

October 8, 2026

LEGAL METROLOGY

Imported packages: where declarations may be affixed

The Legal Metrology Unit tells the Controllers of all States and UTs where mandatory declarations on imported pre-packaged commodities may be affixed.

THE LEGAL METROLOGY Unit of the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, wrote to the Controllers of Legal Metrology of all States and Union Territories on October 8, 2026, in letter I-19/50/2022-W&M Section (E-28602). The letter concerns the

uniform implementation of the provisions on affixing mandatory declarations under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 to imported pre-packaged commodities. It is signed by Ashutosh Agarwal, Director (Legal Metrology), and copied to all stakeholders.

KEY FACTS

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Letter I-19/50/2022-W&M Section (E-28602)



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The letter refers to Rule 4 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, as amended by G.S.R. 418(E) dated May 29, 2026, which deals with the manner and place of making mandatory declarations on imported pre-packaged commodities. It states that the amendment was made to facilitate legitimate trade while ensuring compliance with the Rules, and to promote ease of doing business without compromising consumer protection. It clarifies that the mandatory declarations must be made before the goods are cleared for home consumption and before the packages are offered for sale, distribution or delivery in the domestic market.

To ensure uniform implementation, the letter sets out two cases for all field officers. Importers holding Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Tier 2 or Tier 3 status may affix the mandatory declarations at their approved importer premises, wherever such a facility is permitted under the applicable Customs procedures and the instructions issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

All other importers must affix the mandatory declarations only in a Customs bonded warehouse under section 57 of the Customs Act, 1962, or in the importer's bonded warehouse licensed under section 58 of the Customs Act, 1962, as permitted under Rule 4 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, before clearance for home consumption.

The letter asks the Controllers of Legal Metrology in all States and Union Territories to advise all Legal Metrology Officers under their administrative control to ensure strict compliance, so that implementation is uniform across the country, unnecessary hardship to trade is avoided and consumer interests are safeguarded.

Issued by	Legal Metrology Unit, Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Document	Letter I-19/50/2022-W&M Section (E-28602)
Dated	October 8, 2026

Addressed to	Controllers of Legal Metrology, all States/UTs; copy to all stakeholders
Rule concerned	Rule 4, Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, as amended by G.S.R. 418(E) dated May 29, 2026
AEO Tier 2 or Tier 3 importers	May affix declarations at their approved importer premises, where permitted under Customs procedures and CBIC instructions
All other importers	Only in a Customs bonded warehouse under section 57, or the importer's bonded warehouse licensed under section 58, of the Customs Act, 1962
Declarations made	Before clearance for home consumption and before the packages are offered for sale, distribution or delivery
Signed by	Ashutosh Agarwal, Director (Legal Metrology)

[The letter](#) (PDF, 445 KB)

Source: [Legal Metrology's own copy](#).

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

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