

File No 13(7) 2016/Hindustan Coca-Cola Bevg./FSSAI  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
Regulatory Compliance Division  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002**

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Dated, the 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

**Subject: Clarification and Explanation for interpreting Appendix-A of Food Safety & Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives Regulations), as amended in 2016- reg.**

Sir/Madam,

This is to reiterate that the food additives in India are governed by Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, as amended on 05.09.2016.

2. A food additive is defined in Food Safety & Standards Act of India 2006 as below:

*“food additive” means any substance not normally consumed as a food by itself or used as a typical ingredient of the food, whether or not it has nutritive value, the intentional addition of which to food for a technological (including organoleptic) purpose in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food results, or may be reasonably expected to result (directly or indirectly), in it or its by-products becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of such food but does not include “contaminants” or substances added to food for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities.*

The existing Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards And Food Additives) Regulations, which is largely aligned to General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) of Codex Alimentarius, categorizes all the foods in India in 15 categories. These categories are further subdivided into sub-categories till the 4<sup>th</sup> level of sub-categorization. For example, all the fats, oils and their products in the regulations are categorized as under:

Category No				Category
I	II	III	IV	
2.0				Fat, Oils and Fat emulsions
	2.1.			Fats and Oils essentially free from water
		2.1.1		Butter oil, anhydrous milk fat, ghee
		2.1.2		Vegetable oils and fats
		2.1.3		Lard, Tallow, fish oil and other animal fats
	2.2			Fat emulsion mainly of type water in oil
		2.2.1		Butter
		2.2.2		Fat Spreads, dairy at spreads and blended spreads
	2.3			Fat emulsions mainly of type oil in water, including mixed and/or flavoured products based on fat emulsions
	2.4			Fat based desserts excluding dairy based desserts products

3. The food category system in above regulations is based on the following principles:

- (a) The food category system is hierarchical, meaning that when an additive is recognized for use in a general category (Marked as 'I' in above table), it is recognized for use in all its sub-categories (marked as II, III & IV in above table), unless otherwise stated.
- (b) Similarly, when an additive is recognized for use in a sub-category, its use is recognized in any further subcategories or individual foodstuffs mentioned in a sub-category.

To illustrate further, in above example of 'Fat, Oils and Fat emulsions', any additives that allowed in the general category, "Fat, Oils and Fat emulsions" (marked as 'I' in the table") is automatically allowed in all the sub categories mentioned under II, III, & IV. Similarly, any additives that is allowed in 2.1. (Fats and Oils essentially free from water) is automatically allowed in all sub categories mentioned under category marked under III, which is 2.1.1. - Butter oil, anhydrous milk fat, ghee; 2.1.2. - Vegetable oils and fats, and 2.1.3. - Lard, Tallow, fish oil and other animal fats.

4. Similarly, if any food category has a sub-category at level IV, then this category can have additives that are mentioned in any higher categories of that sub-category. However, additives will not be allowed in sub-categories located at the same level interchangeably, unless said additives are mentioned separately in both

the sub-categories. For example, an additive allowed in category 2.2.2. above (Fat Spreads, dairy at spreads and blended spreads), will not be allowed in 2.2.1 (Butter), unless it has been mentioned in both the sub-categories separately.

5. In view of the above, you are requested to issue instructions to all Designated Officer and Food Safety Officers of the above said clarification and need to make themselves fully aware of the above regulation so that foods & beverages in the market are monitored as per the regulation.

Yours faithfully,



(Parveen Jargar)

Joint Director (Regulatory Compliance)

To:

1. Commissioner of Food Safety of all States/UTs
2. All Central Licensing Authorities, FSSAI
3. CITO, FSSAI-For uploading of FSSAI website.