

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: May 17, 2024

Report Number: IN2024-0019

Report Name: India's FSSAI Extends Effective Implementation Date for Mandatory Registration of Foreign Food Manufacturing Facilities

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

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

Approved By: Mariano Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

Report Highlights:

On April 4, 2024, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published on its website, Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI. The FSSAI order extends the effective implementation date for the mandatory registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities (FFMF) for the import of certain categories of foods such as milk and milk products; meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals to India. The new effective implementation date is September 1, 2024. Until August 31, 2024, both registered and non-registered manufacturing facilities (including U.S.-origin ones) will be allowed to continue exporting these food product categories.

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 Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, 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 that do not open in Microsoft Edge. Indian host sites will geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

GENERAL INFORMATION

On April 4, 2024, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published on its website, **Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI**. The FSSAI order extends the effective implementation date for the mandatory registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities (FFMF) for the import of certain categories of foods such as milk and milk products; meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals to India. The new effective implementation date is September 1, 2024. Until August 31, 2024, both registered and non-registered manufacturing facilities (including U.S.-origin ones) will be allowed to continue exporting these food product categories.

The order encourages all concerned stakeholders to provide the information required in the FSSAI format to the designated Competent Authority who will submit the information to the FSSAI. The FSSAI has designated FAS New Delhi as the Competent Authority to submit details on U.S. manufacturing food facilities for poultry and poultry products, and egg powder. In the interim, FAS New Delhi is also the designated Competent Authority for U.S.-origin milk and milk products until further notice.

An online portal “[ReFoM](#)” has been created by the FSSAI which contains the detailed information of the FFMF who intends to export food products of the aforementioned food product categories to India. The FSSAI, after reviewing the submitted information by the designated Competent Authority, will proceed to register the FFMF and generate a unique registration number for each facility registered at “[ReFoM](#).” India, through this measure, intends to avoid trade disruptions.

Background:

On October 10, 2022, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India issued **Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI** (see, Appendix I). The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India’s order requires the mandatory registration with the competent authority of jurisdiction of the country of export, of all foreign food manufacturing facilities intent on exporting milk and milk products; meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals to India. Additionally, the order requires the competent authorities of all exporting countries to email to the FSSAI, a list of existing manufacturers, and of those intent on exporting milk and milk products; meat and meat products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals to India in the

mandated FSSAI format specified within **Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI**. The FSSAI will subsequently vet the submissions and incorporate these to its online portal. The email addresses to remit the listing of registered manufacturers provided is import@fssai.gov.in (see [GAIN-INDIA | IN2022-0086 | India's FSSAI Requires Mandatory Registration of Foreign Food Manufacturing Facilities for the Import of Certain Categories of Foods](#)).

Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI's Trade Impact. So, What Does it Mean?

With the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's **Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI** requiring registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities intent on exporting milk and milk products; meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals, U.S. exports will be adversely impacted by this measure, that is in the eventuality that manufacturers of these products do not register with and are included on the FSSAI's portal "[ReFoM](#)" prior to August 31, 2024.

Notification Details:

Notification: Order F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI

Publication Date: April 4, 2024

Date of Implementation: September 1, 2024

Products Affected: Milk and milk products; meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products; egg powder; infant food; and nutraceuticals.

Agency: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

APPENDIX I: FSSAI ORDER RELATING TO EXTENSION OF TIMELINE FOR REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN FOOD MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

File No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(Trade and International Cooperation Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, NewDelhi-110002

Dated: The 04th April, 2024

ORDER

Subject: Requirement of Registration of Foreign Food Manufacturing facilities as per Food Safety and Standards (Import) First Amendment Regulations, 2021, dated 03.11.2021-reg.

Reference is drawn to FSSAI's order of even no. dated 10th October, 2022, whereby it was notified that registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities (FFMF) falling under following five food categories, who are intended to export these food products shall be mandatory from 1st February, 2023: -

- i. Milk and Milk products;
- ii. Meat and Meat products including Poultry, Fish and their products;
- iii. Egg powder;
- iv. Infant Food;
- v. Nutraceuticals.

For the registration purpose, it has been decided that information regarding facilities shall be provided by the Competent Authority of the exporting countries and data will be managed and maintained by FSSAI. Accordingly, an online portal- 'ReFoM' available at FSSAI website has been created, which contains the detailed information of the FFMF intended to export articles of above food categories to India as provided by the Competent Authority of the exporting country. After examining the requisite information, the individual FFMF is registered and the portal is updated. Accordingly, a unique registration number (URN) is generated by FSSAI for each facility registered at 'ReFoM'. The same may be easily access from the said portal 'ReFoM' (<https://sites.fssai.gov.in/refom/>)

This office is in receipt of communications from various stakeholders seeking extension of transition period for the registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities to avoid disruption in export. Considering the request from the stakeholders, the import of articles of above said food categories to India shall be allowed till 31.08.2024 from both registered and non-registered foreign food manufacturing facilities.

It is again appraised that stakeholders may ensure that the requisite information pertaining to un-registered foreign food manufacturing facilities who intend to export the above mentioned food categories to India, should be shared through the Competent

Authority of the respective country with FSSAI via an e-mail at import@fssai.gov.in. The requisite information should be shared at least 30 days in advance from the shipment of the cargo as per the format annexed with an order dated 10.10.2022(copy attached).

The registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities at FSSAI portal is a continuous process and FSSAI will keep updating the portal based on information received from the Competent Authority of the exporting countries and the due examination thereof. In view of this, stakeholders are encouraged to register or update their facility well in advance at FSSAI online portal 'ReFoM' through the Competent Authority before exporting articles of above said food categories to India to avoid disruption in trade.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


Manvesh Kumar (IRS)
Director (TICD)

F. No. TIC-B02/2/2022-IMPORTS-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statuary Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Trade & International Cooperation Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated: The 10[#] October, 2022

ORDER

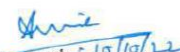
Subject: - Requirement of Registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities as per Food Safety and Standards (Import) First Amendment Regulations, 2021 dated 03.11.2021 -reg.

In exercise of the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Import) First Amendment Regulations, 2021, it has been decided that registration of **foreign food manufacturing facilities falling under following food categories, who are intended to export these food products shall be mandatory: -**

- i) Milk and Milk Products;
- ii) Meat and Meat Products including Poultry, Fish and their products;
- iii) Egg powder
- iv) Infant Food;
- v) Nutraceuticals.

In view of the above, the Competent Authorities of all the exporting countries are requested to provide the list of existing manufacturers and of those who are intended to export such food products to India as per the format attached at email id: dramit.sharma@fssai.gov.in and import@fssai.gov.in. Based on the list provided by the Competent Authority of exporting country, the registration of such facilities will be done by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India at its portal.

This order will be effective from 1st February, 2023. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


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

Format for Registration of foreign food manufacturing facilities

Country Name:	
1	Competent Authority in Exporting country Name: Address and contact details:
2	Details of Food Manufacturer: Name: Address and contact details:
3	Approval/License no. issued by the Competent Authority:
4	Name and HS Code of Product/s to be exported to India:

Date.....
Place.....

Signatures and seal of authorized signatory
Name and address.....

Attachments:

No Attachments.