LEGAL METROLOGY

Packaged goods registrations must name a director, update yearly

G.S.R. 418(E) amends rule 27 of the Packaged Commodities Rules, 2011: a director responsible for violations, a yearly update, certificates valid until cancelled.

THE DEPARTMENT OF Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, issued notification G.S.R. 418(E), dated May 29, 2026, making the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Third Amendment Rules, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 377, dated May 29, 2026. The Central Government made the rules under section 52(1), read with clauses (j) and (q) of section 52(2), of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, and they come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. They amend rules 4 and 27 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, last amended before this by G.S.R. 312(E) of April 27, 2026. The notification is signed by Anupam Mishra, Additional Secretary, under F. No. I-19/50/2022-W&M.

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Rule 27 of the 2011 rules covers the registration of manufacturers, packers and importers with the Director or the Controller. In the Department of Consumer Affairs' consolidated text of the rules, its sub-rule (2) lists what an application for registration must contain: the name of the applicant, the complete address of the premises where the pre-packing or import is made, and the name of the commodity or commodities pre-packed or imported. The notification adds clause (d) to that list: "the name of the Director of the company responsible for violations under the Act and rules made thereunder." It also adds sub-rule (5): "The registration certificates shall remain valid until cancelled."

A new proviso to sub-rule (3), which in the consolidated text sets a fee for any alteration in a registration certificate, says "the company or firm shall update annually its details with change in any particulars". An option is to be made available on the online portal to update, each year, the address, the products "with their number to be manufactured, packed or imported during the previous year", and the country of origin. The notification does not name the portal, set a date by which the yearly update is due, or say when the option will be available. It does not say whether the alteration fee in sub-rule (3) applies to the yearly update, or what follows if a registrant does not update.

The notification says nothing specific about registrations granted before it came into force. It does not say whether, or by when, existing registrants must add a director's name, or whether sub-rule (5) covers certificates already issued. It does not say who may cancel a certificate or on what grounds. Clause (d) speaks of "the Director of the company" and the proviso of "the company or firm"; the notification does not say whom a registrant that is not a company should name.

The notification also numbers the existing Explanation to rule 4 as Explanation-1 and adds Explanation-2, "for the removal of doubts": importers "shall be allowed to make mandatory declarations at bonded warehouses of Authorised Economic Operators Tier-2 and Tier-3 certified operators in India", provided the retail packages carry all mandatory declarations under the rules before leaving those bonded warehouses. A note says Authorized Economic Operators

Tier 2 and Tier 3 are administered by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs to speed up customs clearance for compliant importers and exporters. The Legal Metrology Unit's letter I-19/50/2022-W&M Section (E-28602) of October 8, 2026 later set out for the Controllers of Legal Metrology of all States and Union Territories where importers may affix the declarations under rule 4 as amended by this notification.

Issued by	Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Document	Notification G.S.R. 418(E), the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Third Amendment Rules, 2026
Dated	May 29, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 377, May 29, 2026
Takes effect	On the date of publication in the Official Gazette; the Gazette issue is dated May 29, 2026, and its online copy is digitally signed June 1, 2026
Applies to	Manufacturers, packers and importers applying for or holding registration under rule 27; importers making mandatory declarations under rule 4
Amends	Rule 27 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 (clause (d) in sub-rule (2), a proviso to sub-rule (3), new sub-rule (5)) and rule 4 (Explanation-2)
Rule 27(2)(d)	"the name of the Director of the company responsible for violations under the Act and rules made thereunder"
Yearly update	Address, products with their number to be manufactured, packed or imported during the previous year, and country of origin, through an option to be made available on the online portal; no due date given
Registration certificates	Valid until cancelled (new rule 27(5))
Rule 4, Explanation-2	Importers may make mandatory declarations at bonded warehouses of AEO Tier-2 and Tier-3 certified operators; retail packages must carry all declarations before leaving them
Related	Letter I-19/50/2022-W&M Section (E-28602), October 8, 2026, to the Controllers of Legal Metrology of all States and Union Territories, on rule 4 as amended
Legal basis	Section 52(1), read with section 52(2)(j) and (q), Legal Metrology Act, 2009

Signed by	Anupam Mishra, Additional Secretary
File number	F. No. I-19/50/2022-W&M

The notification (PDF, 1.2 MB)

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