

**Instruction No. 04/2025-Customs**

F. No.401/103/2021-Cus.III  
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance,  
Department of Revenue  
(Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs)  
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21-04-2025

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: Recognition of National Food & Feed Reference Laboratory  
(NFFRL), Kathmandu, Nepal- regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

Reference is invited to Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's Order dated 04.04.2025 issued from File No. QA-12012/141/2021-QA-FSSAI (copy attached), on the above subject.

2. As stated in the said Order dated 04.04.2025, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the Department of Food Technology and Quality Control (DFTQC), Nepal, for cooperation in the field of food safety. One of the areas of cooperation under the aegis of the MoU is the mutual recognition of each other's laboratories as per the policy prevailing from time to time.

3. Accordingly, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has recognized the National Food & Feed Reference Laboratory (NFFRL), Kathmandu, Nepal, for the analysis of food samples under the Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011, till the period of accreditation of the laboratory as per ISO/IEC 17025 from NABL.

4. The analysis certificates issued by NFFRL, Kathmandu, Nepal, for the following food products shall be accepted by the relevant authorities in India dealing with food imports.

- (i). Juice
- (ii). Jam
- (iii). Jelly
- (iv). Pickles
- (v). Candies
- (vi). Ginger
- (vii). Fresh fruits and Vegetables
- (viii). Instant noodles.

5. In view of the above, 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.

Yours faithfully,

Encls: as above.

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

Copy to: - (for information and necessary action)

1. The Webmaster, CBIC.

Digitally signed by  
Neeraj Goyal  
Date: 21-04-2025  
14:42:27