



Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution **Date:** July 22, 2025

Report Number: CE2025-0009

Report Name: Sri Lanka Extends Implementation of the Food Labeling and Advertising Regulations-2022 by Additional Six Months

Country: Sri Lanka

Post: Colombo

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

Prepared By: Thilani Kankanamge, Agricultural Specialist

Approved By: Karen Richards

Report Highlights:

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka's (Sri Lanka) Ministry of Health and Mass Media extended the implementation date of Food (Labeling and Advertising) Regulations (2022) from to July 1, 2025 to January 1, 2026, for the Regulations 2 to 13 (15) and Regulation 15 together with Schedules I to IX. The Sri Lankan government notified the new regulations in the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka – Extraordinary (official gazette) on June 30, 2025. This amendment allows additional time for industry to adjust to the new food labeling and advertising regulations.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka's (Sri Lanka) Ministry of Health and Mass Media extended the implementation date of the Food (Labeling and Advertising) Regulations (2022), from July 1, 2025, to January 1, 2026, for the Regulations 2 to 13 (15) and Regulation 15 together with Schedules I to IX. The Sri Lankan government notified the new regulations in the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka – Extraordinary (official gazette) on June 30, 2025. This amendment will allow additional time for industry to adjust to the new food labeling and advertising regulations.

Background:

Labeling and Advertising of Packaged Food – The Current 2005 Regulations: The Food (Labeling and Advertising) Regulations (2005) regulate general food labeling in Sri Lanka. The regulations require package or container labeling with the label printed in any two of the three languages utilized in Sri Lanka (i.e., English, Sinhala, or Tamil). The label must be indelibly printed, painted, or affixed on the main panel (i.e., for imports, affixing a supplementary label is permissible). The regulation does not apply to packaged food weighed, counted, or measured out in the consumer's presence.

Labeling and Advertising of Packaged Food – The New 2022 Regulations: The Food (Labeling and Advertising) Regulations (2022) regulations, common names must appear in bold type in all three languages (i.e., English, Sinhala, and Tamil) used in Sri Lanka. For imported food products, the country-of-origin and the importer's name and address must also appear (see, Appendix I). When food is imported in bulk and repackaged, the date of manufacture and repackaging must be labeled (see, GAIN-SRI LANKA | CE2023-0011 | Sri Lanka Enacts New Legislation for Food Labeling and Advertising and attachments).

APPENDIX I – Sri Lanka, Amended Food (Labeling and Advertising) Regulations (2022)



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PART I: SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

FOOD ACT, No. 26 OF 1980

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Health and Mass Media, in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980.

Dr. Nalinda Jayatissa, Minister of Health and Mass Media.

Colombo, 28th June, 2025.

The Food (Labelling and Advertising) Regulations, 2022 Published in *Gazette Extraordinary*, No. 2319/40 dated 14th February 2023, as amended by *Gazette Extraordinary*, No. 2364/24 dated 27th December 2023 and *Gazette Extraordinary*, No. 2416/51' dated 28th December 2024, are hereby further amended.

- $1. \quad \text{By repealing regulation 1(ii) of the aforementioned regulations, the following regulations shall be substituted:} \\$
 - (ii) Regulations 2 to 13(15) and Regulation 15 together with Schedules I to IX shall come into operation on 1st January 2026.

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Attachments:

Food Labelling and Advertising Regulations 2022 - Amendment.pdf