will not apply to pre-packaged products meant for industrial or institutional consumers. For example, cement, fertilizer and agricultural farm produce sold in bags above 50 kilograms. Through this amendment, the Indian Government expects to establish uniform standards, consistency and fairness across different brands of pre-packaged products so that the Indian consumers will also make their choices based on complete information available on the products.

Comments from interested parties are invited on the proposed amendment and the timeline for the same is now extended until [August 30](#). The earlier date for submission of comments was [July 29, 2024](#). The proposed amendment is yet to be notified to the World Trade Organization.

Comments, if any, may be submitted to:

Mr. Ashutosh Agarwal  
Director (Legal Metrology)  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs-Legal Metrology Division  
Email ID: [ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in](mailto:ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in), [dirwmca@nic.in](mailto:dirwmca@nic.in), [mk.naik72@gov.in](mailto:mk.naik72@gov.in)

The full text of Rule 3 amendment proposal as well as the notification on the extension of timeline for comments are pasted below as Appendix I.

**APPENDIX I: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS PROPOSAL TO AMEND  
RULE 3 OF THE LEGAL METROLOGY (PACKAGED COMMODITIES) RULES, 2011**

I-10/9/2023-W&M

Government of India

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Department of Consumer Affairs

Legal Metrology Division

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01

Dated: 15.07.2024

**Subject-** Public comments are solicited on the proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology  
(Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011- reg

Public comments are solicited on the proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged  
Commodities) Rules, 2011 upto 29.7.2024 on email [ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in](mailto:ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in), [dirwm-  
ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in), [mk.naik72@gov.in](mailto:mk.naik72@gov.in).

(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Director (Legal Metrology)

Ph: 011-23389489

Email: [ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in](mailto:ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in)

Speed Post

I-10/9/2023-W&M

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA/भारत सरकार  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS/उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES UNIT/बाट तथा माप अनुभाग

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi/ कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली  
दिनांक:- 08.07.2024

To / सेवामें,

1. The Controller of Legal Metrology  
All States/ UTs
2. VCOs
3. Industry Associations

**Subject:** Request to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 for clarity - reg.

Sir/ Ma'am,

The undersigned is to refer to the above-mentioned subject and to state that a representation is received requesting to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 to bring clarity about the applicability of rules.

2. It is to state that rule 3 provides applicability of rules as follows:

*"3. Application of Chapter.- The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to-*

*(a) packages of commodities containing quantity of more than 25 kilogram or 25 litre;*

*(b) cement, fertilizer and **agricultural farm produce sold in bags above 50 kilogram; and***

*(c) packaged commodities meant for industrial consumers or institutional consumers."*

3. However, the agriculture farm produce are not defined under the rules, and rules are applicable for all packaged commodities meant for retail sale. Therefore, it is proposed to amend Rule 3 of the said Rules.

4. Therefore, it is requested to offer your comments on the following proposal within 15 days that:

Sr. No.	Existing provision	Revised provision
1	<i>3. Application of Chapter.- The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to-</i>	<i>"3. Application of Chapter.- The provisions of this chapter <b>shall apply</b> to all packaged commodities sold in bags in</i>

<p>(a) packages of commodities containing quantity of more than 25 kilogram or 25 litre;</p> <p>(b) cement, fertilizer and <b>agricultural farm produce sold in bags above 50 kilogram; and</b></p> <p>(c) packaged commodities meant for industrial consumers or institutional consumers.</p>	<p>retail;</p> <p>Provided that these rules shall not be applicable to the packaged commodities meant for industrial consumers or institutional consumers."</p>
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Yours faithfully/आपका विश्वासपात्र



(Ashutosh Agarwal) / (आशुतोष अग्रवाल)  
Director (Legal Metrology)/निदेशक (विधिक माप विज्ञान)  
Phone/दूरभाष: 01123389489  
Email/ई-मेल: ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in

I-10/9/2023-W&M  
Government of India  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Legal Metrology Division  
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-01  
Dated: 29.07.2024

Subject- Extension for seeking Public comments are solicited on the proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011- reg

The Undersigned is directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to state that the proposal to amend Rule 3 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 are place on the website of the Department [www.consumeraffairs.nic.in](http://www.consumeraffairs.nic.in) for seeking comments, from all stakeholders by 29.7.2024.

2. In view of the requests received from various federations, associations and other stakeholders, it has been decided to extend the timeline from the last date of submissions i.e. 29.07.2024 to submit comments/feedback/suggestions on draft Rules, if any, until 30.08.2024 by email to [dirwm-ca@nic.in](mailto:dirwm-ca@nic.in)/ [ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in](mailto:ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in)/ [mk.naik72@gov.in](mailto:mk.naik72@gov.in).

  
(Ashutosh Agarwal)

Director (Legal Metrology)

Ph: 011-23389489

Email: [ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in](mailto:ashutosh.agarwal13@nic.in)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.