

CENTRAL MARKS DEPARTMENT – II

Our Ref: CMD-II/16:14543

31 March 2005

As per the minutes of meeting of an expert group on Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water of DGHS held on 19 Oct 04 at Directorate General of Health Services, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi, the issue of various claims being made by the licensees on the labels of Packaged Drinking Water was discussed where representatives of BIS were also present. During the meeting ADG(PFA) informed that based on a legal opinion sought by their office certain types of claims were not permitted. After receipt of minutes, CMD vide their letter dated 13 December 2004 conveyed the same to all ROs/BOs and a period of 90 days had been given to licensees to exhaust their packing material (P-C/1-3).

CMD vide another letter dated 7 Feb 2005 had also advised ROs/BOs that no punitive action be initiated against the firms in case a licensee makes any representation regarding the claim so that the matter can be examined in consultation with Ministry of Health. This was conveyed specifically as some of the BOs had started giving notices for stop marking on this ground only.

As regards approval of the labels, various branches were taking different stand in the light of decision of PFA and the manufacturers having units at multiple locations were facing problems on account of non-uniformity between different BOs on this issue. Therefore, M/s Bisleri and M/s Pepsico had requested CMD to approve their labels at HQs to avoid such problems.

It is submitted here that, basically the role of BIS with regard to approval of label, pertains to ensuring the following only;

- i) Dimensions and design of standard mark as approved by BIS, for its application on the product.
- ii) Information, as required to be given on a label, as per the marking clause of standard/ Scheme of Testing and Inspection.

Keeping in view that there are around 1100 licensees for Packaged Drinking water and the type of claims as notified by PFA are creating controversy and our BOs are also trying to regulate such claims, it is suggested that henceforth BOs may only take an Undertaking from the licensees as given in Annexure I and restrict their responsibility towards correctness of the standard mark on the label only.

(A.K. Goyal)
DCM-II

DDGM
ADG(YPS)
All ROs/BOs

UNDERTAKING (on Rs. 10 stamp paper)

I/we(Name of the licensee) hereby undertake as follows:

- a) We are the licensee of BIS for Certification of Packaged drinking water as per IS 14543:2004 under the licence No.**
- b) I/ we undertake that we would abide by the requirements of marking as specified in IS 14543:2004 and in Scheme of Testing and Inspection.**
- c) I/We undertake that the claim used by us on the label is provided to BIS for information only and the responsibility of these claims are entirely rest with me/us.**

Date:

Name of the licensee