CDSCO

Draft would require CCTV where drugs are sold on prescription

Draft G.S.R. 791(E) would require non-wholesale supply of drugs on prescription to be made under CCTV at licensed premises, with recordings kept at least 3 months.

G.S.R. 791(E) IS A NOTIFICATION of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare), dated September 8, 2026, publishing draft rules further to amend the Drugs Rules, 1945. It appears in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 723, dated September 9, 2026. The Central Government proposes to make the rules under sub-section (1) of section 12 and sub-section (1) of section 33 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 (23 of 1940), after consultation with the Drugs Technical Advisory Board. CDSCO lists the same file among its Gazette notifications as a draft "regarding mandatory installation of CCTV surveillance system at sales premises".

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

CDSCO

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Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare)

DOCUMENT

G.S.R. 791(E), draft rules: the Drugs (..... Amendment) Rules, 2026



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The draft inserts a new sub-rule (2A) in rule 65 of the Drugs Rules, 1945, after sub-rule (2). It reads: "The supply, otherwise than by way of wholesale dealing of any drug supplied on the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner shall be made under a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance system installed and maintained for this purpose at the licensed premises. Further, the recordings shall be preserved for a minimum period of 3 months." The Hindi text, printed first, puts the duty on whoever makes that supply and says the system is to be installed and maintained so that sales made at the premises can be verified. The English text has no such words.

The draft names no licence form. In CDSCO's compiled copy of the Drugs Rules, 1945, as amended by G.S.R. 360(E) of July 1, 2024, rule 65 sets general conditions for licences in Forms 20, 20A, 20B, 20F, 20G, 21 and 21B. Rule 61 sets these forms for licences to sell, stock, exhibit or offer for sale or distribute drugs. Rule 65's sub-rule (2) uses the same words for the same supply and says it "shall be effected only by or under the personal supervision of a registered pharmacist". The draft does not say where on the premises the cameras go, how many there must be, or what they must show. It does not say who keeps the recordings or in what form. It says nothing about inspection, such as whether an Inspector may view or copy them. Sub-rule (6) of rule 65, in the same compiled copy, already requires a licensee to produce all registers and records maintained under the rules for inspection by an Inspector on demand. The draft sets no deadline for installing a system and no separate terms for premises licensed before the rules take effect.

The draft rules will be taken into consideration on or after the expiry of thirty days from the date on which copies of the Gazette containing them are made available to the public. The Central Government will consider objections and suggestions received from any person within that period. They may be addressed to the Under Secretary (Drugs), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, U-6, Work Hall- C Wing, First Floor, Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi, 110001, or emailed to drugsdiv-mohfw@gov.in. The draft names no end date. Its e-Gazette ID, CG-DL-E-16092026-276270, and its digital signature date the copy September 16, 2026; thirty days counted from then end on October 16, 2026.

The rules are to be called the Drugs (..... Amendment) Rules, 2026, with the number left blank, and would come into force from a date the Government specifies when it publishes the final rules. The notification is signed by Pushpendra Rajput, Joint Secretary, under F. No. X.11014/15/2026-DR. On November 1, 2026, neither the e-Gazette's list of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare gazettes issued in September, October and November 2026 nor CDSCO's Gazette notifications list showed final rules on CCTV.

Issued by	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare)
Document	G.S.R. 791(E), draft rules: the Drugs (..... Amendment) Rules, 2026
Dated	September 8, 2026
Gazette	Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 723, September 9, 2026
Gazette ID	CG-DL-E-16092026-276270; the e-Gazette copy is dated September 16, 2026
Amends	Drugs Rules, 1945: new sub-rule (2A) in rule 65, after sub-rule (2)
Applies to	The supply, otherwise than by way of wholesale dealing, of any drug supplied on the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner
Proposed requirement	The supply to be made under a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance system installed and maintained for this purpose at the licensed premises
Recordings kept	For a minimum period of 3 months
Rule 65 covers	Licences in Forms 20, 20A, 20B, 20F, 20G, 21 and 21B, in CDSCO's compiled copy of the Drugs Rules, 1945, as amended by G.S.R. 360(E) of July 1, 2024
Not in the draft	A licence form; where the cameras go, how many, or what they must show; who keeps the recordings and in what form; inspection of the recordings; a deadline for installing a system
Comment period	Thirty days from the date copies of the Gazette are made available to the public; no end date is given. Counted from September 16, 2026, the date of the e-Gazette copy, thirty days end on October 16, 2026
Send comments to	Under Secretary (Drugs), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, or drugsdiv-mohfw@gov.in
Takes effect	From the date the Government specifies at final publication in the Official Gazette

Status	No final rules in the e-Gazette's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare list or on CDSCO's Gazette notifications list on November 1, 2026
Signed by	Pushpendra Rajput, Jt. Secy.
File number	F. No. X.11014/15/2026-DR

The notification (draft rules) (PDF, 660 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-16092026-276270.

Checked against the official copy on November 1, 2026.

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