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TRADE AND PRODUCT REGULATORY ALERT

November 18, 2025

FAQs on labelling of pre-packaged commodities

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The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has published new FAQs on November 11, 2025, in relation to various aspects of Legal Metrology Act, 2009 including Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 ('LMPC Rules').

Key clarifications:

Declaration on retail packages

i. **Declaration of brand owner:** Declaration of complete name and address of brand owner with qualification of 'Marketed by' / 'Brand Owner' would be deemed as sufficient compliance Rule 6(1)(a) of the LMPC Rules
ii. **Declaration of foreign manufacturer:** In case of imported inventory, the declaration of name and address of manufacturer is not mandatory under Rule 6(1)(a), LMPC Rules. In such cases, the name and address of importer would be sufficient.
iii. **Declaration relating to Indian currency:** The Indian currency in retail sale price, may be declared using rupee symbol '₹' or words 'Rs'
iv. **Unit of quantity:** For product sold by numbers, the unit of quantity may be declared using abbreviations 'N' or 'U' instead of full forms such as number, pair, set etc.
v. **Unit Sale Price:** Declaration of unit sale price is not mandatory on combination/ group/ multi-piece packages (products sold in form of kits)

Declaration on outer packages

Sellers/ Wholesale dealers provide declarations such as 'Wholesale packages' or packages used for 'shipping/ transportation', as applicable, on outer packaging for clarification purposes

Packages meant for industrial/ institutional consumers/ samples

- Packages meant for industrial or institutional consumers need to mandatorily declare 'Not for retail sale' on such packages
- MRP may be omitted/ hidden/ blackened/ darkened only in case of packages which are not meant for retail sale. It is essential to ensure that such packages are prominently marked with declarations such as 'Not for retail sales'/ 'Evaluation samples' etc.

Printing and formatting related

- All mandatory information under LMPC Rules needs to be provided on the Principal Display Panel ('PDP') as defined under Rule 2(h), LMPC Rules
- Mandatory declarations may be declared using a larger font size than the prescribed minimum font size under Rule 7, LMPC Rules

Product specific (footwear)

- For footwear sold in packaged form with all mandatory declarations as per LMPC Rules printed on packages, similar declarations are not required to be provided separately on product
- For footwear sold in loose form, all mandatory information may be provided on the footwear using tag/ sticker/ other means in interest of consumers

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These FAQs provide clarity on key labelling parameters and industry practices applicable to pre-packaged commodities. They also address practical challenges historically faced in declaring details such as brand owner, foreign manufacturer etc. In light of these clarifications, businesses should reassess their current labelling practices to ensure continued compliance with the Legal Metrology requirements.

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