

## 12. PEST MANAGEMENT AT DEPOTS AND OUTLETS FOR SAFE STORAGE OF COMMODITIES

Both prophylactic and curative means of pest control should be followed in depots and outlets

### 12.1 Preliminary steps to control rat

- i. Godowns shall be made rat proof. All the ventilations shall be covered with iron nets
- ii. The gutter if any in the godown should be cleaned regularly.
- iii. All vegetation around the godown should be removed (at least 3m distance) of the storage area as insects and rats reside here.
- iv. All cracks and crevices and holes in the floor, walls, and ceiling should be closed with cement and smoothly levelled.
- v. Rat burrows should be filled with broken glass pieces and sealed with cement.
- vi. Rattraps shall be introduced at every corner and at necessary points.
- vii. Cleanliness and hygiene in the surroundings and premises

### 12.2 Curative methods of rat control:

The following methods can be adopted for rat control:

- 1. Rat proofing.** Metallic sheets are fixed at the bottom of doors. All ventilation shall be covered with iron nets, holes through which entry of rat is suspected are plugged with glass pieces and cement plastering
- 2. Killing of solitary rats** by sticks, brooms and some other ways by individuals
- 3. Trapping:** Caging/trapping of rats and killing by drowning.
- 4. Using Chemicals:** Using Anticoagulants. A number of them are available in the market. These are hydroxyl coumarin compounds, which if consumed regularly in sufficient quantity for a prolonged period cause blood haemorrhage in mammals. These are easy to handle and involve no health hazard to man. Unlike single dose poisons, these do not create bait shyness.

The formulations available in the market are:

1. Ready to feed: Rodents can be fed directly when the bait is of ready to use type.
2. Dry baits: In case of dry concentrate form the bait is to be prepared in the following manner.

Anticoagulant – 25 gms (5 tea spoonfulls)  
Flour (cereals/millets) 450 gms (4 tea cup fulls)  
Sugar or Jaggery (in powder form) – 15 gms (3 tea spoonfulls)  
Any edible oil – 10 gms ( 2 tea spoonfulls)

The four constituents are mixed thoroughly in a container. There is no need of mixing water. Prepared bait material (approx. 500 gms ) is kept in 4 shallow vessels to facilitate rat feeding on rat runs, dark places, where rats can consume bait without disturbance even during day time. Consumed baits should be replaced daily.

Rats do not die immediately. They start dying after a period 6-7 days. Dead rats should be buried. The baiting should continue for 21 days to get an effective kill.

Two new single dose or second-generation anticoagulants namely Bromadiolone (Makki) and Brodifacoum (Talon) have been developed. especially for the control of warfarin-resistant rats and mice. These are used at 0.005 % concentration with 2-3 days feeding period. These are recommended for use.

#### **5. Fumigation of rat burrows using Aluminium phosphide**

Aluminium phosphide pellets of 0.6 g are utilised. A simple rod like hollow applicator is thrust deep into the burrows and two pellets are put in each burrow. A bamboo tube hollow from inside can be utilised in the same manner. In the absence of applicator, even direct burrow fumigation can be resorted to. The process is repeated twice in the following days on noticing any opened burrows.

#### **12.3 Preliminary steps to control insect infestation**

1. Before storage of food commodities, the godown should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfested. The chemical used for disinfestations of the godown is deltamethrin. The dosage is 120 g of Deltamethrin 2.5 % WP in 3 litres of water for 100 m<sup>2</sup>

2. Dunnage materials shall be borax treated. When not in use, they should be cleaned, disinfested with Deltamethrin solution (The dosage is 120 g of Deltamethrin 2.5 % WP in 3 litres of water for 100 m<sup>2</sup>) and stocked properly instead of being scattered around the godown

3. Cracks and crevices in floor and walls of empty godowns are sprayed with Deltamethrin solution. (The dosage is 120 g of Deltamethrin 2.5 % WP in 3 litres of water for 100 m<sup>2</sup>.)

#### 12.4 Curative methods of insect control:

**Fumigation:** Fumigate the stock if insect infestation is noted as a curative measure. The fumigant used is Aluminum Phosphide 3g tablets. The Dosage is 3 tablets per tonne. Place the required tablets on the stack, more number of tablets are placed on the top of the stack as the gas diffuses downwardly. Cover the stack using the cover used for fumigation. Keep the stack closed for 5 days. Re-cover it and brush the stack to remove the remnants of the tablet. Before issuing stock verify that no insect infestation is present and the stock does not have fumigation residue. As per the amended PFA Act, no live insect is permitted in the stock

## Treatment of grain by fumigation

Fumigation is a treatment that rids stored grain of insects by means of a gas called fumigant which is lethal for living species. The fumigant penetrates to the interior of the grain mass and reaches the largely invisible forms (eggs, larvae) developing there. Fumigants spread throughout the area where released, therefore, used in totally sealed enclosure. For grain stored in bags, the usual method is to cover the bags with a tarpaulin whose edges are sealed to the ground or the walls. The effectiveness of fumigation depends, on the one hand, on the actual concentration of the gas and, on the other, on the length of time during which the grain is fumigated.

Generally two types of fumigants are available for fumigation purposes in grain storage programme.

1. **Methyl bromide:** It has a quick action and the grains can be aerated after 12-24 hours of its application. However, it is highly toxic, colourless and odourless.
2. **Aluminium phosphide :** Gas released from this chemical is known as Phosphine. This fumigant has excellent penetration capacity. It easily gets mixed with air and spreads all along the stored grains This is very effective against most pests . At the same time, it leaves no residues on the grain, so it can safely be used for food grains.

Moreover it does not affect the germinability of seeds and therefore, can safely be used for storage of seeds also. However, it is inflammable at normal temperature, so proper care should be taken at the time of its application. This has a delayed release and, therefore, requires longer period of fumigation than other fumigants.

Depending on weather methyl bromide or phosphine is used, the duration of fumigation should be 24–48 hours for methyl bromide, or a minimum of seven days for phosphine.

**Aluminium phosphide** is more commonly used, since its application, in the form of pellets spread throughout the grain mass, is simpler. It is essential to recognize, however, that fumigants are very poisonous to people and therefore the staff that is to use them must be carefully trained in their application. For all these treatments, it is important to scrupulously observe the recommended protective and safety measures (masks, gloves, hand-washing, hermetic sealing of phosphine containers, etc.).

# Notes on other points

## **The Food Corporation of India**

FCI was setup under the Food Corporation's Act 1964, in order to fulfill following objectives of the Food Policy: Effective price support operations for safeguarding the interests of the farmers, distribution of foodgrains throughout the country for public distribution system and maintaining satisfactory level of operational and buffer stocks of foodgrains to ensure national food security. Since its inception, FCI has played a significant role in India's success in transforming the crisis management-oriented food security into a stable security system.

FCI's foremost priority is to ensure food security for the nation by effectively managing the procurement, storage, and distribution of essential commodities, thereby providing a reliable and sufficient food supply to meet the needs of the population.

## **Fortification**

Food Fortification is a scientifically proven, cost-effective, intervention that addresses the issue of micronutrient deficiencies. Wheat Flour and Rice are fortified with Iron, Vitamin B12 and Folic Acid, Milk and Edible Oil with Vitamins A and D. Fortified Rice and Wheat flour are distributed through PDS and other government welfare schemes. Salt for food purpose is universally fortified with Iodine

## **Quality Certifications**

ISO, AGMARK, ISI,

## **Dunnage**

The materials used underneath the stacks to prevent the floor from coming in contact with the bags - wooden/plastic crates, polythene sheets etc

## **Abbreviations**

1. QMR-Quality Monitoring Register
2. GMP-Good Manufacturing Practices
3. FIFO -First in First Out
4. RWC-Retailer's Watch Committee
5. FSSAI-Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
6. FCI-Food Corporation of India
7. QM-Quality Manual
8. QAC-Quality Assurance Committee

# Food Safety and Standards Act ,rules ,and regulations

**Food Safety and Standards Act 2006** establish Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and regulate their manufacture ,storage ,distribution ,sale,and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

## Definitions

1. Adulterant – any material which is or could be employed for making food **unsafe,sub standard,mis branded or containing extraneous matter**

unsafe -injurious to health

sub standard – it doesnt meet prescribed standards

misbranded – no proper labelling

Extraneous matter-substances that may be carried from the raw materials packaging materials,process systems or may be added to it which is not unsafe

2. Food Business operator -a person by whom the business is carried on or owned .

3. Hazard – a biological,chemical,or physical agent in food with the potential to cause an adverse health effect.

Biological-bacteria, fungus

Chemical-pesticide,not permitted additives

Physical-sand ,metal,glass

## Authorities Responsible for enforcement

Commissioner of Food Safety of the State -The state government appoints

Commissioner of Food Safety for the efficient implementation of the Act in state .

**Designated Officer** The Commissioner of Food Safety shall, by , appoint the Designated officer, to be in-charge of food safety administration for each district .

## Food Safety Officer

### powers

1. To inspect, as frequently as may be prescribed by the Designated Officer, all food establishments licensed for manufacturing, handling, packing or selling of an article of food with in the area assigned to him;

2. To satisfy him self that he conditions of licenses are being complied with by each of the Food Business Operators

3. To procure and send for analysis , samples of any article of food .

4. To draw samples for purposes of surveillance, survey and research, which shall not be used for prosecution

5. To investigate any complaint which may be made to him in writing in respect of any contravention of the provisions of the Act, or rules framed there under;

9. To stop and inspect any vehicle suspected to contain any unsafe food or food which does not comply with the provisions of this Act and rules, intended for sale or delivery for human consumption;

10. To respond to incidents of food poisoning in his area and to send report to and assist the Designated Officer to enable him to initiate corrective action;

11. Food Safety Officer may seize the adulterant or food which is unsafe or sub-standard or mis-branded or containing extraneous matter, may seal the premises for investigation after taking a sample of such adulterant or food for analysis

### **Sampling and Analysis**

#### **Procedure for taking sample and manner of sending it for analysis–**

The Food Safety Officer while taking sample of food for analysis shall follow the procedure specified hereunder;-

1. Shall call one or more witnesses at the time of lifting of the samples Obtain the signatures from the witnesses in all the forms and documents prepared
2. Serve the notice in Form V A to the business operator then and there
3. In case the food business operator discloses that the product has been obtained from the manufacturer, the distributor or supplier, a notice shall also be given to such manufacturer, distributor or supplier,
4. Where a Food Safety Officer or the purchaser takes a sample of an article of food for analysis , he shall pay, the cost of such sample, to the person from whom the sample is taken, calculated at the rate at which the article is sold to the public.
5. Sample of article of Food for the purpose of analysis shall be taken in clean dry bottles or jars or in other suitable containers which shall be closed to prevent leakage, evaporation or to avoid entrance of moisture in case of dry substance and shall be carefully sealed.

Provided, if a sealed package marketed by the manufacturer / Food Business Operator is taken as sample, further sealing in separate containers will not be required.

#### **Analysis of food samples by Food**

Designated Officer, shall by the succeeding working day, dispatch to the Food Analyst for analysis one part of the samples sent to him by the Food Safety Officer.

On receipt of the sample, the Food Analyst shall analyse the sample and send the analysis report mentioning the method of analysis. The analysis report shall be as per Form VIIA

#### **Appeal to the Designated Officer**

When an appeal is preferred to the Designated Officer by the Food Business Operator against the report of the Food Analyst, the Designated Officer , shall forward one part of the sample to the referral lab. Such appeal shall be filed within 30 days from the date of the receipt of the copy of the analysis report from the Designated Officer. Report of the referral laboratory shall be final in this regard.

## **Licensing and Registration**

**No person can start or carry on any food business except under registration or licence .Licence is obtained through web-based application Food Safety and Compliance System(FOSCOS) of FSSAI.With FOSCOS, food businesses can submit applications, upload requisite documents, process payments, and track the status of their applications, all within a single user-friendly platform.**

1.The Licensing Authority shall issue a License in **Format C** copy of which shall be **displayed at a prominent place** at all times within the premises where the Food Business Operator carries on the food business.

2.An applicant may commence his food business if license is not issued within **60 days** from the date of making the completed application .

4.A Registration or license granted shall be valid for a period of 1 to 5 years as chosen by the Food Business Operator, from the date of issue of registration or license subject to remittance of fee applicable for the period and compliance with all conditions of license.

5.Application for the renewal of a registration or license granted , shall be made not later than **30** days prior to the expiry date indicated in the license.

6.Any renewal application filed beyond this, but before the expiry date, shall be accompanied by a late fee of Rs 100 per day for each day of delay.

7.Any Registration or license for which renewal has not been applied for within the period above shall expire and the Food Business Operator shall stop all business activity at the premises. The Food Business Operator will have to apply for fresh Registration or license if it wants to restart the business.

8.**Modifications**,-Food Business Operators shall inform any modifications or additions or changes in product category, layout, expansion, closure, or any other material information based on which the license was granted and such information shall be conveyed before the changes occur.

9.A single licence may be granted for one or more articles of food and also for different establishments or premises in the same area

10.If the articles of food are manufactured,stored,sold,or exhibited for sale at different premises situated in more than one area,**separate licences** are needed for **different premises**

11.**Guarantee** Every manufacturer, distributor or dealer selling an article of food to a vendor shall give either separately or in the bill, cash memo, or label a warranty in **Form E**.

**Improvement notices**-If any FBO has failed to comply with the regulations ,he issues improvement notice .If the FBO fails to comply with improvement notice ,licence may be suspended/cancelled.

## **LABELLING AND DISPLAY**

“**Best before date**” means the date which signifies the end of the period under



any stated storage conditions during which the food product shall remain fully marketable and shall retain any specific qualities for which tacit or express claims have been made, and beyond that date, the food may still be perfectly safe to consume, though, its quality may have diminished. However the product shall not be sold if any stage the product become unsafe;

**“Date of manufacture”** means the date on which the food products becomes the product as described;

**“Date of packaging”** means the date on which the food product is placed in the immediate container in which it will be ultimately sold;

**“Labelling”** means any written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the food or is displayed near the food;

**“Lot number” or “code number” or “batch number”** means the identification mark depicted shown on the label by the use of numeral or alphabet or combinations thereof, brief preceded by “Lot number” or “code number” or “batch number” or any unique identification marks such as Batch No., B. No., L. No., Lot No., Code, LN, CN or BN, B No by which the food can be traced in manufacture and identified in distribution.

**“Non-retail containers”** means any container that is not intended to be offered for direct sale to the consumer. The food in the non-retail container is for further business activities before being offered to the consumer

**“Non-vegetarian food”** means an article of food which contains whole or part of any animal including birds, insects, fresh water or marine animals or eggs or products of any animal origin, but does not include milk, milk products, honey or bees wax or carnauba wax or shellac;

**“Pre-packaged food”** means food, which is placed in a package of any nature, in such a manner that the contents cannot be changed without tampering it and which is ready for sale to the consumer.

**“Principal display panel”** means that part of the container/package which is intended or likely to be displayed or presented or shown or examined by the customer under normal and customary conditions of display, sale or purchase of the food article contained therein;

**“Retail pack” or “Retail unit”** means the packages which are intended for sale

to ultimate consumer for the purpose of consumption of the food contained therein;

“**Use by**” or “**expiry**” means the date, which signifies the end of the estimated period under any stated storage conditions, after which the product may not remain safe and the food product probably will not have the quality of safety attributes normally expected by the consumers and the food, shall not be sold or distributed for human consumption;

“**Vegetarian food**” means any article of food other than Non-Vegetarian Food as defined in these regulations.

### **General Requirements. -**

1. Pre-packaged food label shall not be in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its character in any respect;

2. Any information or pictorial device written, printed, or graphic matter may be displayed on the label provided that it is not in conflict with the requirements of these regulations;

(2) The particulars of declaration required under these Regulations to be specified on the label shall be in **English or Hindi** in Devnagri script:

It doesn't prevent the use of any other language in addition to the language required under this regulation:

(3) Label on pre-packaged foods shall be applied in such a manner that it will not become separated from the container;

(4) Contents on the label shall be clear, unambiguous, prominent, conspicuous, indelible and readily legible by the consumer

**In addition to general requirements , every package shall carry the following information on the label, namely,-**

**1. The Name of Food:** Every package of food shall carry name of the food which indicates the true nature of the food contained in the package, on the Front of Pack:

**2. List of Ingredients:** Except for single ingredient foods, a list of

ingredients shall be declared on the label under the title, such as the term “Ingredients/List of Ingredients in descending order of their composition by weight or volume.

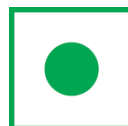
**3. Nutritional information.**-nutritional information is a description intended to inform the consumer of nutritional properties of the food.

**4 )Declaration regarding Veg or Non veg.-**

Every package of Non-Vegetarian Food containing ingredients including food additives, processing aids of animal origin shall bear a declaration to this effect made by a symbol and colour code as stipulated below. The symbol shall consist of a brown colour filled triangle inside a square with brown outline having the sides not less than the minimum size specified in the Table as indicated below:



Every package of Vegetarian Food containing ingredients including food additives, processing aids of plant origin shall bear a declaration to this effect by a symbol and colour code as stipulated below. The symbol shall consist of a green colour filled circle inside a square with green outline having the diameter not less than the minimum size specified in the Table



Size of the Vegetarian/Non-vegetarian logo:

Sl. No.	Area of principal display panel in cm. square	Minimum size of diameters of circle in mm	Minimum size of each side of triangle in mm	Minimum size of each side of square in mm
1.	Upto 100	3	2.5	6
2.	Above 100 to 500	4	3.5	8

3.	Above 500 to 2500	6	5	12
4.	Above 2500	8	7	16

**5)Declaration regarding Food Additives.-**

Functional classes for food additives shall be declared together with the specific name(s)or recognized International Numbering System (INS)

**6)Declaration of name and complete address.-**

The name and complete address of the brand owner, whether or not, he himself is the manufacturer, marketer, packer or bottler, as the case may be, shall be declared on the label. Such name and address shall be preceded by the qualifying words “Manufactured by (Mfg by, Mfd by)” or “Marketed by (Mkt by)” or “Manufactured & Marketed by” or “Packed & Marketed by” as the case may be.

Where an article of food is imported into India, the package of food shall also carrythe name and complete address of the importer in India.

**7)FSSAI logo and license number.-**

The FSSAI logo and license number under the Act shall be displayed on the label of the food package in contrast color to the background as below:



Lic. No. **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX**

Every food business operator **shall display on all its premises,** where food is stored, processed, distributed or sold, the Registration/Licence No. as the case may be or Food Safety Display Board if specified, along with other information as may be specified by the Food Authority from time to time at a prominent place in the premises.

**8) Net quantity, Retail Sale Price and Consumer Care details.-**

Declaration and manner of declaration of Net quantity, Retail Sale Price and Consumer Care details shall be as provided in Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Rules made there under.

**9) Lot/Code/Batch identification.-** A batch number or code number or lot number shall be declared on the label.

**10) Date Marking.-**

“Date of manufacture or packaging” and “Expiry/Use by” shall be declared on the label. However, expression “Best before” may also be used as optional or additional information.

The manner of declaration of date of manufacture or packaging/Expiry/Use by/Best Before shall be as follows:

the day, month and year using the DD/MM/YY format for products with a short shelf life of up to 3 months; the month and the year for products with a shelf life of more than three months, shall be declared in un-coded numerical sequence except that the month shall be indicated by capital letters and abbreviations (at least first three letters of the month) may be used.

<sup>2</sup>[“Provided that for products with shelf life of more than three months, the “DD/MM/YY” format may also be used.”]

In addition to the expiry or Use by, any special conditions for the storage of the food shall be declared on the label if the validity of the date depends thereon. If required, storage conditions after opening the pack may also be specified.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this regulation, an indication of the “Expiry” shall not be required for:

- (i) Fresh fruits and vegetables, including potatoes which have not been peeled, cut or similarly treated;
- (ii) All types of wine;
- (iii) Alcoholic beverages containing 10% or more by volume of alcohol;

- (iv) Vinegar;
- (v) Sugar boiled confectionery;
- (vi) Food grade salt for industrial use;
- (vii) Solid sugars;
- (viii) Chewing gum and bubble gum.

“Date of manufacture or packaging” and “Expiry /Use by” shall be grouped together and given at one place. “Date and time of manufacture” shall be declared on packed meals served in airlines/railways/mobile catering units.

### **11) Country of Origin for Imported Foods-**

The country of origin of the food shall be declared on the label of food imported into India.

### **12) Instructions for use.-**

Instructions for use, e.g. ‘Refrigerate after opening’

### **13) Declaration regarding Food allergen:**

The following foods and ingredients which are known to cause allergy shall be declared separately as Contains.....

(Name of allergy causing ingredients)

- (i) Cereals containing gluten; eg wheat, (To be declared as name of the cereal);
- (ii) Crustacean and their products (To be declared as Crustacean);
- (iii) Milk & Milk products (To be declared as Milk);
- (iv) Eggs and egg products (To be declared as Egg);
- (v) Fish and fish products (To be declared as Fish);
- (vi) Peanuts, tree nuts (e.g. almonds, walnuts, pistachio, cashew nuts) and their products (To be declared as Nut);
- (vii) Soybeans and their products (To be declared as Soy)

Raw agricultural commodities are exempted from the allergen labelling requirements.

Every package of **food material sold** in retail but which is **not meant for human consumption** example Pooja water, Ghee for diya, Oil for Pooja etc. shall bear

a declaration to this effect by a symbol as stipulated below.

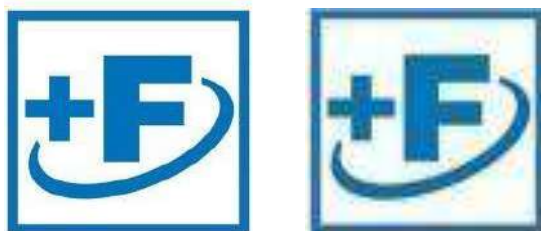


### Labelling Requirements of non-retail container

Every packaged food meant for non-retail sale shall provide the following mandatory information either on the container or pasted on the label thereto:

- (a) Name of the food;
- (b) FSSAI Logo and License number;
- (c) Date marking and storage instructions, when required for the safety or integrity of the product;
- (d) Lot No. /Batch No. /Code No and
- (e) Name and address of the manufacturer or packer (including country of origin for imported packages).

**Fortified food**-Every package of food fortified shall carry the words “fortified with..... (name of the fortificant)” and the logo, as specified below, on the label. It may also carry a tag line “Sampoorna Poshan Swasth Jeevan” under the logo



**Organic food**-Every package of **certified organic food** as per Food Safety and Standards(Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 shall carry the logo as specified below:



One time usable plastic bottles of packaged drinking water and mineral water shall carry the following declaration.

## Labelling of edible oils and fats

The package, label or the advertisement of edible refined vegetable oils and fats shall not use any exaggerated expressions like “Super-Refined”, “Extra-Refined”, “Micro-Refined”, “Double refined,”, “Ultra-Refined”. Coffee-Chicory Mixture

**Coffee-Chicory mix**-Every package containing a mixture of coffee and chicory shall have affixed to it a label upon which shall be printed the following declaration:

Coffee blended with Chicory This mixture contains

Coffee .....Percent

Chicory ..... Percent

## Labelling of Milk and Milk products

All Milk powders, skimmed milk powders and condensed milk (sweetened and flavoured) or similar products, which can be reconstituted into liquid milk, shall carry the following declaration on label:

‘Not to be used for infants below 6 months’

**PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTIONS ON SALES**-Sale of certain items is prohibited

- milk which contains any added water;
- ghee which contains any added matter not exclusively derived from milk fat;
- skimmed milk (fat abstracted) as milk;
- a mixture of two or more edible oils as an edible oil;
- vanaspati to which ghee or any other substance has been added;
- turmeric containing any foreign substance;
- mixture of coffee and any other substance except chicory;
- dahi or curd not prepared from boiled, pasteurised or sterilized milk;
- Any Multi source edible vegetable oil containing Mustard Oil manufactured on or after 8th June, 2021.]

No person in any State shall, sell or offer or expose for sale, or have in his possession for the purpose of sale, under any

1. Food resembling but not pure honey not be marketed as honey: No person shall use the word ‘honey’ or any word, mark, illustration or device that suggests honey on the label or any package of, or in any advertisement for, any food that resembles honey but is not pure honey.



2. Product not to contain any substance which may be injurious to health: **Tobacco and nicotine** shall not be used as ingredients in any food products.

3. Prohibition of use of **carbide gas** in ripening of fruits: No person shall sell or offer or expose for sale or have in his premises for the purpose of sale under any description, fruits which have been artificially ripened by use of acetylene gas, commonly known as carbide gas.

<sup>2</sup>[Provided that fruits may be artificially ripened by use of Ethylene gas at a concentration upto 100 ppm (100µl/L) depending upon the crop, variety and maturity.]

4. Sale of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables: The Fresh Fruits and Vegetables shall be free from rotting and free from coating of waxes, mineral oil and colours.

Provided that fresh fruits may be coated with bees wax (white and yellow) or carnauba wax or shellac wax at level not exceeding Good Manufacturing Practices under proper label declaration as provided in Regulation 2.4.5 (44) of Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) regulations, 2011.

5. Restriction on sale of **common salt**.- No person shall sell or offer or expose for sale or have in his premises for the purpose of sale, common salt for direct human consumption or for use as an ingredient in a food product unless the same is **iodized**:

5. Use of flesh of naturally dead animals or fowls prohibited.

No person shall sell or use as an ingredient in the preparation of any article of food intended for sale, the flesh of any animal or fowl which has died on account of natural causes.

6. No person shall store, expose for sale or permit the sale of any insecticide in the same premises where articles of food are stored, manufactured or exposed for sale:

8. Provided that nothing in this regulation shall apply to the approved **household insecticides** which have been registered as such under the Insecticides Act 1968 (46 of 1968).

9. No person shall manufacture, sell, store or exhibit for sale food for infant nutrition except under Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Certification Mark, wherever BIS standards available.]

10. Condensed milk sweetened, condensed skimmed milk sweetened, milk powder, skimmed milk powder, partly skimmed milk powder and partly skimmed sweetened condensed milk shall not be sold except under **Indian Standards Institution Certification Mark**.

11. No person shall sell protein rich atta and protein rich maida except in packed condition mentioning the names of ingredients on the label.

12. All edible oils, **except coconut oil, olive oil**, imported in crude, raw or unrefined form shall be subjected to the process of refining before sale for human consumption.

13. No person shall sell **powdered spices and condiments** except 'under

packed conditions.

14. No person shall manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale packaged drinking water except under the Bureau of Indian Standards Certification Mark.

15. No person shall manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale mineral water except under the Bureau of Indian Standards Certification Mark;



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**Legal Metrology Act 2009 and Legal Metrology (Packed  
Commodities rules)2011**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is Legal Metrology?**

Legal Metrology treats units of weight and measurement, methods of weighing and measurement and weighing and measuring instruments, in relation to the mandatory technical and legal requirements which have the object of ensuring public guarantee from the point of view of security and accuracy of the weighments and measurements.

### **2. Whether the offences committed under the packaged commodities Rules are compoundable?**

Yes, the offences committed under the packaged commodities Rules are compoundable.

### **3. What is Pre-packaged commodity?**

“Pre-packaged commodity” means a commodity which without the purchaser being present is placed in a package of whatever nature, whether sealed or not, so that the product contained therein has a pre-determined quantity.

### **4. What do you mean by sale?**

Sale means transfer of Property in any weight, measure or other goods by one person to another for cash or for deferred payment or for any other valuable consideration and includes a transfer of any weight, measure or other goods on the hire-purchase system or any other system of payment by installments, but does not include a mortgage or hypothecation of, or a charge or pledge on, such weight, measure or other goods.

### **5. What do you mean by label?**

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“Label” means any written, marked, stamped, printed or graphic matter affixed to, or appearing upon any pre-packaged commodity.

## **6. What is net quantity?**

Net quantity in relation to commodity contained in a package, means the quantity by weight, measure or number of such commodity contained in that package, excluding the packaging or wrappers.

## **7. What is Principal display panel?**

In relation to a package means the total surface area of package where the information required under these rules are to be given in the following manner:

- (i) All the information could be grouped together and given at one place; or
- (ii) The pre-printed information could be grouped together and given in one place and on line information grouped together in other place.

## **8. What is retail dealer?**

“retail dealer” in relation to any commodity in packaged form means a dealer who  

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directly sells such packages to the consumer

## **9. What do you mean by an Institutional consumer?**

“Institutional consumer” means the institution which buys packaged commodities bearing a declaration ‘not for retail sale’, directly from the manufacturer or from an importer or from wholesale dealer for use by that institution and not for commercial or trade purposes.

## **10. What is retail sale price?**

Retail sale Price means the maximum price at which the commodity in packaged form may be sold to the ultimate consumer and the price shall be printed on the package in the form of Maximum Retail Price.

## **11. What are the commodities where “when packed” declaration is allowed?**



All kinds of soaps, lotions, Cream and Camphor

**12. What is the size of numerals etc.**

In case of a package having a capacity of five cubic centimeters or less, the principal display panel may be a card or tape affixed firmly to the package. If the area of a package is more than ten cubic centimeter the principal display panel should comply the provisions of Rules (Table-I).

Table-I

Serial Number	Area of Principal display panel in square centimeters (A)	Minimum height of numerals and letters in millimeters	Minimum height of numerals and letters when blown, formed or molded on surface of container in millimeters
	(1)	(2)	(3)
1	$A \leq 50$	1.0	2.0
2	$50 < A \leq 100$	1.5	3.0
3	$100 < A \leq 500$	2.5	4.0
4	$500 < A \leq 2500$	4.0	6.0
5	$2500 < A$	6.0	6.0

**13. Whether the Rules are applicable to imported packages?**

Yes, the Rules are applicable both to imported packages as well as the indigenous packages.

**14. Whether additional sticker can be affixed on the package to provide information required under the Rules?**

The Rules provide that all the information required under the Rules either printed on the package itself or on a label affixed thereto. Therefore, given all the information on a single label affixed on the package is not prohibited. However, giving individual information likes date of manufacture or retail sale price etc. by affixing individual sticker is prohibited under Rule 6(2). However affixing individual sticker is not prohibited for declaring reduced MRP provided that the MRP declaration made by the manufacture shall not covered.

**15. Whether giving additional information is considered violation under the Packaged Commodities Rules?**

Giving any information in addition to the mandatory information required under the Rules is not considered violation.

**16. Who is responsible in case of imported packaged?**

Registered Importer, in India, is responsible in case of imported packaged.

**17. Whether loose commodities are covered under the PC Rules?**

No, Rules covered only pre-packaged commodities.

**18. Whether there is provision to sell a commodity at a price lower than MRP?**

Yes, under sub-rule (3) of rule 6 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 a commodity may be sold at a price lower than MRP.

**19. The price declared on a pre-packaged commodity can be changed in due course?**

No, under sub-rule (5) and (6) of Rule 18 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 no one can alter the price once printed.

**20. Whether the packaged commodities can be sold at a price higher than MRP?**

No, under Rule 18(2) of the Rules 'No retail dealer or other person including manufacturer, packer, importer and wholesale dealer shall make any sale of any commodity in packed form at a price exceeding the retail sale price thereof'.

**21. What are the commodities covered under the Rules?**

All pre-packaged commodities except otherwise exempted from the rules are covered under the Rules. The exemption is given for Drugs, fast food items and packaged commodities sold in the packages upto 10g or 10ml.

## **22. What are main declarations required under the Rules?**

The following declarations are required to be given on all pre-packaged commodities meant for retail sale:

- i. Name and address of manufacturer/ packer & manufacturer (if manufacturer is not packer)/ importer,
- ii. Country of origin if imported
- iii. Common, generic name of the commodity
- iv. Net qty. in std. unit of W or M or no. of commodity in the package
- v. MRP incl. of all taxes
- vi. Unit sale price (w.e.f. 01.10.2022)
- vii. Month and year of manufacture \*(or pre-packing or import) (except food articles, Seeds and cosmetics) (\*Omit w.e.f. 01.10.2022)
- viii. "Best before or use by date, month and year" in case of commodity becoming unfit for human consumption with time
- ix. Consumer Care details

## **23. Whether e-mail address is mandatory?**

Yes, e-mail address is mandatory.

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## **24. Whether the left over space of the Principal Display Panel may be used for other declarations?**

Yes, Principal Display Panel prescribes where the mandatory declaration is to be given and does not restrict the right of the manufacturer / packer / importer to utilize the left over space for other declarations / promotions.

## **25. What is unit sale price?**

Unit sale price means the sale price (inclusive of all taxes) per specified unit of weight, measure or number.

## **26. Where the unit sale price should be declared?**

The unit sale price shall be declared on the principal display panel of the pre-packaged commodity.

**27. What is the number of decimal places which need to be indicated in the declaration of unit sale price?**

As per Rule 6, sub-rule 11, the unit sale price shall be rounded off to the nearest two decimal places.

In case where the unit sale price is a whole number, it may be declared without decimal places.

**28. Is unit sale price required to be declared on wholesale packages?**

Unit sale price is not required to be declared on a 'Wholesale Package', defined under Rule 2(r) of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

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**29. Is Unit sale price required to be declared if it is equal to the MRP?**

As per the second proviso to Rule 6 sub-rule (11) declaration of unit sale price is not required for the pre-packaged commodities in which retail sale price or MRP is equal to the unit sale price.

**30. Is unit sale price required to be declared on packs offering additional volume/quantity/units for FREE inside the primary pack?**

The Unit Sale Price is required to be declared, however, the Unit Sale Price computation shall exclude the additional volume/ quantity/ units being provided for FREE.

**31. Is Unit sale price required to be declared on packs offering additional volume/quantity/units of the same commodity for FREE separately?**

The Unit Sale Price is required to be declared on pack intended for sale, however, the Unit Sale Price computation shall exclude the value of pack being provided for FREE. There is no requirement of declaring Unit Sale Price on Free pack.

**32. Is Unit sale price required to be declared on packs offering some other product for FREE?**

The Unit Sale Price is required to be declared on pack intended for sale, however, the Unit Sale Price computation shall exclude the value of pack being provided for FREE. There is no requirement of declaring Unit Sale Price on Free product.

**33. Is there an exemption for packs with net weight or measure of the retail pack is 10 ml/10g or less?**

Yes, retail packs with net weight or measure of 10 ml/10g or less are exempted from Unit Sale Price declaration .

**34. Is the letter case for MRP prefix 'inclusive of all taxes' required to be small or can it be in upper case/sentence case as well?**

**Ans:** The letter case for MRP prefix 'inclusive of all taxes' may be in small or upper case.

**35. Whether the numeral size requirements is applicable only for MRP printed or the same is applicable to the prefixes 'MRP Rs.' and 'inclusive of all taxes' also?**

**Ans:** The numeral size requirement is applicable only for MRP value printed and not for the prefixes 'MRP Rs.' and suffix 'inclusive of all taxes'.

**36. For food products which are governed by FSSAI Rules & Regulations, what are the elements governed by Legal Metrology?**

**Ans:** For food products which are governed by FSSAI Rules & Regulations, the 3 declarations viz. MRP, Net Weight and Consumer Care Details will be made as per the provisions of Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

**37. In the Consumer Care information, whether the address can be referred to address information provided elsewhere in the label?**

**Ans:** Yes.

**38. What will be timeline for registration under Rule 27 of the LM(PC) Rules, 2011 as manufacturer/ packer/ importer?**

**Ans:** As per Rule 27 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 time line for registration as manufacturer/ packer/ importer is within ninety days from the date on which he or it commences such pre-packing

