

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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India

Post: New Delhi

Additional Guidance on Food Import Clearance System

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and
Standards - Narrative

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Report Highlights:

On April 13, 2017, the Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published additional guidance regarding its Food Import Clearance System (FICS).

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Government of India (GOI) <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

In an effort to make FICS timelier, more user-friendly, and avoid delays in clearing of imported food consignments, FSSAI published additional guidance related to fee penalties for sample testing and appointment date/time for visual inspection of the imported food products consignment. The full text of the FSSAI order is pasted below and can also be accessed on FSSAI's website www.fssai.gov.in.

File No. 1-1371/FSSAI/Imports/2015 Part 4
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Imports Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

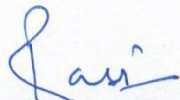
The ^{13th} April, 2017

ORDER

In order to make Food Import Clearance System more time friendly and to avoid delay in clearance of imported food consignments, following decisions are taken:

- 1) As regards payment of sample testing fee, on the day importer is asked to make payment, in addition to this, he will be given two more working days to make payment. If he fails to make the payment within the stipulated period, he will be charged Rs 1000/- per working day as penalty.
- 2) As regards visual inspection of the consignment, if importer is communicated second time to acknowledge the appointment date and time, he may respond to it within next working day and turn up for inspection at the stipulated date and time, failing which the consignment may be inspected in the absence of importer. Authorised Officer shall make it clear in advance to importer at the time of communicating about second appointment.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Rakesh Chandra Sharma)
Director(Imports)

To:

1. Director (Customs), Room No. 159A, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, North Block, New Delhi-110001:- with a request to circulate to all officials of Customs Department working as Authorised Officers.
2. All Authorised Officers, FSSAI:- with the direction to make it known to all concerned.
3. Sh. Amit Lohani, Director, Forum of Indian Importers, PHD House, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016
4. CITO, FSSAI for making required changes in FICS and uploading this order on the FSSAI Website.