

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1758

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012

SALE OF PACKAGED GOODS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued an order imposing restrictions on the sale of 19 items of daily use in loose or non-standardised package;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the items covered therein along with the reasons and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to cover more items of daily use under this order; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

Government of India Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution Department of Consumer Affairs

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, the Government has issued orders stipulating that following 19 items will be manufactured and sold only in standard pack sizes. The items are

- (1) Baby food,
- (2) Weaning food,
- (3) Biscuits,
- (4) Bread including brown bread but excluding bun,
- (5) Un-canned packages of butter and margarine,
- (6) Cereals and Pulses,
- (7) Coffee,
- (8) Tea,
- (9) Materials which may be constituted or reconstituted as beverages,
- (10) Edible Oils Vanaspati, ghee, butter oil,
- (11) Milk Powder,
- (12) Non-soapy detergents (powder),
- (13) Rice(powdered), flour, atta, rawa and suji,
- (14) Salt,
- (15) Soaps
 - (a) Laundry Soap
 - (b) Non-soapy detergent cakes/ bars
 - (c) Toilet Soap including all kinds of bath soap (cakes),

(16) Aerated soft drinks, non-alcoholic beverages,

(17) Mineral water and drinking water,

(18) Cement in bags and

(19) Paint varnish etc.

(a) Paint (other than paste paint or solid paint) varnish, varnish stains, enamels

(b) Paste paint and solid paint,

(c) Base paint.

The said amendment in the Rules was made as per the recommendations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and with the consent of the State Governments, which are responsible for the enforcement of the Packaged Commodities Rules, in the interest of common consumers. The reason for this amendment was the complaints received from different corners and consumer organisations of companies /manufacturers reducing the weight of the commodity while keeping the price same. The objective is to help consumers in comparing the prices against weight of the commodity of the different manufacturers/importers. The said amendment is for pre-packed commodity and it will not affect the market where commodity is sold in loose form.

(c) & (d): The government has no proposal at present to cover more items under this order.