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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### **Revised Standards for Sweetening Agents Invite WTO Comments**

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

Sugar

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**Report Highlights:**

India notified its revised draft standards for certain sweetening agents such as cane jaggery, sodium saccharin and calcium saccharin to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and invited comments from member countries. The comment period for trading partners expires 60 days beyond the notification date as listed on the WTO's website ([www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)).

## General Information:

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India's (FSSAI) website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On January 10, 2017, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a draft notification to include revised draft standards for sugarcane jaggery, sodium saccharin and calcium saccharin and invited comments from the WTO member countries. The comment period for trading partners expires 60 days from the date it is published on WTO's website ([www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)).

Comments, within 60 days from the date of publication on the WTO's website, trading partners can send their comments to:

The Chief Executive Officer  
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Food and Drug Administration Bhawan, Kotla Road  
New Delhi – 110002  
Email: [baranip@yahoo.com](mailto:baranip@yahoo.com)

## Details of Notification:

- Date of Publication on FSSAI website: January 10, 2017
- Final date for comments from WTO members: 60 days from the date notified on WTO website

Agency in Charge: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.

The full text of the FSSAI notification described in this report can be accessed on FSSAI's website: <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. However, the revision in standards are from Regulation 2.8 relating to sweetening agents including honey of the [Food Safety and Standards \(Food Product Standards and Food Additives\) Regulations, 2011](#) and they are listed below.

1. In sub-Regulation 2.8.4 (1), the words “pressed out of sugarcane or” shall be deleted.

2. After sub-Regulation 2.8.4 (1), the following sub-Regulation has been inserted.

**“2.8.4 (2) : Cane Jaggery or Cane Gur:**

1. **Cane Jaggery or Cane Gur:** Cane Jaggery or Cane Gur means the product obtained by boiling or processing juice pressed out of sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum*). It shall be free from substances deleterious to health and shall confirm to the following analytical standards on dry weight basis:-

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Permissible limit
1.	Moisture, percent by weight, Max	7.0
2.	Sucrose, percent by weight, Min	70.0
3.	Total Sugars expressed as invert sugar, Min	90.0
4.	Reducing sugars, percent by weight, Max	20.0
5.	Sulphate ash, percent by weight, Max	4.0
6.	Ash insoluble in dilute hydrochloric acid, percent by weight, Max	0.3
7.	Extraneous matter & water insoluble matter, percent by weight, Max	1.5

Sodium bicarbonate, if used for clarification purpose, shall be of Food grade quality.

**2. Food Additives**

Only those additives permitted under Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 shall be used.

**3. Hygiene**

The product shall be prepared and handled in accordance with the guideline provided in Schedule 4, Part-II of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Regulation of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011 and any other such guidance provided from time to time under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

**4. Contaminants, Toxins and Residues**

The product covered in this standard shall comply with the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

The products covered in this standard shall confirm to the microbiological requirements as given in Appendix B of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

**5. Packaging and Labelling**

The products shall comply with the packaging and labelling requirements as laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011”.

3. Sub-Regulation 2.8.8 has been replaced as follows.

**“2.8.8: Sodium Saccharin (Food Grade),-**

1. **Sodium Saccharin** is white crystals or white crystalline powder. It is odourless or having a faint odour. It is intensely sweet to taste, even in dilute solution. 1 g is soluble in 1.5 ml of water and in about 50 ml of alcohol. When tested in accordance with method specified in Indian standard, IS 5345, it shall conform to the following standards:

2.

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible limit
1	Purity as $C_7H_4NNaO_3S$ , after drying at $120^{\circ}C$ for 4 h, percent by mass, Min	99
2	Moisture, percent by mass, Max	15
3	Acidity and alkalinity	To pass the test
4	Benzoate and salicylate	Do
5	Readily carbonizable substances	Do
6	Toluene sulfonamides, ppm, Max	25

**2. Hygiene**

The product shall be prepared and handled in accordance with the guideline provided in Schedule 4, Part-II of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Regulation of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011 and any other such guidance provided from time to time under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

**3. Contaminants, Toxins and Residues**

The product covered in this standard shall comply with the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

The products covered in this standard shall conform to the microbiological requirements as given in Appendix B of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

**4. Packaging and Labelling**

The products shall comply with the packaging and labelling requirements as laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.”

4. The following sub-Regulation 2.8.12 has been added after sub-Regulation 2.8.11.

**“2.8.12: Calcium Saccharin (Food Grade),-**

1. **Calcium Saccharin** is white crystals or white crystalline powder. It shall be odourless or having a faint odour and an intensely sweet taste even in dilute solutions. One gram of is soluble in 1.5 ml of water. When tested in accordance with method specified in Indian standard, IS 5345, it shall conform to the following standards:

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
1	Purity as $C_{14}H_8CaN_2O_6S_2$ , on dry basis, percent by mass, Min	99
2	Moisture, percent by weight, Max	15
3	Benzoic and salicylic acid	To pass the test
4	Readily carbonizable substances	To pass the test
5	Toluenesulfonamides, ppm, Max	25

2. **Hygiene**

The product shall be prepared and handled in accordance with the guideline provided in Schedule 4, Part-II of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Regulation of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011 and any other such guidance provided from time to time under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

3. **Contaminants, Toxins and Residues**

The product covered in this standard shall comply with the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

The products covered in this standard shall confirm to the microbiological requirements as given in Appendix B of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

4. **Packaging and Labelling**

The products shall comply with the packaging and labelling requirements as laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011”.