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India

FAIRS Subject Report

Proposed Amendment to PFA Rules Regarding Quality Standards for Processed Foods

2008

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Report Highlights:

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued a draft gazette notification on December 30, 2008 related to the quality standards for thermally processed fruit juices, fruit and vegetable chutney, carbonated fruit beverages or fruit drinks, ready-to-serve (RTS) fruits and vegetable beverages, soup powders, fruit powders, mixed powders, nectars, etc..

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
New Delhi [IN1]
[IN]

Introduction:

On December 23, 2008, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) issued a draft Gazette notification proposing an amendment to the PFA rules related to quality standards (e.g. acidity, additives, net weight, etc.) for specified processed foods. The proposed rules will be called the Prevention of Food Adulteration (7th Amendment) Rules, 2008.

Disclaimer:

This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural exports to India.

Type of Regulation:	Draft
GOI Official Gazette Notification Publication Date:	December 23, 2008
Comment Period:	60 days from the date of publication of the notification
Products Affected:	Processed fruit juices, fruit and vegetable chutney, thermally processed fruits and vegetables, carbonated fruit beverages or fruit drinks, RTS fruits and vegetable beverages, soup powders, fruit powders, mixed powders, nectars, etc.
Agency In charge:	Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

Note: Not notified to the WTO (as of December 30, 2008)

Proposed Changes:**NOTIFICATION (Text as published, attached on pages 3-7)**

The full text version of the PFA Act and Rules can be accessed from:
<http://mohfw.nic.in/pfa%20acts%20and%20rules.pdf>

The website is mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above site.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(Department of Health)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 23rd December, 2008

G.S.R. 871(E).—The following draft of certain rules further to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, which the Central Government, after consultation with the Central Committee for Food Standards, proposes to make, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 (37 of 1954), is hereby published, for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the said draft rules will be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of sixty days from the date on which copies of this Official Gazette in which this notification is published, are made available to the public;

Objection or suggestions, if any, may be addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110011;

The objection and suggestions, which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft rules before the expiry of the period so specified, will be considered by the Central Government.

DRAFT RULES

1. (1) These rules may be called the Prevention of Food Adulteration (7th Amendment) Rules, 2008.
- (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

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2. In the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the said rules), in Appendix B, in items A.16.01, A.16.02, A.16.03, A.16.04, A.16.05, A.16.06, A.16.07, A.16.08, A.16.09, A.16.10, A.16.11, A.16.12, A.16.13, A.16.14, A.16.16, A.16.17, A.16.18, A.16.21, A.16.22, A.16.23, A.16.24, A.16.26, A.16.27, A.16.28, A.16.29, A.16.30, A.16.34, A.16.41, A.20, A.20.01, in paragraph, – "The container shall be well filled with the product and shall occupy not less than 90.0 percent of the net weight of the container, when packed in the rigid containers. The net weight of the container is the volume of distilled water at 20°C which the sealed container is capable of holding when completely filled" for the words, "the net weight of container", occurring at both the places, the words, "the water capacity of the container" shall be substituted.

3. in the said rules, in Appendix B, in item A.16.06 relating to Thermally Processed Fruit Juices, -

(a) after the words and figures, namely "One or more of the nutritive sweeteners may be added in amounts not exceeding 50g/kg but not exceeding 200g/kg in very acidic fruits", the following words shall be inserted, namely:-

"except in case of Apple juice, Orange juice (reconstituted from concentrate), Grape juice, Pineapple Juice (reconstituted from concentrate)";

(b) in Paragraph 2, in the Table for requirements,-

(i) against the serial numbers 4 and 5 relating to lemon juice and lime juice under column "Acidity expressed as Citric Acid maximum (%)" for the existing entries, the following entries shall be inserted, namely:-

4. Lemon Juice		"4.0 minimum
5. Lime Juice		5.0 minimum;;

(ii) the column "Added Nutritive Sweeteners Maximum (g/kg)" and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted.

[भाग II—खण्ड 3(i)]

भारत का राजपत्र : असाधारण

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4. In the said rules, in item no. A.16.41, relating Fruits and Vegetables Chutney, in the requirements for pH, for the entry "Not less than 4.6", the entry "Not more than 4.6" shall be substituted.

5. in the said rules, in Appendix C, in Table 8,-

(a) after serial number F.2, the following serial number and entry shall be inserted, namely:-

S.No.	Name of Additive
"3.	Sorbic Acid and its calcium, sodium, potassium salt (calculated as Sorbic Acid)".;

(b) in serial number F.3 relating to Sorbic acid as so inserted, under column "Carbonated Fruit Beverages or Fruit Drink", the following entry shall be inserted, namely:-

S.No.	Name of Additive			Carbonated Fruit Beverages			
3.	Sorbic Acid and its calcium, sodium, potassium salt (calculated as Sorbic Acid)	-	-	"300ppm maximum".;	-	-	-

(c) in serial number G.3 relating to Pectins, under the column "Carbonated Fruit Beverages or Fruit Drink", the entry "GMP" shall be inserted.

6. in the said rules, in Appendix C, in Table 10,-

(a) (i) in serial number K.2(i) relating to Arabic Gum, under column "RTS fruits & vegetable beverages", the entry "GMP (for RTS fruit beverages only)" shall be inserted;

(ii) in serial number K.3(ii) relating to Potassium alginates under column "RTS fruits & vegetable beverages", the entry "GMP (for RTS fruit beverages only)" shall be inserted;

(iii) after serial number K.3(iv), the following serial number shall be inserted, namely:-

S.No.	Name of the additive
"(v)	Alginic acid-GMP";

- (iv) in the entry against serial number K.4 relating to pectin under the column "RTS fruits & vegetable beverages", the entry "GMP (for RTS fruit beverages only)" shall be inserted;
- (b) in the serial number K relating to thickening agents under the column "Soup powder, fruit powder - mixed powder" for the entry "0.5% maximum", the entry "0.5% maximum of final food for consumption after dilution" shall be substituted;
- (c) (i) in the serial number E (a) relating to natural colours, under the column "Nectars", the entry "100ppm maximum" shall be inserted;
- (ii) in serial number G.1 relating to flavours, under the column "Nectars", the entry "Natural Flavouring and Natural Flavouring Substances only - GMP" shall be inserted;
- (iii) in serial number I relating to preservatives,-
- (a) against the item number 1 "Benzoic acid", under the column "Nectars" the entry "120 ppm maximum" shall be inserted;
- (b) against the item number 2 "Sulphur Dioxide", under the column "Nectars", the entry "70 ppm maximum" shall be inserted;
- (c) against item number 3 "Sorbic acid", under the column "Nectars", the entry "300 ppm maximum" shall be inserted;
- (d) in serial number K.4 relating to pectins, under the column "Nectars", the entry "GMP" shall be inserted;

(e) in the serial number K.4 relating to pectins, under the column "Fruit Juices aseptically packed" the entry "GMP" shall be inserted.

[No. P. 15014/27/2007-PH(F)]

DEBASISH PANDA, Jt. Secy.

Note: - The Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 were published in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, vide number S.R.O.2105, dated the 12th September, 1955 and were last amended vide number G.S.R. 664(E) dated 19.09.2008.

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