

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2761
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2025

**SELLING OF GOODS IN PACKAGED FORM WITH LESS WEIGHT, MEASURE OR
QUANTITY**

2761. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the selling of goods in loose or open form with less weight, measure, or quantity than what was agreed or paid for is rampantly happening;
- (b) if so, whether Government has launched any awareness campaign to stop this;
- (c) if so, the action taken at present against the persons/companies selling goods in packaged form with less weight, measure, or quantity; and
- (d) whether these actions are adequate to deter them from committing such repeated violations and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

(a) to (d): Section 30 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, provides for a fine upto Rs. 10,000.00 for selling goods in loose or open form with less weight, measure, or quantity than what was agreed or paid for. Repeat offenses may lead to imprisonment of up to one year, or fine, or both.

Section 36(2) of the Legal Metrology Act provides for a fine from Rs. 10,000.00 to Rs. 50,000.00 for selling goods in packaged form with less weight, measure, or quantity. For repeated violations, fines can reach upto Rs. 1.0 lakh or with imprisonment of up to one year or with both.

Rule 6(1)(c) of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, mandates that packaged goods must clearly display the net quantity in standard units of weight or measure or number.

Department of Consumer Affairs has been generating Consumer awareness by undertaking country-wide multimedia awareness campaigns under the aegis of "Jago Grahak Jago" to reach out to every consumer across the country by utilizing traditional media like All India Radio, Doordarshan, fairs & festivals, etc. as well as social media. Through simple messages and jingles, consumers are made aware about the various unfair trade practices and consumer related issues and the mechanism to seek redressal. The Department had also launched "Jagruti", a mascot for empowering consumers and making them aware of their rights. The mascot aims to strengthen consumer awareness campaign and reinforce a young empowered and informed consumer.

State Legal Metrology Departments are responsible for enforcing these laws, taking action upon receiving complaints, observing discrepancies, or detecting short weighing during inspections. State Governments also carry out awareness activities through exhibitions in trade fairs, press releases, and field camps. Regular surprise inspections, periodic raids, issuance of challans, and compounding of offenses in case of short delivery are conducted by the State Legal Metrology Departments to ensure compliance and deter violations.
