

## Directorate of Legal Metrology

The West Bengal Legal Metrology Organization was set up on 1959 under the administrative control of the Commerce & Industries Department, Government of West Bengal and was brought under the Consumer Affairs Department in June, 2002. It was upgraded to a full fledged directorate as “Directorate of Legal Metrology” with effect from 21.01.2003.

The Directorate works in close collaboration with the Government of India in maintaining standards.

The Directorate of Legal Metrology implements following Acts/Rules, namely:

**Act:** The Legal Metrology Act, 2009

**Rules:**

- 1) The Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011
- 2) The Legal Metrology (Numeration) Rules, 2011
- 3) The Legal Metrology (National Standards) Rules, 2011
- 4) The Indian Institute of Legal Metrology Rules, 2011
- 5) The Legal Metrology (Approval of Models) Rules, 2011
- 6) The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011
- 7) The West Bengal Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rules, 2011.

This Directorate is committed to safeguard the interests of consumers, caused by fraudulent use of weights and measures and suppression of valuable information or misrepresentation on packages of products by unscrupulous manufactures, packers and traders, through implementation of different Acts and Rules.

The Directorate continued its efforts to:

- i) increase collection of non tax revenue ,
- ii) cover as many markets and traders as possible for verification of weights and measures used by them ,
- iii) check malpractices and fraud committed by way of short supply than the declared weights and charging beyond the MRP ,
- iv) Educate manufacturing and trading communities on various provisions of Acts and Rules.

The Directorate has its field offices in all the Sub-divisions along with two offices in Kolkata. It has 2 (two) Secondary Standard Laboratories at Kolkata and Siliguri for verification and repair of 'working standards' maintained by its field offices. The laboratory also approves models of various types of weights, measures and balances to be manufactured in the State.

The officers of the Directorate regularly check weights, weighing instruments, length measures, capacity measures, Petrol / Diesel Dispensers, vehicle tanks, bulk meters and weigh bridges owned and used by traders, retailers, business houses, etc.

Packaged commodities are examined regularly to ensure that they carry all the mandatory information, such as generic name of the product, name and address of the manufacturers / packers / importers, net quantity, month and year of manufacturing/packing/importing, maximum retail price (inclusive of all taxes) and the 'Consumer Care Cell' contact details.