

RCD-02001/2/2021-Regulatory-FSSAI-Part(1)

भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण

(खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत स्थापित एक वैधानिक प्राधिकरण)

(नियामक अनुपालन प्रभाग)

एफडीए भवन, कोटला रोड, नई दिल्ली-110002

Dated: 23 November 2023

To,

1. **The Commissioner of Food Safety of All States/UTs**
2. **All Central Licensing Authorities of FSSAI**
3. **All Regional Directors of FSSAI**

Subject: Request for conducting market surveillance to check the adulteration of *Cassia (Taj)* in *Cinnamon (Dalchini)* and misbranding of such food products-Reg.

Sir/Madam,

FSSAI is in receipt of the complaints alleging malpractices involving the adulteration of *Cassia (Taj)* in *Cinnamon (Dalchini)* and misbranding of the same by the Food Business Operators to capitalize on the higher profit margin offered by Cassia compared to Cinnamon.

2. In this regard, it is informed that Cinnamon and Cassia food product standards are different and have been specified in sub-regulations 2.9(4) and 2.9(5) of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. Further, through an amendment to the said regulation, the maximum permissible limit of coumarin content has been specified and included to the standard of cinnamon, aiding in the distinction between cinnamon and cassia based on ***coumarin content***. The testing method for the detection of same is also specified in the revised Manual of Methods for analysis of Spices, Herbs & Condiments published on 22.06.2021.

3. FSSAI released a guidance note on March 10, 2017, detailing physical and chemical properties for easy identification and differentiation between Cinnamon and Cassia and the same can be accessed through following link-https://fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2018/04/5ac47df86d178_Guidance_Note_Cinnamon_CCASIA_10_03_2014.pdf

4. In view of the above, the Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs and the Central Licensing Authorities of FSSAI are requested to conduct a market surveillance drive to check the prevalence of such alleged malpractices concerning the above matter ***(both in whole form and powdered form of spice)*** in their respective areas and submit the report to this office by **31.12.2023** at [*enforcement1@fssai.gov.in*](mailto:enforcement1@fssai.gov.in).

In addition to above, it is also advised to conduct awareness/education drives among FBOs and the consumers to exercise more caution while selling and/or purchasing such food products.

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours
sincerely,

(Rakesh Kumar)
Director (Regulatory Compliance)

Copy to: -

1. Sr. PS to CEO, FSSAI.
2. Advisor, Science and Standard Division, FSSAI
3. Advisor, QA Division, FSSAI
4. Head (IT)-for upload on FSSAI website.