

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: India Amends Its Packaging Regulations on Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

The Government of India's Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a measure that aims to enhance food safety standards by allowing the use of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) for food packaging, storage and distribution. India's PET packaging materials regulation is expected to encourage domestic and global producers to adopt innovative, sustainable packaging solutions for foods and beverages.

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 Microsoft Edge. Indian host sites geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

General Information:

On March 28, 2025, FSSAI published the [Food Safety and Standards \(Packaging\) First Amendment Regulations, 2025](#), that allows the use of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) for food packaging, storage, and distribution. FSSAI's measure supports India's efforts to promote sustainable agricultural and food practices and reduce plastic waste by encouraging the reuse of materials while ensuring food safety. Compliance for this amendment begins once the relevant national standards or regulations on PET packaging are notified by FSSAI. Earlier this year, FSSAI set July 1 as its annual enforcement date for all new labeling requirements, which affords a minimum 180-day compliance window from the date of notification (See [GAIN-INDIA-IN2025-0006-Food Safety and Standards Authority of India Announces New Timeline for Compliance with Labeling Requirements](#)). Similarly for this measure, food business operators will get an anticipated timeline to adapt to the amendment.

Background:

FSSAI's new measure is addressing the evolving landscape of plastic waste management in India. The regulation aims to promote a healthier planet by redirecting plastic waste from landfills, decreasing the need for single-use plastics, and conserving natural resources and the energy needed to manufacture new plastics. Additionally, it may provide cost benefits for food businesses that utilize recycled materials. In India, PET packaging has already seen significant adoption in the food and beverage, personal care, and pharmaceutical sectors.

The full text of the amendment is pasted below as Appendix-I and is available on FSSAI's website at:

[https://fssai.gov.in/upload/notifications/2025/04/67eb83b000a58FSS%20Packaging Amendment%20Regulations,%202025%20related%20to%20recycled%20plastics.pdf](https://fssai.gov.in/upload/notifications/2025/04/67eb83b000a58FSS%20Packaging%20Amendment%20Regulations,%202025%20related%20to%20recycled%20plastics.pdf).

APPENDIX I: FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS (PACKAGING) FIRST AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, 2025

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 28 March, 2025

F.No. STD/SP-20/T(Recycledplastics-N) – Whereas, the draft of the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2022, were published as required under sub-section (1) of section 92 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006) *vide* notification of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India number, F.No. STD/SP-20/T(Recycledplastics-N), dated the 17th May, 2022 in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, inviting objections and suggestions from the persons likely to be affected thereby before the expiry of the period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette containing the said notifications were made available to the public;

And, whereas, the copies of the said Gazette were made available to the public on the **24th May, 2022**;

And, whereas, the objections and suggestions received from the public in respect of the said draft regulations have been considered by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 92 read with section 23 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006), the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018, namely: -

1. Short title and commencement - (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) First Amendment Regulations, 2025.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018, in regulation 4, in sub-regulation (4), for clause (e), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: -

‘(e) Products made of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) may be used for packaging, storing, carrying or dispensing of food products as and when standards and guidelines are notified by the Food Authority and such packaging materials shall comply with national standards or regulations as applicable to such materials.’

G. KAMALA VARDHANA RAO, Chief Executive Officer

[ADVT.-III/4/Exty./1124/2024-25]

Note. - The principal regulations were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4 *vide* notification number File No. 1-95/Stds/Packaging/SP(L&C/A)/FSSAI-2017, dated the 24th December, 2018 and subsequently amended *vide* notification numbers -

(1) F.No. Std/SP-08/A-1.2019/N-01, dated the 25th January, 2022; and

(2) F. No. Std/SP-20/T(Migration-N), dated the 30th August, 2022.

Attachments:

No Attachments.