



CII Task Force on Food Regulatory Affairs works in close association with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the relevant Ministries of the Government of India like Ministry of Food Processing Industry, Ministry of Consumer Affairs etc., for carrying out food-related regulatory activities.

All our actions are directed with the objective of encouraging a favorable regulatory environment. During the last year, the regulatory cell under the task force has facilitated consultations and dialogue with authorities on various significant issues such as labelling and display, infant nutrition, health supplements and nutraceuticals, legal metrology and others.

Food Regulatory Update

ISSUE – June 2022

Key Submissions

- **Labeling & Display Regulations**
- **Overhaul:** Regulations on Health Supplements & Nutraceuticals
- **Endorsement of IEM and hypoallergenic formula** under Infant Food Regulations 2020
- **Standard Review:** Cereal and Cereal Products and Package Drinking Water
- **Submissions on draft notifications**
- **Amendments in Packaged Commodity Rules:** Declaration of unit sale price for packaged foods
- **CODEX**
- **CII capacity building initiatives**
- **Recent Publications**

Labelling & Display Regulation

CII has been representing industry's concerns w.r.t key challenges regarding labelling & display regulations.

The recent direction dated 17th June 2022 notifies the provisions on non-retail containers, health supplements and nutraceuticals, tolerances, exemption for ≤ 100 cm² pack sizes, sweeteners etc.

CII would be representing on the aspects w.r.t tolerance limits.

On the front of pack labelling requirements, a study by IIM was published which indicates consumer preference towards the HSR (Health Star Rating) Model for depicting nutrients to limit on the label. HSR as a FOPL format is well accepted, based on the scientific principles of summarizing the nutritional content of foods and beverages. As per the model, the content of nutrients will be limited, and nutrient food groups will be encouraged. This was commissioned by FSSAI.

As the next steps, a detailed algorithm will be developed shortly. This approach is well received by stakeholders. However, the actual impact of nutrient thresholds still needs to be ascertained and clarity is required on how the thresholds will be transformed into the algorithm (nutrient thresholds → baseline points/positive nutrients/modifying points → product points → star rating). CII¹ has requested that industry should also be consulted in the development process.



Overhaul: Regulations on Health Supplements & Nutraceuticals

FSSAI introduced a direction on 29th March 2022 on FSS (Health Supplements and Nutraceuticals). This notification provides a new framework, an overhaul of this regulation. Subsequently, on 10th May another direction was issued w.r.t new table for GMP and a list of food additives to be used at GMP levels.

CII has suggested editorial changes in the overhaul document w.r.t labelling declarations and review of schedules of additives, processing aids and flavors.

Standards for Review

CII proposed a review of standards for **multigrain atta, bajra flour, jowar flour and mixed millet**. These are based on the variance in values of quality parameters such as moisture, alcoholic acidity, and dietary fiber across all these varieties of flour. This is effective from 1st June 2022.

This variance is on the account of the practical challenges related to inherited properties of the grains or loss during grinding and other processes. Hence, the values proposed in the said standards pose huge challenges for compliance.

Another crucial gazette notification where revision in standard was proposed is **packaged drinking water** w.r.t minimum level of Ca and Mg is 10 mg/l and 20 mg/l respectively. CII represented a minimum level of TDS at 75 mg/l as an alternate to the minimum levels of Calcium and Magnesium or amendment in the minimum requirements of Ca and Mg.

Recently an order was published on 30th May regarding operationalization of standards for packaged drinking water (other than mineral water) with minimum values of Ca & Mg at 10 mg/l and 5 mg/l respectively and min TDS at 75mg/l.

Subsequently, the date for compliance with the said provisions is also extended from 1st July 2022 to 1st Jan 2023 vide order dated 21st June 2022.

Submissions on Draft Notifications

Submissions were made on FSS (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulation 2021 related to standards for wheat flour or resultant wheat flour, refined iodized salt, low sodium salt, liquid Nitrogen dosing in ‘natural mineral water’ and ‘packaged drinking water’, substances added to food, microbiological standards and so on. These submissions were developed based on CII’s discussion with the stakeholders from various segments of the industry.

FSS (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulation, 2021 related to inclusion of enzymes covering the following aspects: -

- CII proposed a revision in allowance for blending of enzymes by deletion of the note listed under 11 A “blends of enzymes shall only contain enzymes”. Globally also, regulatory frameworks in most countries have no such restrictions, e.g., Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Mexico, France, and the USA.

FSS (Advertising and Claims) Amendment Regulations 2021, representation was made covering the following aspects

- CII requested revision in comparative claims & Glycemic Index (GI), flexibility on DHA norms, clarity on DRR claims, new insertions w.r.t ingredients in Schedule 1 and alignment with CODEX guidelines.

FSS (Genetically Modified or Genetically Engineered Foods) Regulations 2021, submissions were made covering the following aspects

- CII requested revision on aspects related to definition, clarity on the concepts of gene editing, clear framework for approval of adventitious or low-level presence of GMOs. These are in alignment with the

recommendations of an inter-ministerial panel formed on this issue.

inputs and the last date of submission is 31st July 2022.

FSS (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations 2022 related to inclusion of pan masala and areca nut-based mouth fresheners in food category

- FSSAI issued a draft notification related to the inclusion of pan masala and areca nut-based mouth fresheners in the food category published by FSSAI dated 2nd May 2022. This draft has been circulated to members for input and the last date of submission is 2nd July 2022.

FSS (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations 2022

- FSSAI issued a revision draft dated 20th May 2022 related to alcoholic beverages. The said draft proposed declaration of nutritional information such as calorie and carbohydrate content in alcoholic beverages and revision of the definition of single malt or single grain whisky. This draft has been circulated for inputs and the last date of submission is 20th July.

Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2022 related to the use of recycled plastics in food packaging

- FSSAI issued a revision on draft dated 24th May 2022 related to the use of recycled plastics in food packaging. This draft has been circulated with the members for inputs and the last date for submission is 24th July 2022.

Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2022

- FSSAI issued a revision in the draft dated 31st May relating to the FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2022. This draft has been circulated with the members for

Order dated 17th May 2022 regarding directions to ensure compliance with respect to labelling of multi-source edible vegetable oil

- CII suggests revision of the labelling provisions of multisource oil as “Multi Source Edible Oil” instead of Multisource Edible Vegetable Oil”.

Submissions to notifications under BIS

Submission to inviting public consultation in the matter of declaration of the quantity in pre-packages containing edible oil, vanaspati, ghee in terms of weight only

- CII submitted a representation to maintain status quo which is mentioning both volume and weight at temperature specific to edible oil, wherein if the net quantity is declared in volume, the corresponding weight shall be calculated and declared as per BIS standard, “IS: 548 (Part 1) -196 (Reaffirmed 2020): Method of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fat”.

Representation for Unit Sale Price

- CII represented w.r.t unit sale price declaration as the mandatory information on labels and requested extension on timelines for implementation
- The department of legal metrology released the order which will come into force on the 1st day of October 2022.

CII CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES

INDUSTRY CONNECT



Scope: Emerging trends in product innovations towards healthier choices

Coverage: 17th CII Food Safety, Quality and Regulatory Summit

SCIENCE-BASED STANDARDS



Scope: Understanding science behind framework of standards.

Coverage: CII – MoFPI (NIFTEM) Launch of DATA Collection Centre
Institutional framework to engage with Chair of FSSAI, scientific Panel.

STATE CONNECT



Scope: Interaction with State Food Safety Commissioners on regulatory issues and food safety initiatives

Coverage: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, J&K, Bihar, West Bengal, Kochi, Uttarakhand, etc.

CODEX CONNECT



Scope: Global best practices & CODEX approach on food safety, quality & regulations

Coverage: Veterinary residues in food, food additives, food hygiene, foods for special dietary Use, contaminants

CONSUMER CONNECT



Scope: Spreading awareness in consumer regarding emerging trends in Foods

Coverage: Eat right sessions on mindful eating

CII PUBLICATIONS

On World Food Safety Day, 7th June 2022, Shri. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, launched two key reports showcasing industry's efforts towards food systems transformation in the area of Product Reformulation and Reducing the plastic footprint

