

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: June 29, 2022

Report Number: IN2022-0058

Report Name: India's FSSAI Expands its List of Rectifiable Labeling Deficiencies for Imported Food Products

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On June 17, 2022, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued Notification F. No. 1828/Misc. Matters/FSSAI/Imports-2021 notifying the expanded list of rectifiable labeling deficiencies for imported food products. Regulation 6, clause 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations (2017), provides special dispensation for rectification within custom bound warehouses. Imported food products evidencing labeling deficiencies can be rectified by affixing a single non-detachable sticker or by any other detachable method next to the principal display panel. FSSAI Notification F. No. 1828 notifies two changes to the rectifiable list: (i) Per serving percentage contributions to the recommended dietary allowance and (ii) Date of expiry along with best before date.

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 Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, 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 that do not open in Internet Explorer. Indian host sites will geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

GENERAL INFORMATION

On June 17, 2022, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued Notification F. No. 1828/Misc. Matters/FSSAI/Imports-2021 notifying the expanded list of rectifiable labeling deficiencies for imported food products (see, Appendix I).

Background:

Regulation 6, clause 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations (2017), provides special dispensation for rectification within custom bound warehouses. Imported food products found to have labeling deficiencies can be rectified by affixing a single non-detachable sticker or by any other detachable method next to the principal display panel.

FSSAI Notification F. No. 1828 incorporates two changes to the rectifiable list: (i) Per serving percentage contributions to the recommended dietary allowance and (ii) Date of expiry along with best before date. The FSSAI is expanding its rectifiable list of labeling deficiencies with the aim of facilitating trade, while at the same time seeking to ensure the safety of food products being imported.

The per serving percentage contribution to the Recommended Dietary Allowance is calculated based on 2,000 kcal energy, 67 grams total fat, 22 grams saturated fat, 2 grams trans-fat, 50 grams added sugar and 2,000 milligrams of sodium (5 grams salt) requirement for an average adult per day. The date of expiry, along with best before date, can be rectified subject to the condition that this information is provided by the manufacturer itself and is verified by the Authorized Officer.

The full text of the FSSAI Notification F. No. 1828/Misc.Matters/FSSAI/Imports-2021, is accessible on the FSSAI website located at:

https://fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2022/06/62ac4e3bd165aLetter_Label_Food_Import_17_06_2022.pdf.

APPENDIX I – RECTIFIABLE LABELING INFORMATION FOR IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS

F. No. 1828/Misc.Matters/FSSAI/Imports-2021

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

(A Statuary Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)

(Trade & International Cooperation Division)

FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated: The ¹⁴7 June, 2022


Subject:-Rectifiable labelling information for imported food consignments -reg.

With a view to facilitate ease of trade while ensuring the safety of food imported into India, it has been decided that in addition to the labelling deficiencies for which a special dispensation for rectification has been provided under Reg 6(4) of FSS(import) Regulations, 2017 and under order dated 22.05.2018 and 14.01.2019, the labelling information as per the requirement of FSS (labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020, as mentioned below, may also be allowed to be rectified at the port:

- **Per serve percentage (%) contribution to Recommended Dietary Allowance** calculated on the basis of 2000 kcal energy, 67 g total fat, 22 g saturated fat, 2 g trans fat, 50 g added sugar and 2000 mg of sodium (5g salt) requirement for average adult per day;
- **Date of Expiry along with Best Before date**, subject to the condition that this information is provided by the manufacturer itself and the same shall be verified by the Authorised Officer.

2. This rectification shall be carried out at customs bound warehouses, before visual inspection or re-inspection by the Authorised Officer or his representative, by affixing a single non detachable sticker or by any other non-detachable method next to the principal display Panel without altering the original label information in any manner.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Dr. Amit Sharma)
Director (Trade and IC)

Attachments:

No Attachments.