

Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2025

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Why in news?

The Government strengthens verification infrastructure through amendments to the Legal Metrology (GATC) Rules, 2025.

- **Amended** Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013.
- **Aim** To strengthen consumer protection, promote ease of doing business and align India's system of verification with international best practices.
- Under the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Key Amendments

- Broaden the scope of GATCs It covers <u>18 categories of weighing & measuring instruments</u> including water meters, energy meters, gas meters, moisture meters, flow meters, etc.
- Inclusion of new categories Such as flow meters, breath analysers, multi-dimensional measuring instruments, and speed guns.
- **Public-private partnership** The participation of private laboratories & industries as GATCs will increase verification capacity, improve accessibility and reduce waiting time for industries.
- Decentralized Verification Regular and decentralized verification will minimize the risk of inaccurate measurements and ensure consumers get full value for their money.
- **Streamlined jurisdiction** It introduces clarity regarding jurisdiction permitting GATCs to verify instruments within districts and across the state & harmonize verification fees through a newly inserted 5th Schedule.
- Transparent & structured approach They provide clear criteria for inspection, staff qualifications and technical requirements, along with digital payment options for fee submission.

- Alings with international practice India reinforces its commitment to scientific and transparent metrology systems that are aligned with the recommendations of the <u>International Organization of Legal</u> <u>Metrology (OIML)</u>.
- Authority to certify India gains capability to issue *globally accepted*OIML certificates, reducing reliance on foreign bodies and boosting domestic competitiveness.
- **Boost to Atmanirbhar Bharat** It supports the Government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat by promoting indigenous testing facilities to expand the national verification network.

Reference

PIB | Legal Metrology (GATC) Rules, 2025

