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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### Regulations on Functional Foods Published in the Indian Gazette

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and  
Standards - Narrative

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**Report Highlights:**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published regulations for functional foods in India's official gazette. Products affected by the new regulations include nutritional supplements, nutraceuticals, special dietary foods, and medical or therapeutic food products.

## **General Information:**

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On December 23, 2016, FSSAI published regulations in the Indian Gazette pertaining to new standards for nutritional supplements, nutraceuticals, special foods, and medical or therapeutic food products. Earlier, in November 2016, FSSAI issued a notice to operationalize its functional food standards, but it also granted a one-year implementation period to allow businesses to adjust. Full enforcement of these standards is expected on roughly January 1, 2018 (GAIN [IN6145](#)). Industry sources report that the private sector will have sufficient time to adjust and come into full compliance by then.

The full text of the Regulation can be accessed from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>.

A chronology on the subject notification is provided below for reader's easy reference:

On August 5, 2015, India notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) a draft regulation for nutraceuticals, as well as foods for special diets and medical purposes. The draft regulation defined these categories on ingredients, labeling, additives, contaminants, toxins, and health & nutritional claims. The draft regulation also determined the criteria for manufacture and sale of these categories of foods. The draft regulations also included required lists of the active ingredients (nutrients), and recommended doses or consumption levels. For more details, please refer to GAIN [IN5110](#).

On March 30, 2016, FSSAI issued an order stating that until nutraceuticals, and nutritional supplement standards are finalized, businesses which handle these products could follow the status quo, as per the requirements provided in the [FSSAI order](#) (See GAIN [IN5097](#) and GAIN [IN5110](#)).