

Instruction No. 22/2024-Customs,
F.No.401/103/2021-Cus.III
Government of India
Ministry of Finance,
Department of Revenue
(Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs)

Dated 16th October, 2024

To

All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs/ Customs (Preventive)/Customs & Central Taxes

All Principal Commissioners/Commissioners of Customs /Customs (Preventive).

All Pr. Director General/Director Generals under CBIC

Subject: Implementation of "Agreement" signed between FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) -reg.

Madam/Sir,

Reference is invited to FSSAI Office Order dated 13.09.2024 issued from File No: TIC/1/2024-IMPORTS-FSSAI (copy attached as *Annexure A*) on the above subject.

2.1 Vide above order, it is stated that an "Agreement" has been signed between FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA), Ministry of Health, Royal Govt. of Bhutan, at Thimphu on 21 March, 2024. The Agreement aims to recognize the official control exercised by BFDA on Food Business Operators (FBOs) as equivalent to FSSAI's requirement and the BFDA shall issue a Health Certificate as proof of compliance with the requirements prescribed by FSSAI, for export of food products to India.

2.2 It is further stated that, for compliance and smooth implementation of the above said agreement, all the concerned officers shall ensure the compliance of following requirements:

i. If the Imported food consignment from the Bhutanese manufacturer with the scope of approval as per the list attached as *Annexure B*, is accompanied with the prescribed Health Certificate, attached as *Annexure C*, duly issued by the BFDA Competent Authority, then NOC may be given to the consignment based on the duly compliant accompanied Health Certificate.

3. Specimen signatures of the Authorized signatories issuing the Health Certificate are being shared separately for reference and records.

4. In case of imported food consignments covered under the scope of aforesaid 'Agreement', the requisite Health Certificate shall be mandatorily uploaded on e-sanchit by the importer/Customs Broker under document code 8511FS and the particulars of the Health Certificate shall be carefully entered while filing the bill of entry. The out-of-charge officer/TSK officer shall verify the Health Certificate as per practice being followed for verification of such documents. In cases, where Customs Officers are functioning as Authorised Officers of FSSAI, they shall ensure, before granting NOC, that requisite documents as stated above are uploaded on e-sanchit and are in order.

5. It is requested that necessary action may be taken to sensitize officers under your jurisdiction regarding the said matter.

6. The difficulties, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board.

Hindi version follows.

Encls: as above

Yours faithfully.



(Neeraj Goyal)
OSD (Cus-III)
Email: uscus.3-dor@gov.in
Tele: 011 23094012

Copy to:- (for information and necessary action)

1. The Pr. ADG, NCTC, Mumbai.
2. The Webmaster, CBIC

File No: TIC/1/2024-IMPORTS-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory body under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India)
(Trade and International Cooperation Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated: 13th September, 2024

Office Order

Subject: Implementation of "Agreement" signed between FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) -reg.

This is to inform that an "Agreement" is signed between FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA), Ministry of Health, Royal Govt. of Bhutan, at Thimphu on 21 March, 2024. The Agreement aims to recognize the official control exercised by BFDA on Food Business Operators (FBOs) as equivalent to FSSAI's requirement and the BFDA shall issue a Health Certificate as proof of compliance with the requirements prescribed by FSSAI, for export of food products to India.

2. For compliance and smooth implementation of the above said agreement, it is informed that all the concerned officers shall ensure the compliance of following requirements:

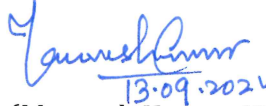
I. If the Imported food consignment from the Bhutanese manufacturer with the scope of approval as per the list attached, is accompanied with the prescribed Health Certificate duly issued by the BFDA Competent Authority, then NOC may be given to the consignment based on the duly complaint accompanied Health Certificate.

Enclosures as below:

- Copy of approved Health Certificate
- Copy of signatures of the Authorized signatories issuing the Health Certificate
- List of approved establishment of Bhutan with scope of approval

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

Encl: As above


13.09.2024
(Manvesh Kumar, IRS)
Director (Imports)
dir-imports@fssai.gov.in

To:

- Authorized Officers, FSSAI- for information and to ensure compliance
- Customs Officers notified as Authorized Officers- for information and to ensure compliance

Copy for information to:

- PS to CEO, FSSAI
- PA to ED (TICD), FSSAI
- Regional Directors, FSSAI (All)- for sensitization of concerned importers

Annexure-B

| SN | FSL Client | Approval Number (Food Safety License Number) | Product Scope | Validity of Food Safety License |
|----|--|--|---|--|
| 1 | Zimdra Food Pvt Ltd, Chukha | FSL-C/17/A001 | Fruit Juices & UHT Milk | The License has no validity; however, it is subjected to annual surveillance inspection based on risk score (risk-based inspection planning) |
| 2 | Namgay Artisanal Brewery, Paro | FSL-PA/17/A002 | Beer & Apple cider | -do- |
| 3 | ICE Beverages Pvt. Ltd, Samtse | FSL-S/18/A003 | Fruit Juices & Packaged Drinking Water | -do- |
| 4 | Veen Waters Bhutan Pvt Ltd, Samtse | FSL-S/18/A004 | Natural Mineral water | -do- |
| 5 | Bhutan Spring Penzogyam, Thinleygang, Punakha/Wangdue | FSL-PU/18/A005 | Packaged Drinking Water | -do- |
| 6 | Gelephu Distillery, AWPL, Gelephu | FSL-SG/18/A006 | Alcoholic Beverages | -do- |
| 7 | Samtse Distillery, AWPL, Samtse | FSL-S/18/A007 | Alcoholic Beverages | -do- |

| | | | | |
|----|--|----------------|--|------|
| 8 | Kinjore Brewery Pvt. Ltd, Chukha | FSL-C/19/A012 | Beer | -do- |
| 9 | Serbhum Microbrewery, Thimphu | FSL-TH/19/A014 | Beer | -do- |
| 10 | Living Water of Bhutan Pvt Ltd, Thimphu | FSL-TH/20/A019 | Packaged drinking water | -do- |
| 11 | Chuniding Foods, Thimphu | FSL-TH/19/A020 | Fruit & Vegetable products, Spices, Grains, Cereal products, Ciders & vinegars | -do- |
| 12 | OGOP Unit, Motithang, Thimphu | FSL-TH/19/A024 | Assorted dried and processed food products | -do- |
| 13 | Bhutan Agro Industries Ltd, Mongar | FSL-M/20/A025 | Fruits and vegetable products & packaged drinking water | -do- |
| 14 | Bhutan Herbal Tea, Shaba, Paro | FSL-PA/20/A026 | Herbal Tea | -do- |
| 15 | Druk Honey, Bumthang | FSL-B/20/A027 | Honey | -do- |
| 16 | Bhutan Agro Industries Limited, Wangchutaba, Thimphu | FSL-TH/20/A028 | Packaged drinking water and Juices | -do- |
| 17 | Laykha Dairy, Paro | FSL-PA/20/A031 | Dairy Products | -do- |
| 18 | K P Milk Processing Unit, Thimphu | FSL-TH/20/A042 | Dairy Products | -do- |
| 19 | Uhm-Chuna Natural Spring Water, Paro | FSL-PA/20/A043 | Packaged Drinking Water | -do- |

| | | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|------|
| 20 | Ongmo's Product, Bumthang | FSL-B/20/A044 | Cookies, Jam & Candy | -do- |
| 21 | Bhutan Herbal Tea, Bumthang | FSL-B/21/A045 | Herbal Tea | -do- |
| 22 | Bhutan Mountain Coffee, Paro | FSL-PA/21/A046 | Roasted Coffee | -do- |
| 23 | Bhutan Superfood and Herbs, Paro | FSL- PA/21/A053 | Tea & Cereal Products | -do- |
| 24 | Jinlab Agro Products, Tsirang | FSL-TS/21/A055 | Spices, Jam & Wine | -do- |
| 25 | Paro Gangtey Spring Water, Paro | FSL-PA/21/A057 | Packaged Drinking Water | -do- |
| 26 | Bio Bhutan, Thimphu | FSL-TH/21/A061 | Ginger, Turmeric and Mustard oil | -do- |
| 27 | Samcholing Zangja TshonglayDetshen, Trongsa | FSL-TR/21/A062 | Green Tea | -do- |
| 28 | Crystal Moon Products, Gelephu | FSL-SG/22/A074 | Fruits and Vegetable Pickle | -do- |
| 29 | Tashi Beverages, Chukha | FSL-C/22/A081 | Coca cola, Water, Fanta, Sprit | -do- |
| 30 | Beekeeper Cooperative of Bhutan, Bumthang | FSL-B/22/ A083 | Honey Production and Packaging | -do- |
| 31 | MSPCL, Kawajangsa, Thimphu | FSL-TH/22/84 | Herbal Tea | -do- |
| 32 | Kurje DrubChu, Bumthang | FSL-B/22/A085 | Packaged Drinking Water | -do- |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|--|------|
| 33 | Druk Phendhay Silchu, Sarpang | FSL-SG/22/A092 | Natural Mineral Water | -do- |
| 34 | Bhutan Organics, Thimphu | FSL-TH/23/A097 | Tea and Sea buckthorn Juice | -do- |
| 35 | Yelha Cordyceps Products, Thimphu | FSL-TH/23/A100 | Herbal Tea | -do- |
| 36 | Sherchok Women's Group, Gelephu | FSL-SG/23/A101 | Spices and Condiments | -do- |
| 37 | Bhutan Brewery Pvt. Ltd, Chukha | FSL-C/23/A102 | Beer | -do- |
| 38 | Serja breweries Private Limited, S/Jongkhar | FSL-SJ/23/A103 | Beer | -do- |
| 39 | Bhutan Milk and Agro Pvt. Ltd., Chukha | FSL-C/24/A104 | Fruit juice/drink Spring water Yogurt Flavored milk Yogurt drinks Orange & other fruit drinks | -do- |
| 40 | Druk Herbal Cordyceps (DHC) Production, Thimphu | FSL-TH/24/A114 | Cordyceps Tea and Matsutake Tea. | -do- |
| 41 | Bhutan Naturals, Samdrup jongkhar | FSL-SJ/23/A094 | Spices: Ginger | -do- |
| 42 | Rigsum Honey Cordyceps, Haa | FSL-H/22/A078 | Cordyceps Artisan Infused Honey | -do- |
| 43 | Thugzom's Livelihood Agro,Haa | FSL-H/24/A107 | Carrot, Apple & Ginger Candies | -do- |

Annexure-C

(Name and Address of the Competent Authority)

HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF FOOD PRODUCTS INTO INDIA INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION (EXCEPT MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS*)

Health certificate No :

Date of Issue:

| Description of Consignment | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Invoice No. and Date: | | | 2. Quantity: | | |
| 3. Consignor / exporter Name: Address: | | | | | |
| 4. Consignee /importer: Name: Address: | | | | | |
| 5. Country of origin: | | | | | |
| 6. Place of loading: | | | | | |
| 7. Declared Port of Entry: | | | | | |
| 8. Mode of Transport: | | | | | |
| 9. Date of Export: | | | | | |
| 10. Conditions for transport / storage: Frozen / Chilled / Ambient / _____. | | | | | |
| 11. Identification of the product as described below: (multiple lines may be used for multiple products) | | | | | |
| a) | Description of the food along with HS code: | | | | |
| b) | Name and address of Manufacturer / Establishment | | | Approval number of establishment | |
| | | | | | |
| c) | Name of the product | Lot no. / Batch no. | Type of packaging | Number of packages | Net Weight |
| | | | | | |
| d) | Date of Manufacture or Packaging | | Best before (if applicable) | | Date of Expiry |
| | | | | | |

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Authorized Official certifies that the food and agricultural/livestock products (which comes under the ambit of FSSAI) described herein have been produced in the facility complying with Sanitary and Hygienic requirements as specified in Schedule 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 and the products meet the food safety requirements as given below:

- a. Were manufactured at (an) establishment (s) that has / have been approved by the Competent Authority in the exporting country.
- b. Complies with the Product specific standards as specified under various Food Safety and Standards Regulations.
- c. Does not contain drug / antibiotics / mycotoxins / pesticides / heavy metal residues etc., above the limits prescribed by the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.
- d. Contains only those food additives as specified in Appendix 'A' of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 within the limits specified.
- e. Conforms to the microbiological requirements specified in Appendix 'B' of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.
- f. Regular inspection/ monitoring of checks in according with FSS Act, 2006, rules and regulations made thereunder and as per the criteria specified by FSSAI.
- g. Products exported to India conform to the requirements prescribed by FSSAI including any other regulatory requirements.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Inspection Date: | Official stamp: | Name and Signature of Authorized Official |
| Place of Issue: | | |

This certificate is valid for 45 days from the date of issue.

***Note:** This certificate will not be applicable for Milk and Milk Products to be exported to India.