

August 10, 2026

FSSAI

Importers asked to flag non-food goods as NFG on ICEGATE

FSSAI's public notice of August 10, 2026 advises importers and customs brokers to declare the NFG qualifier on Bills of Entry for non-food grade items.

THE FOOD SAFETY AND Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), through its Trade and International Cooperation Division at FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi, issued a public notice dated August 10, 2026 under File No. TIC-B02/1/2026-IMPORTS-FSSAI. Its subject is the

declaration of Non-Food Grade items in the Bill of Entry. The notice opens by recalling that FSSAI regulates the import of food articles under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017.

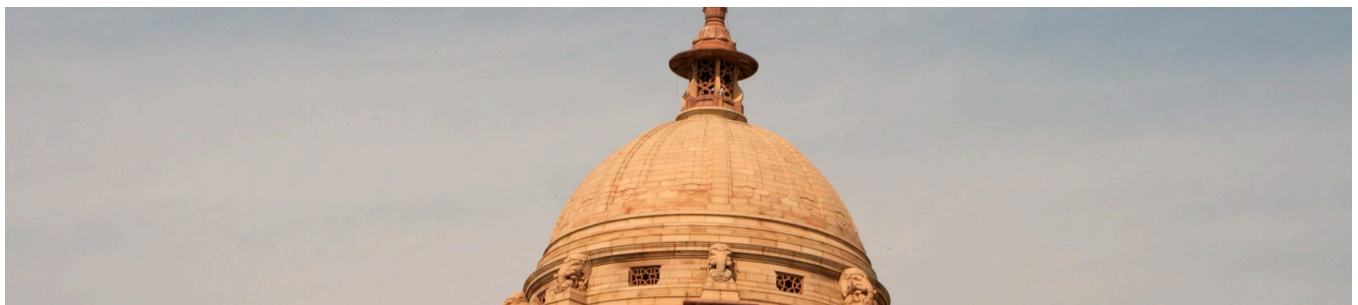
KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY
FSSAI

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August 10, 2026

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Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Trade and International Cooperation Division

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Public Notice, File No. TIC-B02/1/2026-IMPORTS-FSSAI



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The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), through its Trade and International Cooperation Division at FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi, issued a public notice dated August 10, 2026 under File No. TIC-B02/1/2026-IMPORTS-FSSAI. Its subject is the declaration of Non-Food Grade items in the Bill of Entry. The notice opens by recalling that FSSAI regulates the import of food articles under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017.

FSSAI states that it has observed a large number of Bills of Entry pertaining to non-food grade items being routed to it for clearance. The notice names in particular items having dual food/non-food use under the same HSN code. Later in the notice, FSSAI refers to such filings as non-applicable Bills of Entry.

To address this, the notice says importers and customs brokers may declare the qualifier "NFG" in ICEGATE to indicate non-food end use. According to FSSAI, the use of "NFG" in the SWIFT system will enable correct PGA routing and prevent non-applicable Bills of Entry from being referred to FSSAI. Importers and customs brokers are accordingly advised to use the qualifier "NFG" while filing Bills of Entry under Single Window, for appropriate PGA routing or non-routing, as applicable.

The notice states that it is in line with the Customs Circular dated April 22, 2026 issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs regarding the declaration of Non-Food Grade items in Bills of Entry, and that it issues with the approval of the Competent Authority. It is signed by Manvesh Kumar, IRS, Director (Trade and International Cooperation), with the contact address dir-imports@fssai.gov.in.

It is addressed to all food importers and importer associations, all customs brokers and custom house agents, and, at CBIC, to DG Systems, the Joint Secretary (Customs), ADG ICEGATE and SWIFT, and ADG NCTC in Mumbai. Within FSSAI it goes to all Regional Directors, all Authorised Officers at Ports of Entry and all FSSAI Notified Laboratories, and the IT Division is asked to upload it on the FSSAI website.

Issued by	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Trade and International Cooperation Division
Document	Public Notice, File No. TIC-B02/1/2026-IMPORTS-FSSAI
Dated	August 10, 2026
Subject	Declaration of Non-Food Grade item in the Bill of Entry

Qualifier	"NFG", declared in ICEGATE while filing Bills of Entry under Single Window
Applies to	Importers and customs brokers filing Bills of Entry for non-food grade items, particularly items with dual food/non-food use under the same HSN code
In line with	Customs Circular dated April 22, 2026, issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
Laws cited	Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006; Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017
Signed by	Manvesh Kumar, IRS, Director (Trade and International Cooperation)

[The public notice](#) (PDF, 576 KB)

Source: [FSSAI's own copy](#).

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

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