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Consumer Affairs Department Opens Applications for Government Approved Test Centres

17 August 2026 ·

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Consumer Affairs Department Opens Applications for Government Approved Test Centres

17 August 2026 · 1 min read ·

✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

*The Department of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution began accepting online applications, from **August 17 to 31, 2026**, for recognition as **Government Approved Test Centres (GATCs)** under the **Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013**.*

What Happened

Applications are being accepted via the portal emaap.gov.in/gatc from industries, laboratories, engineering colleges, polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Following recent amendments to the governing rules, recognised GATCs can now verify **23 categories of weighing and measuring instruments** spanning healthcare, energy, transport, retail, manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.

Why This Matters

Legal metrology verification, ensuring weighing and measuring instruments used in commerce are accurate, has traditionally depended on limited government-run testing infrastructure. Expanding recognition to private and academic institutions decentralises this verification capacity, potentially easing bottlenecks in instrument certification across sectors that rely on accurate measurement for both commerce and safety.

UPSC Relevance

This is a useful example of decentralising regulatory verification capacity by bringing private-sector and academic institutions into a public-interest compliance function, relevant to GS2 governance-reform themes and GS3 discussions of industrial regulation and [ease of doing business](#).

 FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGE PEDIA**GATC APPLICATIONS, 2026:**

Governing rules: Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013

Application window: August 17-31, 2026

Portal: emaap.gov.in/gatc

Eligible applicants: industries, labs, engineering colleges, polytechnics, ITIs

Scope: 23 categories of weighing and measuring instruments

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS:

Parent legislation: Legal Metrology Act, 2009

Sources: PIB, Department of Consumer Affairs

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