

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary Public

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India

Post: New Delhi

FSSAI Publishes Product Approval Revalidation Procedures

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and
Standards - Narrative

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Report Highlights:

On January 1, 2018, the Government of India's Food Safety and Standards Authority of India published a notification to explain revalidation of product approval procedures.

General Information:

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On January 1, 2018, FSSAI published a notification explaining revalidation procedures by food business operators (FBOs) in case their products are not covered under any of the food product and standards regulation published past two years. In such cases, FBOs are required to submit necessary documentation quoting their previous application number as per the requirements specified under the Food Safety and Standards (Approval for Non-Specified Food and Food Ingredients) Regulations, 2017. There will be no additional fees for re-validation. However, FSSAI requires that FBOs should submit their documentation for revalidation within a timeline of 30 days from January 1, 2018; that is, from the date of issuance of the current notification.

The full text of the current notification is pasted below and is also available on FSSAI's website www.fssai.gov.in/

File No. 01/Communications/Standards (PA)/FSSAI/2017
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Standards Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110 002

Dated, the 1st January, 2018

Subject: Product Approvals /NOCs issued by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

FSSAI had, till August, 2015 issued Product Approvals/NOCs for manufacture, storage, distribution sale & import of products for which standards did not exist. To reduce the burden of product approval and facilitate the clearance of new food products, FSSAI has taken various measures during the last two years as detailed in the succeeding paras.


2. The definition and scope of proprietary food under the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 has been substantially enlarged by amending Regulation 2.12. The list of permissible food additives has also been increased under these regulations. In addition, several new product standards/regulations have also been developed.

3. Further, the Food Safety and Standards (Food or Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods for Special Dietary Uses, Foods for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Foods and Novel Food) Regulations, 2016 covering eight categories of food, namely, Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods for Special Dietary Uses, Foods for Special Medical Purposes, Specialty Foods containing plants or botanicals, Foods containing probiotics, Foods containing prebiotics and Novel Foods have been notified.

4. It is expected that most of the products for which the Product Approval/NOC have been granted would be covered under one of the above mentioned steps. Such FBOs are advised to confirm to this office that their products are in complete compliance with the requirements of the regulation(s) under which they now stand covered.

5. However, FBOs whose products are still not covered under any of these regulations, are advised to revalidate the Product Approval/NOC granted to them by submitting the necessary documents to the Authority as per the requirements given under the Food Safety and Standards (Approval for Non-Specified Food and Food Ingredients) Regulations, 2017 quoting your previous application number. Such FBOs need not submit any additional fee.

6. Action under para 4 & 5 is required to be taken by the FBO within 30 days of issuance of this notice failing which the Product Approval/ NOC issued to them shall stand withdrawn.


Kumar Anil
Advisor (Standards)

To

1. Commissioners of Food Safety of all States/UTs;
2. All Central Designated Officers/Authorised Officers;
3. All Food Business Operators holding Product Approval/NOC.

Copy to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
2. SPS to CEO, FSSAI