

**फाइल संख्या: RCD-02004/7/2025-Regulatory-FSSAI****भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण***(खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक अधिनियम, 2006 के अंतर्गत स्थापित एक वैधानिक प्राधिकरण)***(नियामक अनुपालन प्रभाग)****एफडीए भवन, कोटला रोड, नई दिल्ली – 110002**

दिनांक: 24 दिसंबर, 2025

विषय: "चाय" शब्द के प्रयोग के संबंध में स्पष्टीकरण।

**Sub.: Clarification regarding the use of the word "Tea"**

It has come to the notice of FSSAI that some Food Business Operators (FBOs) are marketing products that are not obtained from the plant *Camellia sinensis* under the name "Tea", such as "Rooibos Tea," "Herbal Tea," "Flower Tea," etc.

2. In this regard, it is clarified that, as per standards specified under 2.10.1 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, Tea (including Kangra Tea, Green Tea and Instant Tea in solid form) shall be exclusively from the plant of the *Camellia sinensis*. Further, sub-regulation (1) of regulation 5 of Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 specified that every package shall carry the name of the food which indicate the true nature of the food contained in the package, on the Front of Pack. Therefore, the use of the word "Tea" directly or indirectly for any other plant-based or herbal infusions or blends not derived from *Camellia sinensis* is misleading and amounts to misbranding under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the rules/regulations made thereunder.

3. As per the aforementioned regulation, such plant-based or herbal infusions or blends, which are not derived from *Camellia sinensis* do not qualify to be named as Tea. Further, based on the ingredient(s) used, these products may either fall under the scope of proprietary foods (or) Food Safety and Standards (Approval for Non-Specified Food and Food Ingredients) Regulations, 2017.

4. Accordingly, all Food Business Operators including E-commerce engaged in manufacturing, packing, marketing, import or sale of such products are **directed to comply with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Regulation and refrain from using the term 'Tea' for any products not derived from *Camellia sinensis*.**

5. The Commissioners of Food Safety of all States/UTs and Regional Directors, FSSAI are requested to direct the Designated Officers and Food Safety Officers under their jurisdiction to monitor and ensure strict adherence to the above provisions by the Food Business Operators including e-commerce. In case of non-compliance, necessary action shall be initiated as per the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the rules/regulations made thereunder.

*This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.*

सादर,

(डॉ. सत्येन कुमार पंडा)

**Dr. Satyen Kumar Panda**

कार्यकारी निदेशक (अनुपालन रणनीति)

Executive Director (Compliance Strategy)

**To,**

1. All Food Business Operators (FBOs) including e-commerce

**Copy to:**

1. Commissioners of Food Safety of all States/UTs
2. All Regional Directors, FSSAI
3. Director Imports, FSSAI

**Copy for information to:**

1. Sr. PS to Chairperson, FSSAI
2. Sr. PS to CEO, FSSAI
3. Executive Director (Compliance Strategy), FSSAI
4. Chief Technology Officer - For uploading on FSSAI website.