

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Sri Lanka - Temporary Suspension of Imports Due to COVID-19

Country: Sri Lanka

Post: Colombo

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News, FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

Government of Sri Lanka has notified temporary suspension of import of commodities under 156 Harmonized System (HS) headings from April 16 to July 15, 2020.

General Information:

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The notification is available on [Department of Imports and Exports Control](#) website, under [downloads](#).

Sri Lanka relaxed its month-long lockdown on April 20 for most districts countrywide; curfew is relaxed during daytime but remain each evening from 8.00 pm until 5.00 am. The full lockdown will remain for Colombo and three other high risk districts until April 27.

Even as it relaxed its lockdown, government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) enacted other stringent measures to counter the economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis. On April 16, GOSL announced temporary suspension of import of commodities under 156 HS headings, which include a range of food and agriculture commodities. Sri Lanka Customs and commercial banks in turn are requested to suspend facilitation of imports of items with HS codes stipulated in Schedule I (see attachment) from April 16 to July 15, 2020.

The notification also directs commercial banks to facilitate imports of items stipulated in Schedule II (see attachment), albeit with credit facility which defers payment for three months. This notification also is effective from April 16 to July 15, 2020.

Table 1: Some Temporarily Suspended HS Headings of Food and Agriculture Commodities extracted from Schedule I (suspended HS Codes under each HS heading is given in the GOSL published notification)

HS Heading	Description
03.01	Live Fish
03.04	Fish fillets and other fish meat (whether or not minced), fresh, chilled or frozen.
10.06	Rice
10.08	Buckwheat, millet and canary seeds; other cereals (+).
11.02	Cereal flours other than of wheat or meslin.
11.06	Flour, meal and powder of the dried leguminous vegetables of heading 07.13, of sago or of roots or tubers of heading 07.14 or of the products of Chapter 8
11.07	Malt, whether or not roasted.
12.02	Ground-nuts, not roasted or otherwise cooked, whether or not shelled or broken (+).
12.08	Flours and meals of oil seeds or oleaginous fruits, other than those of mustard
15.07	Soya-bean oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically

	modified.
15.11	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified (+).
15.13	Coconut (copra), palm kernel or babassu oil and fractions thereof, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified (+).
17.04	Sugar confectionery (including white chocolate), not containing cocoa.
18.06	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa.
19.01	Malt extract; food preparations of flour, groats, meal, starch or malt extract, not containing cocoa or containing less than 40% by weight of cocoa calculated on a totally defatted basis, not elsewhere specified or included; food preparations of goods of headings 04.01 to 04.04, not containing cocoa or containing less than 5% by weight of cocoa calculated on a totally defatted basis, not elsewhere specified or included.
19.02	Pasta, whether or not cooked or stuffed (with meat or other substances) or otherwise prepared, such as spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, lasagna, gnocchi, ravioli, cannelloni; couscous, whether or not prepared.
19.03	Tapioca and substitutes therefor prepared from starch, in the form of flakes, grains, pearls, siftings, or in similar forms.
19.04	Prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting of cereals or cereal products (for example, corn flakes); cereals (other than maize (corn)) in grain form or in the form of flakes or other worked grains (except flour, groats and meal), pre-cooked, or otherwise prepared, not elsewhere specified or included.
19.05	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares, whether or not containing cocoa; communion wafers, empty cachets of a kind suitable for pharmaceutical use, sealing wafers, rice paper and similar products.
22.01	Waters, including natural or artificial mineral waters and aerated waters, not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter nor flavored; ice and snow.
22.02	Waters, including mineral waters and aerated waters, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavored, and other non-alcoholic beverages, not including fruit or vegetable juices of heading 20.09.
22.03	Beer made from malt.
22.04	Wine of fresh grapes, including fortified wines; grape must other than that of heading 20.09.
22.05	Vermouth and other wine of fresh grapes flavored with plants or aromatic substances.
22.06	Other fermented beverages (for example, cider, perry, mead, sake); mixtures of fermented beverages and mixtures of fermented beverages and nonalcoholic beverages, not elsewhere specified or included.
22.08	Undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of less than 80% vol; spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages.
22.09	Vinegar and substitutes for vinegar obtained from acetic acid.

33.01	Essential oils (terpeneless or not), including concretes and absolutes; resinoids; extracted oleoresins; concentrates of essential oils in fats, in fixed oils, in waxes or the like, obtained by enfleurage or maceration; terpenic by-products of the deterpenation of essential oils; aqueous distillates and aqueous solutions of essential oils (+).
33.02	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures (including alcoholic solutions) with a basis of one or more of these substances, of a kind used as raw material in industry; other preparations based on odoriferous substances, of a kind used for the manufacture of beverages.
38.23	Industrial monocarboxylic fatty acids; acid oils from refining; industrial fatty alcohols.

Attachments:

[200416 Gazette Temporary Suspension 2171-05 of 16-04-2020 E.pdf](#)