

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: India's FSSAI Extends Implementation Date for Infant Nutrition Foods Standard

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Exporter Guide, FAIRS Subject Report, Food Processing Ingredients, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, Agriculture in the Economy, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the News

Prepared By: Radha Mani, Agricultural Assistant, and Mariano J. Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

Approved By: Mariano Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

Report Highlights:

On June 22, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a new directive extending its implementation date for standards relating to different categories of infant nutrition foods. Extension of the implementation is being provided to accommodate stakeholders' submissions and to better facilitate the transition for adhering to the new standards requirements. The new implementation date is now set for April 1, 2022.

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 U.S. Embassy in New Delhi – 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 India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links if they do not open in Internet Explorer].

GENERAL INFORMATION:

On June 22, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a directive extending the implementation date for standards relating to infant nutrition foods (see, Appendix I). Extension of the implementation is being provided to accommodate stakeholders' submissions and to better facilitate the transition for adhering to the new standards requirements. The new implementation date is now set for April 1, 2022.

The directive states that *“representations were received from various stakeholders requesting extension in the time to comply with all the provisions of the new regulations, as the entire portfolio requires reformulation (including stability studies) which is a mammoth and time-consuming activity. It has therefore been decided to extend the transition period for the said regulations up to March 31, 2022. Food Business Operators should comply with all provisions of the said regulation from April 1, 2022.”*

Background: On December 14, 2020, India's FSSAI notified its final Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulation pertaining to the different categories of infant nutrition foods (see, [GAIN-INDIA \(IN2020-0192\) Final Standards for Infant Nutrition Foods Published in the Indian Gazette](#)).

The full text of the new directive is now accessible on the FSSAI website located at: https://fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2021/06/60d1b41d4c1a1Direction_Infant_Nutrition_22_06_2021.pdf

APPENDIX I: FSSAI DIRECTION- EXTENSION OF IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS (INFANT FOODS NUTRITION) REGULATION, 2020

F.No. Stds/03/Notification(IFR)/FSSAI-2017(part-3)
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(Regulation division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

Dated, the 22nd June, 2021

Subject: Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding implementation of Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020.

Reference is drawn to Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020 dated 04.12.2020 wherein the date of implementation of the said regulations mentioned as 1st July,2021.

2. However, representations were received from various stakeholders requesting extension in the time to comply with all the provisions of the new regulations, as the entire portfolio requires reformulation (including stability studies) which is a mammoth & time-consuming activity.
3. After due consideration, it has been decided to extend the transition period for the said regulations upto 31st March,2022. Food Business Operators should comply with all provision of the said regulation from 1st April,2022.
4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested with Food Authority under Section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.


(Inoshi Sharma)

Executive Director (Regulatory Compliance)

Attachments:

No Attachments.