

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** August 17, 2023

**Report Number:** CE2023-0010

**Report Name:** Sri Lanka Enacts Regulations to Ban and Limit Trans-fats in Food Products

**Country:** Sri Lanka

**Post:** Colombo

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report

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**Approved By:** Mariano Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

**Report Highlights:**

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka) recently introduced the Food (Trans-Fat) Regulations (2022), that bans and limits the use of high trans-fats foods effective January 1, 2024. The new regulations requires packaged food containing trans-fats to label the trans-fats content. It prohibits the sale of any food, which the content of trans-fats (other than trans-fats naturally occurring in fat of animal origin) exceeds two percent of the total fat contained in the food, as well as bans partially hydrogenated oils. These regulations do not apply to food products manufactured exclusively for the purpose of export.

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) website <http://www.slsi.lk/index.php?lang=en>. The U.S. Embassy in Colombo – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Sri Lankan officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Microsoft Edge].

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka's (Sri Lanka) Ministry of Health recently introduced the [Food \(Trans-Fat\) Regulations \(2022\)](#) (see, Appendix I). These new regulations ban and limit the use of high trans-fat foods effective January 1, 2024. The Sri Lankan government notified the new regulations (dated January 04, 2023) in the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka – Extraordinary (official gazette) published on February 14, 2023.

The new regulations do not apply to food products manufactured exclusively for the purpose of export. A six-month grace period has been given to existing manufacturers, sellers, and distributors whose products contain trans-fats. As per the [World Health Organization](#), Sri Lanka's intent in enacting the new trans-fats regulations is to protect the Sri Lankan people's health and prevent premature deaths from coronary heart disease.

### Food (Trans-Fat) Regulations (2022) Highlights:

- Prohibit the sale of any packaged food product containing trans-fats unless the total amount of trans-fats of the food product per 100 grams (g) or 100 milliliters (ml) of the food product is declared on the label.
- Prohibit the sale of any food for which the content of trans-fats (other than trans-fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin) exceeds two percent of the total fat contained in the food.
- Prohibit the manufacture, import, transport, distribution, storage, or the sale of any partially hydrogenated oils.
- Prohibit the use of partially hydrogenated oils in the preparation of food or as an ingredient in food products. However, any food or food ingredient with naturally occurring trans-fats having iodine values greater than four, shall not be considered to contain partially hydrogenated oils, unless it is hydrogenated and not completely or near completely saturated.

**APPENDIX I. SRI LANKA, FOOD (TRANS-FAT) REGULATIONS (2022)**



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**The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

**EXTRAORDINARY**

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No. 2319/41 - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

(Published by Authority)

**PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL**

**Government Notifications**

L. D. B. 11/80 (35).

**FOOD ACT, No. 26 OF 1980**

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

KEHELIYA RAMBUKWELLA,  
Minister of Health.

Colombo ,  
04th January, 2023.

**Regulations**

1. These regulations may be cited as the Food (Trans - Fat) Regulations, 2022 and shall come into operation on January 01, 2024.

2. A person shall not sell, offer for sale, expose or keep for sale or advertise for sale, any packaged food product containing trans-fat unless the total amount of trans-fat of such food product as per 100g or 100ml of the food product is declared on the label of such packaged food product.



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*This Gazette Extraordinary can be downloaded from [www.documents.gov.lk](http://www.documents.gov.lk)*

3. These regulations shall not apply in respect of food products manufactured exclusively for the purpose of export.

4. A person shall not engage in retail sale or wholesale of any food product intended to be used by a final consumer, which the content of trans-fat, other than trans-fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin, exceeds two percent of the total fat contained in the food.

5. Any person engaged in the business of supplying as ingredients, food products, to manufacturers of other food products, intended to be used by final consumers, shall provide information to such manufacturer on the amount of trans-fat other than naturally occurring trans-fat of animal origin, where such amount exceeds two percent of the total fat contained in the food.

6. A person shall not manufacture, import, transport, distribute, store, sell, offer for sale, expose or keep for sale, advertise for sale any partially hydrogenated oils.

7. A person shall not use partially hydrogenated oils in the preparation of food or as an ingredient in food products:

Provided however, any food or food ingredient with naturally occurring trans-fat having iodine value greater than 4, shall not be considered to contain partially hydrogenated oils unless it is hydrogenated and not completely or near completely saturated.

8. In these regulations -

"Final consumer" means a person who uses or consumes finished food products;

"naturally occurring trans-fat" means trans-fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin;

"partially hydrogenated oils (PHO)" means fats and oils that have been hydrogenated and not completely or near completely saturated and have an Iodine Value (IV) of greater than 4;

"trans-fat" means a form of unsaturated fat and includes-

- (a) trans-fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin;
- (b) trans-fat other than trans-fat referred to in paragraph (a).

EOG 02-0151

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.