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**Date:** 8/13/2018

**GAIN Report Number:** IN8095

## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### **FSSAI Recognizes Technological Need of Lecithin in Infant Formula**

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

Dairy and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

The Government of India's Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a directive that permits the use of lecithin as an emulsifier in infant food formulas, up to 0.5 grams for every 100 grams of formula, until the final regulation on infant nutrition comes into effect.

## General Information:

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's 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 July 7, 2018, FSSAI issued a directive that includes lecithin as an approved emulsifier in infant formula, up to a level of 0.5 grams for every 100 grams of formula, until the final regulation on infant nutrition comes into effect. FSSAI's directive recognizes the technological need to include lecithin in infant formulas, as represented by various stakeholders.

### Background:

On December 27, 2017, FSSAI published the [draft Food Safety and Standards \(Foods for Infant Nutrition\) Regulations, 2017](#), and on January 10, 2018, invited comments from World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries ([WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/201](#)). NOTE: The comment period closed on March 11, 2018, 60-days after the day it was notified on the WTO website. In the draft regulations, lecithin was included as a permitted additive for use in infant formulas (See GAIN [IN8004](#)).

The full text of FSSAI's directive is pasted below and is available on their website at: <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>.

File No. 1/Infant Nutrition/Stds/Notification/FSSAI/2016  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)  
(Regulation division)  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002**

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Dated, the 07<sup>th</sup> July, 2018

**Subject: Direction under Section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding use of Lecithin in Follow up Formula.**

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 92 of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006(34 of 2006), FSSAI has framed the draft Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2017 and the same is uploaded on website on dated 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 under notice for comments for inviting suggestion or objection of stakeholders:

2. In these draft regulations, lecithin has been included as permitted additive for use in follow-up formulas. The draft regulations are in the process of being notified and the process of notification, consideration of comments, if any, that may be received thereon and the finalization of these regulations is likely to take some time. Meanwhile, recognizing the technological need of lecithin in follow up formula and representations from stakeholders in this regard, it has been decided that lecithin shall be considered as an approved emulsifier in follow-up formula up to a level of 0.5gm/100gm pending the final notification in this respect.

3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority in exercise of the power vested under section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

  
(Sunil Bakshi)  
Advisor (Regulations)

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioner
2. All Authorised Officer, FSSAI
3. All Central Designated Officer of FSSAI

Copy for information to:

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