

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2428
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2024

ACTIONS OF THE MINISTRY IN COLLABORATION WITH IILM

2428. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the actions taken by the Ministry, in collaboration with State Governments and the Indian Institute of Legal Metrology (IILM) for the calibration of vertical oil & petroleum products storage tanks and the testing procedures for water, gas, and electricity meters to safeguard consumer interests;
- (b) the measures taken by the Ministry in partnership with State Governments and the IILM to calibrate land measurement meters/equipments; and
- (c) the steps the Ministry can take to enhance the technological capabilities of the IILM and in what manner State Governments can implement the findings of the institute?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI B.L VERMA)

(a) to (c) : The Department, in collaboration with State Governments and the Indian Institute of Legal Metrology (IILM), has implemented measures under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011 to ensure the accurate calibration and verification of vertical oil and petroleum storage tanks, along with various other weighing and measuring instruments. These include non-automatic weighing instruments, water meters, clinical thermometers and CNG dispensers, among others. Vertical storage tanks are calibrated and stamped by state Legal Metrology Officers and re-verified every five years. Training programs at IILM, Ranchi, equip these officers with the necessary skills to safeguard consumer interests.

To regulate land measurement equipment, provisions under the Sixth Schedule of the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011 are made. Instruments like length measures, folding scales, and tape measures are verified by state Legal Metrology Departments, supported by Regional Reference Standard Laboratories (RRSLs), which provide calibration services and ensure compliance with legal standards.

To enhance the capabilities of IILM, the Department has upgraded the institute's infrastructure, fostering collaborations with advanced metrology institutions, and facilitating specialized training for faculty. State Governments implement IILM's findings by adopting its methods and establishing laboratories in their jurisdictions, ensuring officers trained at IILM can apply the latest techniques effectively to protect consumer interests and promote fair trade.