

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: June 23, 2023

Report Number: IN2023-0042

Report Name: GOI Invites Comments on Draft Amendments to Alcoholic Beverages Regulations 2023

Country: India

Post: Mumbai

Report Category: Beverages, Exporter Guide, FAIRS Subject Report, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

On June 8, 2023, the Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) invited World Trade Organization (WTO) members to provide comments on draft amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations 2023.

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 Office of Agricultural Affairs, USDA and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On May 11, 2023, the Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published the draft notification with amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations 2023. The draft regulation is related to standards of mead (honey wine), craft beer, Indian liquors, and definition of Low Alcoholic Beverages/RTD, wine-based beverages and country liquors. The last date for the domestic industry to provide comments is July 18, 2023.

The draft notification was published on the WTO website on June 8, 2023. GOI has invited WTO members to provide comments on the draft amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations 2023. The last date for comments on this draft is August 7, 2023 (sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification).

Comments, within 60 days from the date of notification on the WTO website, should be sent to:

Ms Sakshee Pipliyal
Assistant Director (Technical)
SPS Enquiry Point for Food safety and human health related issue
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road
New Delhi - 110002, India
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Website: <http://www.fssai.gov.in>

Details of Notification:

- Date of Publication on FSSAI website: May 19, 2023 - [Draft notification on Food Safety and Standards \(Alcoholic Beverages\) Amendment Regulations, 2023 related to standards of Mead \(Honey wine\), Craft Beer, Indian liquors and definition of Low Alcoholic Beverages/ RTD, Wine based Beverages and, Country Liquors etc.](#)
- Date of Publication on WTO website: June 08, 2023 - [G/SPS/N/IND/294](#)
 - Final date for comments from WTO members: 60 days from the date notified on WTO website: August 7, 2023.
- **Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulation, 2018 (updated as of June 30, 2022)** - [Compendium Alcoholic Beverages Regulation](#)

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

Products affected: Alcoholic Beverages

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 11th May, 2023

F. No. STD/SP-21/T(Alcohol-6).—The following draft of certain regulations, further to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulations, 2018, which the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India proposes to make with previous approval of the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (v) of sub-section (2) of section 92 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006) is hereby published as required by the said sub-section (1) of section 92 of the said Act, for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that the said draft regulations shall be taken into consideration after the expiry of the period of sixty days from the date on which copies of the Official Gazette in which this notification is published are made available to the public;

Objections and suggestions, if any, may be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi- 110002, or may be sent through email at regulation@fssai.gov.in.

Objections and suggestions, which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft regulations, before the expiry of period so specified above, shall be considered by the Food Authority.

Draft regulations

1. These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations, 2023.
2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulations, 2018,—
 - (1) inPart-1,
 - (a) in regulation 1.2 relating to 'Definitions', after sub-regulation1.2.12, following shall be inserted, namely, -

“1.2.12a. “Ready-to-drink/ Low alcoholic beverages, shall be low alcoholic, flavored beverages having more than 0.5 to 8.0% of alcohol ABV, made from spirit or the mixture of spirit or any alcoholic beverage other than wine and beer as base by adding natural/nature identical/artificial flavors and/or food additives permitted under the FSS (FPS&FA) Regulations 2011; and/or fruit/vegetable juice with or without added sugar/salt and with or without carbonation. In case of carbonated ready-to-drink (RTD) /low alcoholic beverages, they shall be carbonated with carbon dioxide. However,the carbonated RTD /low alcoholic beverages shall have a minimum of one volume of carbon dioxide. It shall conform to the requirements of Table-4]”.

- (b) in regulation 1.3, in sub-regulation 1.3.9, the proviso starting with “Alcoholic beverage containing” and ending with “the requirements of Table-4”, shall be substituted with the following, namely, -
- “Alcoholic beverage containing more than 0.5 per cent abv but not more than 8.0 per cent abv may be called as Ready-to-drink/ low alcoholic beverage. It shall conform to the definition provided under regulation 1.2 and the requirements of Table-4.
- Product name/Ingredients/Raw materials for such products are placed at Annexure-1 of these regulations, which are not exhaustive.”
- (2) in Part2, regulation 2.2 related to Country Liquors shall be substituted with the following namely, -
- “2.2 Country liquors/Indian Liquors: Country liquors/Indian Liquors or spirits are alcoholic beverages obtained from distillation of fermentable carbohydrates of agricultural origin. Country liquors/Indian Made Liquors may also be of the following types:
- 2.2.1 Plain country liquors/Plain Indian liquors: Plain country liquors/Plain Indian liquors shall be made from alcoholic distillate obtained from fermented molasses, jiggery (Gur), mash of cereals, potato, cassava, fruits, juice or sap of coconut and palm trees, mahua flowers or any other carbohydrates of agricultural origin.
- 2.2.2 Blended country liquors / Blended Indian liquors: Blended country liquors /Blended Indian liquors is a blend of an alcoholic distillate, rectified spirit or neutral spirit.
- Country liquors/Indian liquors shall also conform to the general requirements pecified in Part 1 and requirements specified in Table – 1. Product name/Ingredients/Raw materials for such products are placed at Annexure-1 of these regulations, which arenot exhaustive.”
- (3) in Part-3, in regulation 3.1,
- (a) after the proviso starting with “A season’s yield of wine” and ending with “vintage wine”, the following shall be inserted, namely, -
- “Product name/Ingredients/Raw materials for such products are placed at Annexure-1 of these regulations, which are not exhaustive.”
- (b) in sub-regulation 3.1.4, the heading “Wine from fruits other than grapes” shall be substituted with the following, namely, -
- “Fruit Wine (other than grape wine) along with Honey wine”.
- (c) in sub-regulation 3.1.4, after clause 3.1.4.3, following shall be inserted, namely, -
- “3.1.4.4 Honey wine/ Mead: Honey wine / Mead is a wine produced from the fermentation of an aqueous solution of honey by yeasts without addition of any other carbohydrate source. It shall conform to the requirements provided under Table-2.”
- (d) sub-regulation 3.1.5, shall be substituted with the following, namely, -
- “Wine from other agricultural and plant sources (WAPS)
- Wine from other agricultural and plant sources may be produced by the normal alcoholic fermentation of the juice or sap or whole grains or other agricultural and plant sources with or without the addition of sugar or jaggery. It may include the following:”
- (e) in sub-regulation 3.1.6, related to Wine Based Beverages, ending with words “or any other approved substance”, following shall be inserted, namely, -
- “Wine Based Beverages may or may not becar bonated.”
- (5) in Part 4, in regulation 4.2, related to Draught beer, after sub-regulation 4.2 (1) related to Craftbeer, following shallbe inserted, namely, -
- “4.2 (1) (i) Nitro Craft Beer-NitroCraft Beer is the craft beer having the mixture of CO2 and N2 gas.”
- (6) in the Table no. 2,
- (a) Column no. 7, in the heading, after the words “Fruit Wine (other than grape wine)”, the following shall be inserted, namely, -“alongwith Honey wine”.
- (b) Column 5 in the heading Country Liquor or Plain Country Liquor shall be amended as follows:Country Liquor/Indian Liquor or Plain Country Liquor/ Plain Indian Liquor.
- (c) Column 6 row No.1 Blended Country Liquors shall be amended as follows:Blended Country Liquors/ Blended Indian Liquors

- (7) in Table 2, the foot note starting with words “wine based beverages” and ending with “ethyl alcohol content”, shall be substituted with the following, -
 “Wine based beverages shall comply with the standards of table wine, except the characteristic ethyl alcohol content.”
- (8) in Table 3,
 (a) after column No. 7, following shall be inserted under Craft beer category:

Strong
(8)
Morethan 5.0 up to 8.0
3.3-4.8
1.8-3.6
50.0
2.0
5.0
0.2
0.25
0.1
<100
Absent
Absent
*

- (b) in Column 2 (Characteristics),
 (i) in S. No. 3, the words “Carbon dioxide, v/v”, Min, shall be substituted with following, namely, -
 “CO₂ or Mixture of CO₂ and N₂ gas v/v”
 (ii) for S. No. 3, related to Carbondioxide, v/v, Min, following footnote shall be inserted at the end of the Table 3:
 “Mixture of CO₂ and N₂ gas is applicable only for craft beer”.
 (iii) for S.No.10, related to “ Total plate count, CFU perml”, following foot note shall be inserted at the end of the Table 3:
 “Does not include Brewer’s yeast”.
- (9) in Table 4, the heading “Requirements for Low Alcoholic Beverages other than wine and beer” shall be substituted with “Requirements for Ready-to-drink/Low alcoholic beverages”.
- (10) After Table 4, the following Annexure shall be inserted:

*Annexure-1***Table1:ListofIndianLiquors(Distilled Liquor)**

Sl. No.	Alcoholic products	Raw materials and Starter	Product category to comply
1	<i>Acham</i>	Rice, <i>chamri</i>	Table 1(5)
2	<i>Ark oxara</i>	Barley, apple, wildapricot	Table 1(5)
3	<i>ArakorHor-Alank</i>	Rice, <i>Thap</i>	Table 1(5)
4	<i>Aara</i>	Cereals, paa, pee	Table 1(5)
5	<i>Basi</i>	Rice	Table 1(5)
6	<i>BattaSarai</i>	<i>Clear distilled liquor; alcoholic drink</i>	Table1(5)
7	<i>Daru</i>	Cereal	Table 1(5)
8	<i>Handia</i>	Rice, ramu	Table 1(5)
9	<i>Haria</i>	Rice and bhakar or dabai or modpitha	Table 1(5)
11	<i>Juharo</i>	Rice, humao	Table 1(5)

12	<i>Kiad</i>	Rice, <i>thiat</i>	Table 1(5)
13	<i>Maddafeni</i>	Cashewfruit	Table 1(5)
14	<i>Madhu</i>	Rice, khekhrii	Table 1(5)
15	<i>Madua.Apong</i>	Fingermillet, phab	Table 1(5)
16	<i>Mahua</i>	Driedcorollasof Madhucalongifolia and ranu	Table 1(5)
17	<i>NavaSagara/kandasarai</i>	Jaggery, Molasses	table1(5)
18	<i>Nchiangne</i>	Redrice	Table 1(5)
19	<i>Raksi</i>	Cerealsandmarcha	Table 1(5)
20	<i>Rakzu</i>	Riceanddawdim	Table 1(5)
21	<i>Ruhi</i>	Rice	Table 1(5)
22	<i>Soor</i>	Fruitsand <i>keem</i>	Table 1(5)
23	<i>Tim-zu</i>	Riceanddawdim	Table 1(5)
24	<i>Toddyliquor</i>	Made from distilled palm sap	table1(5)
25	<i>Xajpani/kolohpani</i>	Rice, <i>xajpittha</i>	Table 1(5)
26	<i>Yu</i>	Rice, <i>hamei</i>	Table 1(5)
27	<i>Zu</i>	Rice	Table 1(5)
28	<i>Zupui</i>	Rice and dawdim	Table 1(5)

TableII:ListofIndianLiquor(Undistilled Liquor)

S. No.	Alcoholic products	Raw materials and Starter	Product category to comply
1	<i>Angooriorkimmauri</i>	Grapes	Table 2 [White Wine (3) and Red Wine (4)]
2	<i>Chulli</i>	Apricot	Table 2(7)
3	<i>Ghanti</i>	<i>Appleandapricot</i>	Table 2(7)

TableIII:ListofIndianLiquor(LowAlcoholicBeverage)

S. No.	Alcoholic products	Raw materials and Starter	Product category to comply
1	<i>Apongorenog</i>	Rice, <i>Apoppitha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
2	<i>Atingba</i>	Rice, <i>hamei</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
3	<i>Ahom</i>	Rice and <i>vekurpitha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
4	Bhaatijaanr	Rice, marcha	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
5	<i>Bhang-chyang</i>	Maizerice/barley and pham	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
6	<i>Buza</i>	Barley	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
7	<i>Chhang/Chyang/Chee/ Kodokojaanr</i>	Fingermillet/barley and <i>phab</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
8	<i>Chhind</i>	Extractedsap of chhind (Phoenixsylvestris)	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
9	<i>Chakti</i>	Jaggery	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
10	<i>Dekuijao</i>	Rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
11	<i>Duizou</i>	Redrice, khekhrii	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
12	<i>Ennog</i>	Blackrice, phut	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)

13	<i>Faaparkojaanr</i>	Buckwheat, <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
14	<i>Gahoonkojaanr</i>	Wheat, <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
15	<i>Jannorjaan</i>	Rice, wheat and other cereals and <i>balam</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
16	<i>Jaokojaanr</i>	Barley, <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
17	<i>Jhara</i>	Rice, <i>dabairanu</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
18	<i>Jou</i>	<i>Rice, khekhrii</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
19	<i>JouBishi</i>	Rice, <i>angkur</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
20	<i>Judima</i>	Rice, <i>humao</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
21	<i>Juhning</i>	Rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
22	<i>Kodokojaanr</i>	Fingermillet and <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
23	<i>Khor</i>	Germinated rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
24	<i>Kanji</i>	Beetcarrot root and <i>torami</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
25	<i>Langi</i>	Rice, <i>chowan</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
26	<i>Laopani</i>	Rice, <i>pitha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
27	<i>Lugri</i>	Barley	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
28	<i>Mingari/Lohpani</i>	Maize, rice orbarley andpham	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
29	<i>Makaikojaanr</i>	Maize, <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
30	<i>Nduijao</i>	Rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
31	<i>Nyongin</i>	Rice, <i>opop</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
32	<i>Oa</i>	Rice-filletmixture, <i>paa</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
33	<i>Opo</i>	Rice-milletand	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
34	<i>Pachwai</i>	Rice, <i>bhakar</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
35	<i>Patso</i>	Rice, <i>chamri</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
36	<i>Pendum</i>	Rice, herbs, <i>ranuorbhakar</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
37	<i>Pheijou</i>	Rice, husk, <i>khai</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
38	<i>Pona/Pone</i>	Rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
39	<i>Rak</i>	Apple, wildalmond, apricot and jiggery and <i>phab</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
40	<i>Sez</i>	Rice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-
41	<i>Sujen</i>	Rice and <i>modpitha or perokkushi</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
42	<i>Sura</i>	Fingermillet	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
43	<i>Simaltarulkojaanr</i>	Cassavatuber and <i>marcha</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
44	<i>Sira-Oa</i>	Rice-filletmixture, <i>paa</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
45	<i>Themsing</i>	Fingermillet/barley	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
46	<i>Timpui</i>	Rice, <i>khai</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
47	<i>Waiyu</i>	Rice, husk, <i>khai</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
48	<i>Yu angouba</i>	Germinatedrice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
49	<i>Zoungao</i>	Germinatedrice	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)
50	<i>Zutho/Zhuchu</i>	Rice, <i>khekhrii</i>	Table 4
51	<i>Zufang</i>	Sticky rice and <i>dawdim</i>	Table 4 (Low-alcohol, ~4-5%)

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THE GAZETTE OF INDIA : EXTRAORDINARY

[PART III—SEC.4]

Note : Products specified in Table 1, 2 & 3 of this Annexure, governed by any other Act and Regulations are exempted from the provisions of these Regulations.

G. KAMALA VARDHANA RAO, Chief Executive Officer

[ADVT.-III/4/Exty./100/2023-24]

Note : The principal regulation were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part III, Section 4, vide notification number F. No. 2/SA-24/2009(1)/FSSAI, dated 19th March, 2018 and subsequently amended vide notification No. F. No. Stds/SP (water and Beverages)/Notification (1)/FSSAI-2019 dated 18th December, 2020 and F. No. Std/SP-21/T(Alcohol-5) dated 10th June, 2022.

Attachments:

No Attachments.