FSSAI

Draft would allow chemically recycled PE and PP for food contact

FSSAI's draft Packaging Amendment Regulations, 2026 would allow chemically recycled PE and PP for food contact, and recycled polymer in outer layers.

THE FOOD SAFETY AND Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued notification F. No. SS-T0SP20(M)/4/2026-Standard-FSSAI, dated November 2, 2026, publishing the draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2026. It appears in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, No. 646, dated November 3, 2026. FSSAI proposes to make the regulations with the previous approval of the Central Government, under sub-section (2) of section 92 read with section 23 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. They would amend the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018. The notification is signed by Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

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F. No. SS-T0SP20(M)/4/2026-Standard-FSSAI, draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2026



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The draft adds two clauses, (f) and (g), after clause (e) of sub-regulation (4) of regulation 4. Regulation 4 sets specific requirements for primary food packaging, and sub-regulation (4) covers plastic materials intended to come in contact with food products. Clause (f) reads: "Recycled Polyethylene (PE) and Polypropylene (PP) produced by Chemical recycling process as defined in IS 14534, via the monomer route, may be used for food-contact materials, only when the output (end product) is considered equivalent to virgin material and meets the criteria applicable to virgin material."

Clause (g) reads: "Recycled polymer derived exclusively from food-grade packaging material may be used in the outermost layer of multilayer packaging material intended for food contact, provided that the inner layers possess adequate barrier properties to prevent migration of substances from the outermost layer into the food and also shall fulfil the already prescribed migration limits for packaging materials."

The draft does not reproduce clauses (a) to (e), does not say who decides that a recycled output is equivalent to virgin material or how, and does not define "adequate barrier properties". It covers only PE and PP made by chemical recycling through the monomer route in clause (f); it says nothing about mechanically recycled PE or PP. It gives no date for the regulations to take effect. Its note records that the 2018 regulations were last amended by notification F. No. RCD-09002/1/2026-Regulatory-FSSAI, dated August 7, 2026.

The draft will be taken into consideration after sixty days from the date copies of the Gazette containing it are made available to the public. Objections or suggestions may be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Food and Drug Administration Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002, or emailed to sp-packaging@fssai.gov.in. No end date is given. The e-Gazette copy, CG-DL-E-03112026-277629, is dated November 3, 2026; sixty days counted from then end on January 2, 2027. No final regulations had appeared by November 7, 2026.

Issued by	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
Document	F. No. SS-T0SP20(M)/4/2026-Standard-FSSAI, draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2026
Dated	November 2, 2026
Gazette	Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, No. 646, November 3, 2026
Gazette ID	CG-DL-E-03112026-277629
Amends	Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018: regulation 4(4), new clauses (f) and (g)
Clause (f)	Recycled PE and PP from chemical recycling as defined in IS 14534, via the monomer route, for food-contact materials, only when the output is equivalent to virgin material and meets its criteria
Clause (g)	Recycled polymer derived only from food-grade packaging material, in the outermost layer of multilayer food-contact packaging, if inner layers give adequate barrier properties and prescribed migration limits are met
Applies to	Plastic materials intended to come in contact with food products, in primary food packaging
Takes effect	Not stated in the draft
Comment period	Sixty days from the date copies of the Gazette are made available to the public; no end date is given. Counted from November 3, 2026, the date of the e-Gazette copy, sixty days end on January 2, 2027
Send comments to	Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Food and Drug Administration Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002, or sp-packaging@fssai.gov.in
Final regulations	None by November 7, 2026
Legal basis	Section 92(2) read with section 23, Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
Signed by	Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer

The notification (draft regulations) (PDF, 543 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-03112026-277629.

Checked against the official copy on November 7, 2026.

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