

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 2/19/2019

GAIN Report Number: IN9010

India

Post: New Delhi

Compliance Timeline Extended on Standards for Fortified Foods

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

Approved By:

Tiffany Landry

Prepared By:

Radha Mani

Report Highlights:

On December 27, 2018, the Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued guidelines to extend the compliance date on standards for fortified foods. In its earlier August 2, 2018 notification, FSSAI provided a transition period of five months to food business operators to comply with the regulations, ending January 1, 2019. However, the current notification extends the compliance date until July 1, 2019.

General Information:

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 Office of Agricultural Affairs, USDA and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On December 27, 2018, FSSAI extended the timeline to comply with their fortified food product standards prescribed in an earlier notification dated August 2, 2018. The new compliance due date is July 1, 2019 and the timeline has been extended in order to accommodate requests from industry stakeholders. Industry required more time to re-formulate their premixes in-line with the new standards, as well as, to adhere to the labeling requirements.

The full text of the current FSSAI notification dated December 27, 2018 is pasted below and can also be accessed on FSSAI's website www.fssai.gov.in/

File No. 11/03/Reg/Fortification/2014 (pt. III)
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A statutory Authority under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

The 27th December, 2018

Subject: Direction under section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding extension of time period for the compliance of Notification File No. 11/03/Reg/Fortification/2014 dated 2nd August, 2018 relating to Standards for fortification of foods.

Reference is drawn to the notification File No. 11/03/Reg/Fortification/2014 dated 2nd August, 2018 published in the Official Gazette of India prescribing standards for fortification of foods. As per this notification, a transition period of 5 months i.e. up to 1st January, 2019 was given to the food business operators to comply with these regulations.

2. A number of representations have been received, stating that as there is a huge difference between the required levels of fortificants specified in the final notification vis-a-vis those currently operationalised. It is a cause of concern for the industry as compliance with the new standards, particularly the levels of fortificants would require re-formulation of the premix and will also affect the labelling requirements.

3. After due consideration, it has been decided to extend the time line for the compliance of the above mentioned notification (No. 11/03/Reg/Fortification/2014 dated 2nd August, 2018) w.r.t. Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 for a further period of six months i.e. up to 1st July, 2019.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested under Sections 16(5) of Food safety and Standards Act, 2006.



(Sunil Bakshi)
Advisor (Regulations)

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioners,
2. All Authorized Officers, FSSAI,
3. All Designated Officers, FSSAI.

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI
3. All Directors, FSSAI