

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: October 31, 2022

Report Number: IN2022-0098

Report Name: India Issues Clarification for Bulk Alcohol Imports

Country: India

Post: Mumbai

Report Category: Beverages, Exporter Guide, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Wine, FAIRS
Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On October 20, 2022, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a clarification on certain provisions to the 2018 Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulation. The order specifies that imported bulk alcohol shipments for the purpose of further processing and manufacturing will be exempted from alcohol percentage content parameters otherwise mandatory for finished alcoholic beverages. However, currently existing product safety, testing, and labeling requirements will remain.

General Overview

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On October 20, 2022, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a clarification on certain provisions to the 2018 Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulation. The order specifies that imported bulk alcohol shipments for the purpose of further processing and manufacturing will be exempted from alcohol percentage content parameters otherwise mandatory for finished alcoholic beverages. However, currently existing product safety, testing, and labeling requirements will remain.

The 2018 Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulations, sub-regulation 1.3.9 states:

Alcoholic beverage shall be packed in suitable containers as specified in the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011:

Provided that bulk containers shall have no upper limit for alcohol content and shall meet the safety parameters of the product standards. Such products shall also carry a label declaring, "For Manufacturer of Alcoholic Beverages only".

The full text of the order is pasted below and can also be accessed from FSSAI's website link below - https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2022/10/635127b7c8dffClarification_Import_Alcoholic_20_10_2022.pdf

The full text of the **Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulation, 2018** can be accessed from FSSAI's website link below - https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Compendium_Alcoholic_Beverages_Regulations_30_06_2022.pdf



भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं
मानक प्राधिकरण
विश्वास का वाचन, सुरक्षित एवं वैश्विक खाद्य का आश्वासन
आत्म एवं परिवार कल्याण दिने, नाले हकबर

भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं मानक प्राधिकरण

(स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय)

व्यापार और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग प्रभाग

एफडीए भवन, कोटला रोड, नई दिल्ली- 110002


Date: 20th October, 2022

Subject: Clarification with respect to alcoholic beverages imported into India in bulk containers- reg.

Reference is drawn to the consignments of alcoholic beverages imported into India in bulk containers having alcoholic beverages with higher alcohol content wherein, the product is used as an ingredient for manufacturing of alcoholic beverages as per FSSR.

2. In such cases, it is informed that as per sub-regulation 1.3.9 of FSS (Alcoholic Beverages), Regulation, 2018, *alcoholic beverage shall be packed in suitable containers as specified in the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011[now FSS (Labelling and Display) Regulations 2020]: Provided that bulk containers shall have no upper limit for alcohol content, and shall meet the safety parameters of the product standards. Such products shall also carry a label declaring, "For Manufacturer of Alcoholic Beverages only".*

3. In view of the above, it is clarified that such consignments may be scrutinized against sub-regulation 1.3.9 of FSS (Alcoholic Beverages), Regulation, 2018., wherein the upper limit of alcohol shall not apply and only safety parameters shall be tested along with other labelling requirements.


(Dr. Amit Sharma)
Director (Trade & IC)

To,

1. All Authorized Officers, FSSAI
2. All Food Analysts, FSSAI
3. CITO, FSSAI-HQ, for uploading on FSSAI website.

Attachments:

No Attachments.