

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** September 11,2020

**Report Number:** IN2020-0120

**Report Name:** Organic Foods Regulation Amendments Proposed by Government of India

**Country:** India

**Post:** New Delhi

**Report Category:** Exporter Guide, FAIRS Subject Report, Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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**Approved By:** Mark Rosmann

**Report Highlights:**

The Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has proposed amendments in the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulation, 2017, to update specific provisions on organic food labeling and certification. The draft regulation invites comments from World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries, and the comment period expires 60 days after the notification was published on the WTO website ([www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)).

## General Information:

**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 September 3, 2020, FSSAI notified draft amendments to the [Food Safety and Standards \(Organic Foods\) Regulation, 2017](#) on its website. The draft amendments pertain to Chapter 2 titled, "Organic Food Labeling and Certification," and includes additional sub-clauses as detailed below.

(i) in regulation 4, after sub-regulation (2), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

"(3) Aggregators or Intermediaries who collect organic food from small original producer or producer organization and sell it to the end consumer directly are exempted from the provisions of the systems referred in sub-regulation (1). They shall maintain records of traceability and comply with the provisions of anyone of the systems mentioned in sub Regulations (1). Such products shall not carry Food Safety and Standard Authority of India's organic logo."

(ii) in regulation 5, after sub-regulation (2), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

"(3) In-conversion products under PGS-India may be labelled as 'PGS-Green' and may also be labelled as "In-conversion to organic". Conversion products under NPOP may be labelled as "In-conversion to organic' and shall mention the year of conversion. Such In-conversion products shall not carry Food Safety and Standard Authority of India's organic logo."

The full text of the FSSAI's proposed amendments is shown below and is available on FSSAI's website at: [https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Draft\\_WTO\\_TBT\\_Notification\\_Organic\\_03\\_09\\_2020.pdf](https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Draft_WTO_TBT_Notification_Organic_03_09_2020.pdf).

Comments within 60 days from the date notified on WTO website should be sent to:

Chief Executive Officer  
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India  
Food and Drug Administration Bhawan,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110 002  
Email: [spstbt.enqpt@fssai.gov](mailto:spstbt.enqpt@fssai.gov)

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
(FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA)

**NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 27th August, 2020

**F.No. Stds/Organic/Notification-01/FSSAI-2019.**—The draft of regulations further to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulation, 2017 which the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India proposes to make with the previous approval of the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (v) of sub-section (2) of section 92 read with sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006), is hereby published, as required by 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 will be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette in which this notification is published are made available to the public;

[भाग II—खण्ड 3(ii)]

भारत का राजपत्र : असाधारण

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Objections or suggestions, if any, may be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Food and Drug Administration Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002 or send it to the e-mail address of the Food Authority at [regulation@fssai.gov.in](mailto:regulation@fssai.gov.in) :

The objections or suggestions which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft regulations before the expiry of the period specified above shall be considered by the Food Authority.

**Draft Regulations**

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Amendment Regulations, 2020.  
(2) They shall come into force with effective date for implementation to be either 1st January or 1st July subject to a minimum of 180 days from the date of their final publication in the official Gazette.
2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulation, 2017, -
  - (i) in regulation 4, after sub-regulation (2), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

“(3) Aggregators or Intermediaries who collect organic food from small original producer or producer organization and sell it to the end consumer directly are exempted from the provisions of the systems referred in sub-regulation (1). They shall maintain records of traceability and comply with the provisions of anyone of the systems mentioned in sub Regulations (1). Such products shall not carry Food Safety and Standard Authority of India's organic logo.”
  - (ii) in regulation 5, after sub-regulation (2), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

“(3) In-conversion products under PGS-India may be labelled as 'PGS-Green' and may also be labelled as "In-conversion to organic". Conversion products under NPOP may be labelled as "In-conversion to organic' and shall mention the year of conversion. Such In-conversion products shall not carry Food Safety and Standard Authority of India's organic logo.”

ARUN SINGHAL, Chief Executive Officer  
[ADVT. III/4/Exty./202/2020-21]

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.