



Department of Consumer Affairs Reviews Implementation of Legal Metrology Reforms in Northern States and UTs

Focus on trust-based regulation, simplified compliance and consumer protection

Progress on implementation of GATC Rules and implementation of registration based framework from the earlier license based system reviewed.

States/ UTs in advance stage of the implementation of GATC Rules and registration-based framework.

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The implementation of Legal Metrology Reforms in the Northern States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Ladakh was reviewed as a part of a series of regional reviews being undertaken across the country. The review meeting is held **to facilitate implementation of the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026 and recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC) on regulatory reforms**. The meeting was chaired by Ms Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Govt of India.

The meeting follows similar consultations held with Southern States earlier this week and forms part of the Department's ongoing engagement with States and Union Territories **to ensure smooth, uniform and effective implementation** of the recent reforms introduced under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

During the meeting, senior officers of the Department interacted with Controllers and Legal Metrology officers of participating States and UTs **to review progress on key reforms** aimed at reducing compliance burden, improving Ease of Doing Business and creating a more trust based regulatory framework while safeguarding consumer interests.

A major focus of the discussions was the replacement of the existing licensing regime with **a registration-based system** for manufacturers, dealers and repairers of weights and measures. States were advised that the intent of the reform is not merely to replace the word "licence" with "registration", but **to fundamentally simplify the regulatory process**. Registrations are to be granted automatically on submission of prescribed documents, thereby reducing delays and making it easier for businesses to operate within the legal framework.

The Department also reviewed the implementation of the newly introduced "**Improvement Notice**" **mechanism** under the Jan Vishwas reforms. The provision seeks to encourage voluntary compliance by providing an opportunity **to rectify first-time procedural violations** before penal action is initiated. The reform is expected to reduce unnecessary litigation and foster a more compliance oriented regulatory environment.

Verification and stamping of weights and measures was another key area of discussion. States were informed about the **expansion of the Government Approved Test Centre (GATC) framework and the growing role of self-verification and third-party verification mechanisms**. The Department urged States and UTs to notify their GATC Rules at the earliest and bring more categories of weighing and measuring instruments under the GATC framework to improve availability of verification services and reduce turnaround time for businesses.

The meeting also reviewed progress relating to digitisation initiatives, including **the e-Maap portal, capacity building** of Legal Metrology officers and measures for strengthening verification infrastructure across the country. States shared updates on amendments to their Enforcement Rules and steps being taken to align their regulatory frameworks with the recent reforms.

The Department reiterated that while **procedural compliances are being simplified and regulatory processes are being made more industry friendly**, there will be **no compromise on consumer protection**. Strict action against fraud, tampering and deliberate violations affecting consumers will continue under the Legal Metrology framework.

The ongoing regional consultations reflect the Government's commitment to working closely with States and UTs to build a modern, transparent and efficient Legal Metrology ecosystem that **promotes Ease of Doing Business, encourages voluntary compliance and strengthens consumer confidence** across the country.

RT/SB

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