

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1528
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
QUANTITY OF PACKAGED GOODS
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether it has been observed that manufacturers in the country often reduce the quantity of packaged products by small fractions without making a change in the price of the product;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce new metrology rules in the country;
- (d) if so, the details and the salient features thereof; and
- (e) the details of the packaged products for which the new rules would be applicable?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

- (a) : Yes Madam, it has been observed that some manufacturers in the country are reducing quantity of packaged products by small fractions without making a change in the price of the product.
- (b) to (d): Madam, some complaints were received regarding such unfair reduction in the quantity of packaged products from some consumer organizations. Government after due examination of the issue amended the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 vide GSR 784 (E) dated 24th October, 2011 and vide GSR 426(E) dated 5th June, 2012. As per this amendment all manufacturers of 19 commodities mentioned in Second Schedule of the said Rule will have to mandatorily pack items in standard sizes only and any unfair reduction of quantity will not be permitted. This order will be implemented w.e.f. 1st November, 2012, after which it will be mandatory for all the manufacturers and packers to pack the commodities mentioned in the second schedule of the said rule in the prescribed pack sizes only and the reduction of the quantity of packaged products by small fractions will not be allowed.
- (e) : Madam, new rules will be applicable in following 19 commodities mentioned in the second schedule of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 viz. Baby food, Weaning food, Biscuits, Bread including brown bread but excluding bun, Un-canned packages of butter and margarine, Cereals and Pulses, Coffee, Tea, Materials which may be constituted or reconstituted as beverages, Edible Oils Vanaspati, ghee, butter oil, Milk Powder, Non-soapy detergents (powder), Rice (powdered), flour, atta, rawa, and suji, Salt, Soaps (Laundry Soap, Non-soapy detergent cakes/ bars, Toilet Soap including all kinds of bath soap, cakes), Aerated soft drinks, non-alcoholic beverages, Mineral water and drinking water, Cement in bags, Paint varnish etc. [Paint (other than paste paint or solid paint) varnish, varnish stains, enamels, Paste paint and solid paint, Base paint].