

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** April 29, 2021

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**Report Name:** INDIA - FSSAI Issues SOPs for Licensing and Registration of Fortified Food Products in its Food Safety and Compliance System

**Country:** India

**Post:** New Delhi

**Report Category:** Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, FAIRS Subject Report, Exporter Guide, Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the Economy, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the News, Dairy and Products, Food Processing Ingredients, FAIRS Subject Report, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports, Retail Foods, Oilseeds and Products

**Prepared By:** Radha Mani, Agricultural Assistant, and Mariano J. Beillard, Senior Agricultural Attaché

**Approved By:** Mariano Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

**Report Highlights:**

On April 13, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified provisions for licensing and registration of fortified food products in its Food Safety and Compliance System (FOSCOS). Earlier on December 18, 2020, the FSSAI notified the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) First Amendment Regulations (2020), relating to standards for fortified processed foods. The implementation of this regulation commences July 1, 2021. This GAIN FAIRS report includes a copy of the FSSAI notification, as well as provides a link to instructions for obtaining +F endorsement certification.

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) website <http://www.fssai.gov.in>. The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links if they do not open in Internet Explorer].

## **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

On April 13, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified provisions for licensing and registration of fortified food products in its Food Safety and Compliance System (FoSCoS) (see, Appendix I). The provisions cover processed food products categories, including milk, edible oil, fortified fruit juices, rice, wheat flour and *maida*<sup>1</sup> (refined flour), fortified cereal products, fortified bakery ware, and salt.

As per FSSAI-issued standard operating procedures, food business operators (FBOs) are required to upload test reports showing levels of fortificants in the fortified food product. Results must be obtained from the FSSAI notified National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories against each product for +F endorsement and validate the claim for fortification. Based on the application verified, the designated officer or the registering authority will provide a +F endorsement certificate to the food business operator. The +F endorsement certificate is valid for as long as the license and the registration certificate are valid, or for the duration the product is licensed and the food product category in the registration certificate is endorsed.

Instructions for obtaining a +F endorsement certificate is available on the FSSAI website located at <https://foscos.fssai.gov.in/user-manual>. The FBO search panel on the FoSCoS homepage provides a list of food business operators having valid +F endorsement certificates. State authorities can perform random checks on the FBOs who manufacture fortified food products, taking necessary action if found to be incongruent.

The full text of the FSSAI notification is accessible on the FSSAI website located at: [https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2021/04/6075664fc329dLetter\\_Fortified\\_Food\\_FoSCoS\\_13\\_04\\_2021.pdf](https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2021/04/6075664fc329dLetter_Fortified_Food_FoSCoS_13_04_2021.pdf)

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<sup>1</sup> White flour made from wheat; finely milled without bran, refined, and bleached. Used commonly in India for fast foods, baked goods (pastries and breads), as well as sweets and flatbreads.

**APPENDIX I – FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA, NOTIFICATION ON SOPs FOR APPLYING FOR +F ENDORSEMENT CERTIFICATE FOR FORTIFIED FOOD PRODUCTS IN FOOD SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE SYSTEM (FoSCoS)**

45/+F logo/FFRC/Fortification/FSSAI-2019  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
 (A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
**(Regulatory Compliance Division)**  
 FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002  
**Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) – <https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in>**

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Dated, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Subject: SOP for applying +F Endorsement Certificate for Fortified food products in FoSCoS**

FSSAI has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) First Amendment Regulations, 2020 on 18th December 2020 which will be implemented wef 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. The said regulations provide standards for fortified processed foods in addition to earlier notified five staples Milk, Edible Oil, Rice, Wheat Flour and Salt for fortification.

2. In view of the above, the provision for applying endorsement of Fortified food products in FSSAI License/Registration in Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) has been modified to provide coverage to processed foods in the following listed Food Product Categories (FPC):

S.No.	Food products which are covered under the FSS (Fortification of Foods) First Amendment Regulations, 2020 for which endorsement can be obtained	Food product category in FoSCoS
1.	Milk	01-Dairy products and analogues, excluding products of food category 2.0
2.	Edible Oil	02 - Fats and oils, and fat emulsions
3.	Fortified Fruit Juices	04 - Fruits and vegetables (including mushrooms and fungi, roots and tubers, fresh pulses and legumes, and aloe vera), seaweeds, and nuts and seeds
4.	Rice, Wheat Flour and Maida, Fortified Cereal Products	06-Food Product Category-06 Cereals and cereal products, derived from cereal grains, from roots and tubers, pulses, legumes and pith or soft core of palm tree, excluding bakery wares of food category 7.0
5.	Fortified bakery wares	07 - Bakery products
6.	Salt	12 salts, spices, soups, salads and protein products

3. FBOs will be required to upload test reports showing levels of fortificants in the fortified food product from a FSSAI notified/NABL accredited Lab against each product for +F endorsement to substantiate the claim made for fortification. The grant of +F endorsement certificate by the concerned Designated Officer (DO) or Registering authority (RA) shall be based on the verification of the application submitted by the FBO.

4. Further, in order to provide ease of doing business, it has been decided to discontinue with the renewal process of +F endorsement certificate by the FBOs. The validity of +F endorsement certificate shall now be as follows:

**In case of License**

*" +F endorsement certificate is valid till license (**License no**) is valid or the product in license is endorsed."*

**In case of Registration**

*" +F endorsement certificate is valid till Registration Certificate (**RC no**) is valid or the food product category in the registration certificate is endorsed."*

5. The user manual on process flow of applying for the +F endorsement certificate is available on FoSCoS website (<https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in/user-manual>). The list of FBOs having valid +F endorsement certificate can be searched under FBO search panel on the FoSCoS homepage.

6. Concerned State Authorities shall perform random checks on the FBOs who have opted for manufacturing of fortified food products and may take necessary action in case of any anomaly found.

  
Ms. Inoshi Sharma  
Director (RCD)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.