FSSAI

Meat sausage standards get six more months from May 1, 2026

An FSSAI direction of April 28, 2026 extends the compliance period for the new meat sausage standards by six months from May 1, 2026.

THE FOOD SAFETY AND Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued a direction dated April 28, 2026, F. No. STD/43-FA-Notifications/2024, under Section 16(5) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Its subject is the enforcement of the new standards for Meat Sausages notified under the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2025. FSSAI issued it with the approval of the Competent Authority. Dr. Alka Rao, Advisor (Science & Standards & Regulations), signed it digitally on April 28, 2026.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

FSSAI

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Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

DOCUMENT

Direction under Section 16(5) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, F. No. STD/43-FA-Notifications/2024

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The direction refers to FSSAI's earlier direction dated January 30, 2026, issued under the same file number. It says that direction extended the compliance period for the new Meat Sausages standards "for a period of three months from the date of enforcement i.e. 1st February, 2026". A copy of the January 30 direction is enclosed as the second page of the file FSSAI posted. That copy says the First Amendment Regulations, 2025 were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, by notification F. No. STD/43-FA-Notifications/2024 dated July 10, 2025, with compliance from February 1, 2026. Anil Mehta, Director (Regulation), signed it.

FSSAI says the meat industry sent representations on the technical and practical challenges of complying with the new standards for the preparation of meat sausages, with requests to extend the compliance timeline. The direction says a comprehensive scientific study to address these challenges is underway. After considering the implementation challenges faced by Food Business Operators (FBOs), and "pending study result for risk assessment", FSSAI decided to further extend the compliance period for the standards of Meat Sausages "for a period of six months from 1st May, 2026".

The direction is addressed to all Food Safety Commissioners, all Authorized Officers of FSSAI and all Central Designated Officers of FSSAI. CITO, FSSAI is asked to upload it on the website, and copies go to the PPS to the Chairperson, the PS to the CEO and all Divisional Heads of FSSAI. The direction does not itself list the businesses that must comply. It refers to the meat industry and to FBOs, and it deals only with the standards for Meat Sausages.

The direction gives no end date for the six months and does not say what applies once they run out. It does not set out the standards, name the provisions the industry finds hard to meet, or say when the scientific study will finish. FSSAI's advisories list, read on October 28, 2026, shows no later direction on meat sausages. Its newest entry is dated October 15, 2026.

Issued by	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
Document	Direction under Section 16(5) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, F. No. STD/43-FA-Notifications/2024

Dated	April 28, 2026
Subject	Enforcement of the new standards for Meat Sausages notified under the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2025
Applies to	The compliance period for the standards of Meat Sausages
Regulations published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, notification F. No. STD/43-FA-Notifications/2024 dated July 10, 2025, with compliance from February 1, 2026, as the January 30, 2026 direction states
Date of enforcement	February 1, 2026, as the direction recites it
Earlier direction	January 30, 2026, signed by Anil Mehta, Director (Regulation), enclosed as page 2 of the file: compliance period extended "for a period of three months from the date of enforcement i.e. 1st February, 2026"
Further extension	"for a period of six months from 1st May, 2026"
End date	Not stated
Takes effect	No date of its own; the further six months run from May 1, 2026
Reasons given	Representations from the meat industry on technical and practical challenges; a comprehensive scientific study underway; "pending study result for risk assessment"
Addressed to	All Food Safety Commissioners; all Authorized Officers, FSSAI; all Central Designated Officers, FSSAI
Signed by	Dr. Alka Rao, Advisor (Science & Standards & Regulations)

The direction under section 16(5) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (PDF, 331 KB)

Source: FSSAI's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on October 28, 2026.

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Read online: indusdesk.com/fssai/insights/meat-sausage-standards-get-six-more-months-from-may-1-2026/