



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

**Date:** 4/30/2008

**GAIN Report Number:** IN8043

## India

### FAIRS Product Specific

### GOI Standards of Weights & Measures 1st Amendment Rules, 2006 Implementation

### 2008

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**Report Highlights:**

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution issued a final gazette notification 'Standards of Weights and Measures (prepackaged commodities) 1st Amendment rules, 2006' on July 17, 2006. Most of the provisions of notifications were implemented on January 14, 2007, except for amendments to Rule 2 (i), Rule 11 and Rule 23 A, which will be implemented on May 1, 2008. The May 1, 2008 provisions complete adoption of the 2006 rule, relating to Maximum Permissible error (MPR) limits, general allowances for declaring the net quantity and weighing facility norms for retail sales.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Trade Report  
New Delhi [IN1]  
[IN]

**Introduction:**

The Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution had issued a WTO notification on June 14, 2006 on the Standards of Weights and Measures (prepackaged commodities) 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rules, 2006. The rules were also published in the Gazette of India on July 17, 2006. The amendment was issued with the purpose of protecting the consumer from deceptive practices by providing information on the pre-packaged commodity, including labeling requirements etc. Most of the provisions under this regulation came into effect on January 14, 2007, except amendment to the Rule 2 (i), Rule 11, and Rule 23 (A) which are due for implementation on May 1, 2008.

**Disclaimer:**

This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural exports to India.

<b>Type of Regulation:</b>	Final
<b>GOI Official Gazette Notification Publication Date:</b>	July 17, 2006
<b>Effective Date:</b>	Amendments to Rule 2(i), Rule 11, and Rule 23 (A) effective May 1, 2008. All other amendments effective January 14, 2007
<b>WTO Date of release:</b>	June 14, 2006
<b>WTO notification number:</b>	G/TBT/N/IND/18
<b>Products Affected:</b>	All packaged commodities except drugs
<b>Agency In charge:</b>	Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India

**Background:**

The Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 establishes standards for weights and measures to regulate interstate trade and commerce in packaged goods that are sold or distributed by weight, measure, or number. The Rules formed under the Act require labeling regarding the nature of the commodity, the name and address of the manufacturer, quantity, date of manufacture, best-before date, and the Maximum Retail Price (MRP). These labeling requirements apply equally to imported and domestic packaged foods. The entire text of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976, and the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rule, 1977, and related notifications, can be accessed from:

[http://www.fcamin.nic.in/Events/EventListing.asp?Section=Weight%20and%20Measures&id\\_pk=20&ParentID=0](http://www.fcamin.nic.in/Events/EventListing.asp?Section=Weight%20and%20Measures&id_pk=20&ParentID=0) . On July 17, 2006, the Department of Consumer Affairs released an official gazette notification 'Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2006'. Most of the amendment rules were implemented on January 14, 2007. However, amendments to Rule 2 (i), Rule 11 and Rule 23 (A) will come into effect on May 1, 2008.

**Proposed Changes:**

The amendments to the Rules 2 (i), 11 and 23 (A) of the Gazette of India notification regarding Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2006 pertains to maximum permissible limits of error for measurement of quantity, general provisions relating to declaration of quantity and weighing facility norms at the point of retail sales. The text details of the notification can be assessed at:

[http://www.fcamin.nic.in/Events/EventDetails.asp?EventId=1532&Section=Weight%20and%20Measures&ParentID=0&child\\_continue=1&child\\_check=0](http://www.fcamin.nic.in/Events/EventDetails.asp?EventId=1532&Section=Weight%20and%20Measures&ParentID=0&child_continue=1&child_check=0)

Additionally, an updated version of the the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rule, 1977 including the gazette notification amendment (dated July 17, 2006) can be seen at:

<http://www.fcamin.nic.in/Events/EventDetails.asp?EventId=1721&Section=Weight%20and%20Measures&ParentID=0&Parent=1&check=0>

The websites are mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above sites.