

**FAQs on Gazette notification of Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018**

Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 has been gazette notified on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018. Keeping in view the various representations received seeking clarity on the gazette notification; for the purpose of ease of understanding the said regulation following are the FAQs:

**Q.1. What is the date of compliance of these regulations?**

Food Business Operator (FBO) shall comply with all the provisions of these regulations by 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2019.

**Q.2. Is Fortification made mandatory for all FBOs or is it still voluntary in India?**

Fortification of staples mentioned under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 is not mandatory. However, if any Food Business Operators wants to fortify these commodities and use +F logo, then they shall fortify their products as per the standards specified under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018. Further, the iodization of salt is mandatory as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on sales) Regulations, 2018. However, wherever, the standards of any food product under 'Food Safety and Standards Regulations' prescribe for addition of particular vitamins/minerals as a mandatory requirement of that particular standard, the same shall be complied, but in such cases +F logo shall not be used.

**Q.3. Whether addition of nutrients (vitamins/minerals) other than the list provided under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 is permitted?**

The Food Business Operator (FBO) can add nutrients other than the list provided under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulation, 2018, under the category 'Proprietary food' in quantities not exceeding one RDA of the respective micronutrients. However, in that case, FBOs cannot use +F logo and term their product as 'Fortified'.

**Q.4. Whether after the enforcement of fortification regulations, addition of Vitamin A to Vanaspati is required or not? If yes, can these products be claimed as 'Fortified with Vitamin A'?**

Vanaspati shall conform to the standards specified under section 2.2.6 (1) of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. However, these products cannot be claimed as 'Fortified' or use +F logo for its promotion.

**Q.5. Is it mandatory to write the tag line of Fortification –“ Sampoorna Poshan Swasth Jeevan” under the logo?**

No. Every package of fortified food shall carry the words “fortified with ..... (Name of the fortificant)” and the logo, specified in Schedule-II of the Food Safety and

Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulation 2018, on its label. Use of tag line "Sampoorna Poshan Swast Jeevan" under the logo is optional.

**Q.6. What should be the unit for Vitamin - A & Vitamin-D in Nutritional Panel? Is it mandatory to write the units in "µg" after 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2019 or "IU"/"mcg" can be written as before?**

As per the sub-regulation 2.2.2 (3) (iv) of Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011, wherever, numerical information on vitamins and minerals is declared, it shall be expressed in metric units. Further, for ease of convenience, the units may be mentioned as specified in the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018.

**Q.7. Under which category vitamins and minerals premixes used for food fortification can apply for license? Whether +F logo can be used on the package of such premixes?**

Premixes of Vitamins and minerals for use in fortification of foods are not for direct consumption and are to be added to the final formulation. Hence, the same can be licensed under the category 99.5: Nutrients and their preparations and +F logo cannot be used on the package of such premixes.

**Q.8. Whether claims can be made on the packages of fortified food articles?**

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued direction dated 22.12.2017 ([Annexure-1](#)) specifying the claims that can be mentioned when a food article is fortified as per the provision made under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018. No other claims can be made on the packages of fortified food articles.

**Q.9. Whether overages are allowed under this regulation?**

The Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 specifies the levels of nutrients in a range and thus, overages are not required. The food product samples should meet the requirements specified in the aforesaid regulations, whenever tested during the whole shelf life.

**Q.10. What is the significance of +F logo?**

+F logo describes that the particular food is fortified with micronutrients as per the levels specified by Food Safety and Standard Authority of India in the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018.

**Q.11. Whether the staples mentioned in this regulation need to comply other essential parameters specified under Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011?**

Yes. Staples such as Salt, Oil, Milk, Rice, Atta and Maida shall conform to the standards specified under Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food

Additives) Regulations, 2011, in addition to the provisions specified under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018.

**Q.12. Whether +F logo can be used on the packages of iodized salt (when fortified with iodine)?**

As per the direction dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018, iodized salt (when fortified with iodine) has been exempted from the mandatory requirement of use of +F logo on fortified foods under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018.

**Q.13. How to obtain +F logo?**

In order to obtain +F logo, an FBO must endorse the fortified staples via the Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS) system of FSSAI. A direction on the same has been issued by FSSAI on 21.08.2018 (Annexure-2). Post the endorsement the open file of the +F logo will be available to the FBO for incorporating on the label of fortified products.

**Q.14. Is there any additional declaration to be made on packages of fortified food products?**

Commodities which are fortified with iron as per the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 shall carry an additional declaration on the pack namely "*People with Thalassaemia may take under medical supervision*".

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File No. Standards/SP (Fortified & Enriched Foods)-02/FSSAI-2017 (Part File-1)  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
 (A statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
 (Standards Division)  
 FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110002

The 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2017

**Subject: Directions under section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding 'Health Claims' permitted under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016 - reg**


The Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016 have been made operational with effect from 16.10.2016. These regulations include the Standards for Wheat flour, Rice, Edible oil, Milk and Salt that may be fortified with Micronutrients like Vitamin A, Vitamin D, Iron, Folic Acid, Vitamin B12, Zinc, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin and Pyridoxine.

2. In order to have uniformity in claims, the following scientifically substantiated health claims are suggested, which may be used in broader form for the above fortified foods against respective micronutrients fortified in accordance with the above said regulations:

Nutrients	Claims
Vitamin A	Helps against night blindness;
Vitamin D	Supports strong bones;
Vitamin B12	Important for maintaining normal functioning of nervous system and blood formation;
Folate & Folic acid	Important for foetal development and blood formation;
Iron	Fights Anemia;
Iodine	Required for normal growth, thyroid and brain function;
Zinc	Supports a healthy immune system;
Thiamine	Required for normal nerve and heart function;
Riboflavin	Necessary to release energy from food;
Niacin	Necessary to release energy from food;
Pyridoxine	Necessary to release energy from food.

3. Further, the claims shall also comply with the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and regulations made thereunder specifically packaging and labelling requirements as laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested under Section 18 (2) (d) and 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

  
(Garima Singh)  
Director  
(Regulatory Compliance)

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioner's;
2. All Designated Officer's;
3. All Authorised Officer's;
4. CITO, FSSAI for uploading on website.

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI;
3. All Directors, FSSAI.

File No. F.29014/FSSAI/FICS-FLRS/WORK IN I&T/ 2016  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(Regulatory Compliance Division)  
(A Statutory Authority established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110002**

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2018

**ORDER**

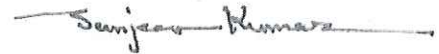
**Subject:** Endorsement for +F logo within the FLRS - reg.

Sir/ Madam,

Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018 has been Gazette notified dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018. As per the regulation, every package of fortified food shall carry the logo on the label, as specified in the schedule II of these regulations.

2. To simplify the ongoing process of +F logo registration on the website of Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC), an endorsement procedure has been integrated within the existing FLRS, wherein FBO will be able to endorse their fortified products and obtain CDR file of +F logo.
3. All Food Business Operators (FBOs) engaged in manufacturing/ processing<sup>1</sup> and relabelling/ repacking<sup>2</sup> of fortified food products shall endorse their fortified food product in existing license/ registration. The FBOs shall complete this endorsement by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. The process flowchart is attached as Annexure-1.
4. This has the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours sincerely,



(Sanjeev Kumar)

Deputy Director, Regulatory Compliance

To,

- (i) Commissioner of Food Safety of all States/UTs.
- (ii) All Central Licensing Authority
- (iii) All Food Business Operators
- (iv) CITO : You are requested to upload it on website and flash a trigger on FLRS in this regard.

<sup>1</sup>If the manufacturer/processor is not marketing the product in their own name, then they shall not take this endorsement.

<sup>2</sup> Relabeller/ Repacker is the FBO who gets the product manufactured by the third party and sells it under its own packaging and labelling.

### **Procedure of Endorsement for fortification and use of +F logo**

For the use of +F logo on packs of fortified commodities for Wheat Flour, Rice, Edible Oil, Double Fortified Salt and Milk the following procedure is to be followed. This procedure is based on self-compliance and is created to simplify and structure the usage of +F logo.

1. All the Food Business Operators (FBOs) have to mandatorily use +F logo if they are fortifying their products /commodities as per the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016.
2. The FBOs fortifying their product, shall undertake an endorsement by logging into the FLRS with their existing username and password. The process is as placed in Annexure 1
3. On filling of details and submission of self compliance certificate, an endorsement on the existing license will be generated online immediately along with an CDR file of the +F logo.
4. It is requested that the FBO furnish their product pack shot for featuring on the FFRC website thereafter through email ([fortification@fssai.gov.in](mailto:fortification@fssai.gov.in)).

## PROCESS FLOW CHART

## ANNEXURE 1

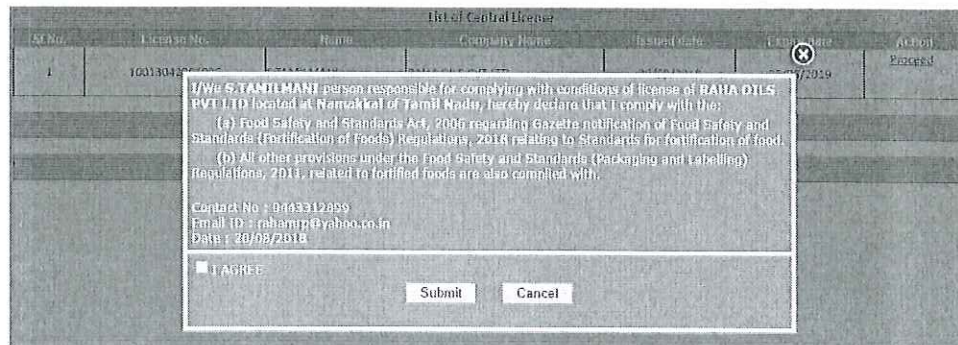
- STEP 1 FLRS link to log in to the existing license/ registration. <https://foodlicensing.fssai.gov.in/index.aspx>
- STEP 2 "Click to Endorse Fortified Products" will be displayed on the screen.



- STEP 3 On Clicking, License/ Registration Certificate list will be displayed. FBO has to click on PROCEED against License/Registration Certificate number.

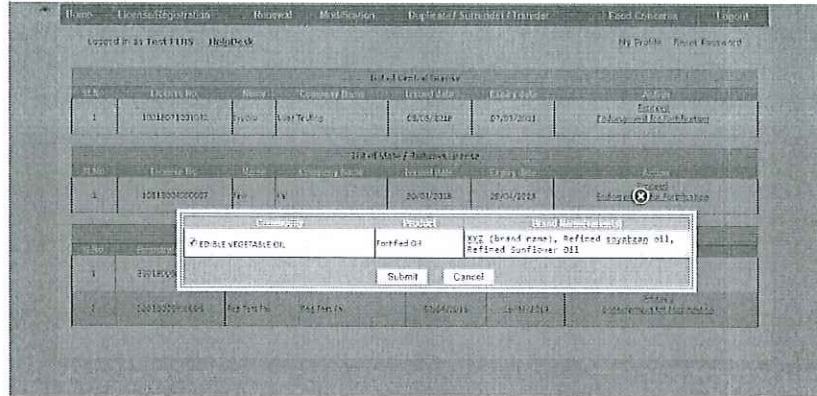
Sl.No.	License No.	Name	Company Name	Issue Date	Expiry Date	Action
<b>List of Central License</b>						
1	10018071001042	FLRS	User Testing	08/05/2018	07/05/2021	Proceed Endorsement for Fortified
<b>List of State / Railways License</b>						
1	10018004000007	FLRS	FLS	30/04/2018	29/04/2023	Proceed Endorsement for Fortified
<b>List of Registration Certificate</b>						
1	23018003000004	Reg Test	Reg Test	30/04/2018	29/04/2019	Proceed
2	23018003000005	Reg Test Fal	Reg Test Fal	30/04/2018	29/04/2019	Proceed Endorsement for Fortified

- STEP 4 A pop-up will open with an Undertaking. Only after clicking 'I AGREE' FBO can proceed further.





- **STEP 5** List of commodities as per the FSS, standards of fortification, regulation will be displayed. FBO will select the product and enter the Variant<sup>3</sup> and Brand Name against selected category.



- **STEP 6** Product details along with Fortified Logo along will be given as endorsement mentioning License number.



<sup>3</sup>Variant: e.g. Toned Milk, Double Toned Milk, Soyabean Oil, Sunflower Oil etc.