

F. No. 27-19/2019-PO
Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Posts
(PO Division)

Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi-110001

Dated: 27th March, 2026

To
All Chief Post Masters General

Subject: Post Office Regulations, 2024- Compliance of the Revised Regulatory Framework for Registered Newspapers and Periodicals.

Kind attention is invited to the revised regulatory framework governing Registered Newspapers and Periodicals, applicable to all Post Offices. With the implementation of the Post Office Regulations, 2024, effective from 16.12.2024, the definition of "Newspaper" and the eligibility criteria for registration have been revised. As per the updated definition, adopted from the Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023, only weekly publications dispatched in loosely folded bundles shall be categorized as Newspapers and shall be eligible for concessional newspaper tariffs.

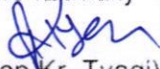
2. The Department has also issued comprehensive administrative instructions from time to time. These, read in conjunction with the revised regulations, prescribe updated procedures, eligibility conditions, and due diligence requirements that must be strictly adhered to before granting any publication the status of a Registered Newspaper or Periodical.

3. During the recent visits of Circles by the Directorate team, it has been observed that there is a need for continuous sensitization of staff involved in the issuance of licenses, acceptance of newspaper postings, in RMS offices during transit, and Inspectorial staff conducting visits/ Inspections of Post Offices. At each stage, strict compliance with the prescribed conditions must be ensured, including verification of the validity of registration, periodicity of publication and fulfillment of all other statutory requirements. The lapses observed in these areas constitute a violation of the extant provisions.

4. In view of the above, it is requested that necessary instructions/guidelines be issued within your jurisdiction to ensure proper due diligence in this regard and to secure immediate and strict compliance.

5. The details of mandatory changes in PO Regulations, 2024 is being enclosed to disseminate among the staffs.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.
Encl : As above.

Yours faithfully

(Pradeep Kr. Tyagi)
Director (Postal Operations)

Major Changes in the PO Regulations, 2024

S. No.	Name of Old Product	Name of New Product	Features of New Product	Rationale/Alternate
1	PC, Reply PC, Printed PC, Competition PC, Meghdoot PC	Postcard	• One Rate @ 0.5 Rupees	Multiplicity of products removed.
2	Letters	Letters	Weight limit reduced from 2 kg to 500 gms	To differentiate between letter and parcel
3	Book Packet containing printed Books, Pattern & Sample Packet, Book Packet	Book Post	1. All old types (Books, Patterns, Sample) merged into ONE 2. No minimum items to be posted 3. Printed books with advertisement can also be posted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These products were packet with minor specified needs. This may lead to confusion. To avoid this, rationalisation is done • Ease of understanding and handling at operational level. • One Product One Need. • Facilitation of customer – avoiding instances of imposing penalties on violation of conditions for the product
4	Registered Parcel	India Post Parcel - retail	1. All registered parcel features kept 2. Items above 500 grams covered 3. Volumetric concept introduced (higher of the gross or volumetric applies) 4. Merchandise declaration required, 5. Address specific delivery, COD, Insurance & Proof of Delivery available	Rationalize different products to avoid confusion
5	Business Parcel	India Post Parcel - Contractual	1. Bulk customer covered 2. Bulk/contractual customer must execute agreement. 3. Same value added services as Retail Parcel	Rationalize different products to avoid confusion
6	Indian Postal Order	Indian Postal Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denominations less than Rs 10 are discontinued • Available in Rs 10, 20, 50 & 100 	Smaller denominations are not in usage.
7	Registered Newspaper	Registered Newspaper	1. Newspaper means a Periodical of loose folded sheet which is brought daily or once a week to publish upto 7 days interval 2. Cannot be posted in letter boxes	Definition change in Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023
8	Book packet containing periodicals	Periodical Post	1. Periodical means any publication which is published and printed at regular interval 2. >7 days gap of publishing a newspaper be treated as periodical and charged at periodical rates 3) Cannot be posted in letter boxes	Change in definition of newspaper through Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023
9	Value Payable	Cash on Delivery (Retail)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All features of VPP • Max booking amount changed from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000 	Products with similar features subsumed
10.	Electronic Money Order	Money Order	1. Single MO =< 10,000 (Max limit Rs 10,000) 2. Monthly limit of Rs 25000 per payee (Retail) 3. Commission rate unchanged 4. No commission for PM Relief Fund/PM CARES/CM Relief fund	Same as point 4