

Overview

The product labelling and packaging regime makes incumbent the metric system as the standard of weights and measures in India and defines the testing, calibration and accreditation of metric- administering bodies; it also governs the packaging and sale of goods utilising such measures.

The Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 provide for standardisation of packaging and labelling in India, and define the labelling requirements of all commodities manufactured, imported and sold in the country. Albeit to a lesser extent, common law too has shaped packaging and labelling requisites, notably for food and beverage packaging.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has assumed a very proactive role with a stronger law being in place. Responsively, the firm has developed a specialty practice in legal metrology which extensively advises domestic and foreign enterprises on packaging requirements in the consumer goods, electronics and automotive industries, among others. (Read more about firm's advertising laws practice here)

The team conducts audits of clients' labels to ensure compliance with prevailing laws and undertakes project-based research on compliance criteria for different industries under the legal metrology law apart from advising on risk and mitigation. Significantly, FSSAI has signed a MoU with the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) to keep tabs on misleading advertisements in the food and beverages sector. Therefore, producers and importers need to be aware of two pairs of regulator



eyes on their product packaging and labelling.

The firm also assists in regulatory compliances such as registration as importer/manufacturer, registration of labels, and nomination of directors. We represent clients before legal metrology authorities for guidance on compliance and in cases of notice for non-compliance with packaging and labelling requirements.



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