FSSAI

FSSAI draft would restrict paneer not made from milk

FSSAI's draft would add "paneer made of constituents not derived from milk" to sub-regulation 2.1.1 of the Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales Regulations, 2011.

THE FOOD SAFETY AND Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a notification under F. No. RCD-15001/1/2024-Regulatory-FSSAI, dated September 22, 2026, publishing the draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, No. 573, dated September 23, 2026. FSSAI proposes to make the regulations under section 92(2) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, with the previous approval of the Central Government. It publishes the draft as section 92(1) requires, for the information of all persons likely to be affected. It is signed by Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

FSSAI

PUBLISHED

September 22, 2026

ISSUED BY

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

DOCUMENT

Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2026, notification F. No. RCD-15001/1/2024-Regulatory-FSSAI

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FSSAI · September 22, 2026

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a notification under F. No. RCD-15001/1/2024-Regulatory-FSSAI, dated September 22, 2026, publishing the draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, No. 573, dated September 23, 2026. FSSAI proposes to make the regulations under section 92(2) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, with the previous approval of the Central Government. It publishes the draft as section 92(1) requires, for the information of all persons likely to be affected. It is signed by Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer.

The draft would amend the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011. In regulation 2.1, in sub-regulation 2.1.1, after clause (11), it would insert this clause: "(12) paneer made of constituents not derived from milk." The draft does not quote sub-regulation 2.1.1 or its first eleven clauses, so it does not show the words the new clause would sit under. Its note records that the principal regulations were published by notification F. No. 2-15015/30/2010, dated August 1, 2011, and last amended by notification F. No. SS-T0FA(NOTI)/3/2024-Standard-FSSAI, dated May 23, 2026.

The notification says the amendment is proposed "to restrict manufacturing and sale of analogue product as paneer so as to prevent misleading of consumer's regarding the nature and composition of the product." It states that products already licensed or registered under the "Analogue in Dairy Context" category "shall discontinue the use of the term 'Paneer' in their nomenclature, labelling or marketing." That statement sits in the notification's opening text. Apart from their short title, the draft regulations contain only the new clause.

The draft will be taken into consideration after the expiry of sixty days from the date on which copies of the Official Gazette publishing 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, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002, or sent by email to regulation@fssai.gov.in. FSSAI will consider those received from any person before the period ends. The notification does not state the date on which copies were made available, so it gives no closing date.

The draft has a short title but no commencement clause, so it does not say when the amendment would take effect. It gives no transition period, either for products already licensed or registered under the "Analogue in Dairy Context" category or for labels and stock already on the market. It does not define "constituents not derived from milk" or say whether a product made partly from milk would be covered, and it does not describe the "Analogue in Dairy Context" category.

Issued by	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
Document	Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2026, notification F. No. RCD-15001/1/2024-Regulatory-FSSAI
Dated	September 22, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, No. 573, September 23, 2026
Status	Draft, published for objections and suggestions
Would amend	Regulation 2.1, sub-regulation 2.1.1, of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 (clause (12) inserted after clause (11))
Proposed clause	"(12) paneer made of constituents not derived from milk."
Products already licensed or registered	Under the "Analogue in Dairy Context" category: "shall discontinue the use of the term 'Paneer' in their nomenclature, labelling or marketing"
Transition period	Not stated
Comment period	Sixty days from the date copies of the Gazette are made available to the public
Send comments to	The Chief Executive Officer, FSSAI, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002, or regulation@fssai.gov.in
Takes effect	Not stated in the draft
Legal basis	Section 92(2) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, with the previous approval of the Central Government
Signed by	Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer

The notification (draft regulations) (PDF, 610 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-23092026-276430.

Checked against the official copy on October 28, 2026.

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