

File No. RCD-02005/2/2021-Regulatory-FSSAI  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
Regulatory Compliance Division  
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

Dated, the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2021

ORDER

**Subject: Extension of time line for manufacturing and sale of Stapled tea bags - reg.**

FSSAI is in receipt of representations from Industry Associations/Food Business Operators vide which it has been requested to extend the time line for manufacturing and sale of stapled tea bags due to prevailing COVID-19 conditions, lockdown and restrictions on movement etc. which have stifled the successful implementation of the changeover roadmaps submitted by the Food Business Operators.

2. In this regard, it is reiterated that FSSAI had issued Order dated 18.07.2017 vide which the concerned FBOs were directed to discontinue the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of stapled tea bags by 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2018. However, the implementation of said direction was further extended up to 30.06.2019 vide FSSAI letter dated 15.11.2017. Subsequently, it was decided that FSSAI will consider the requests for extension of time line to manufacture tea bags with staple pins only on case to case basis up to 31.12.2021 and such tea bags can be sold in the domestic market up to 31.12.2023 only, subject to following conditions: -

(i) Submission of roadmap for complete change over to staple less tea bags latest by 31st December, 2021 to this office.

(ii) Submission of purchase orders to this office for the replacement machinery at the beginning of the financial year.

(iii) Submission of quarterly compliance report to this office on implementation of replacement plan and production details.

3. Accordingly, 26 Food Business Operators (FBOs) approached FSSAI with the requests to consider extension of above time line to manufacture tea bags with staple pins. However, out of these 26 FBOs, only 18 FBOs have so far submitted the complete roadmap and were granted extensions of timelines accordingly.


4. Now the above fresh requests from Industry Associations/Food Business Operators for another extension of timelines have been considered by the Food Authority and it has been decided that out of above 26 FBOs, 18 FBOs (list attached as **Annexure-I**) who have submitted the complete change over roadmap are allowed to manufacture stapled tea bags up to **31.12.2022**. However, it may be noted that there is no extension in sale of stapled teabags in domestic markets i.e. FBOs have to adhere the deadline given for sale of stapled teabag in domestic market i.e. **31.12.2023**.

5. Further, the list of remaining **08 FBOs** who have till date not submitted the complete switchover roadmap is attached at **Annexure-II**. The said 08 FBOs are hereby directed to submit their complete change over roadmaps **within 30 days** from the date of issuance of this order, failing which the above extension to manufacture stapled tea bags up to **31.12.2022** shall not be applicable to them.

6. The other terms and conditions of extension of time line granted in this regard to the FBOs shall remain the same. The Commissioner of Food Safety of States/UTs and all Central Licensing Authorities are requested to ensure strict compliance of this order.

7. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Encls: As above.

  
(Inoshi Sharma)  
Executive Director (Compliance Strategy)

To:

1. Commissioner of Food Safety of All States/UTs
2. All Central Licensing Authorities, FSSAI
3. All Food Business Operators (Annexure-I & II)
4. CITO, FSSAI-for uploading on FSSAI website.

List of 16 FBOs who have submitted their complete roadmap

1. M/s Hindustan Unilever Ltd
2. M/s Matheson Bosanquet Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.
3. M/s Tata Global Beverages Limited,
4. M/s Madhu Jayanti International Pvt. Ltd.,
5. M/s Vedika Exports (Tea) Pvt. Ltd.,
6. M/s Mohani Tea Leaves Private Limited,
7. M/s Jay Shree Tea & Industries Limited,
8. M/s Gujarat Tea Processors & Packers Ltd,
9. M/s A.V. Thomas & Company Ltd.,
10. M/s A. J. Tea House Pvt. Ltd.,
11. M/s Girnar Food & Beverages Pvt. Ltd.
12. M/s Sacks Bee
13. M/s Veerprabhu Overseas Limited
14. M/s JFK International Ltd.
15. M/s Codeprint Private Limited
16. M/s Fresh & Honest Cafe Ltd.
17. M/s Jivraj Tea Limited
18. M/s Appejay Tea Limited.

List of 8 FBOs who have not submitted their complete roadmap

1. M/s Coffee Day Global Limited,
2. M/s Crystal Tea (India) Private Ltd.,
3. M/s Twinings Private Limited.
4. M/s Blue Orchard Inc.,
5. M/s D. C. Johar & Sons (P) Ltd.,
6. M/s Dev Agri Farms Pvt. Ltd
7. M/s Chaizup Beverages LLP
8. M/s A Tosh & Sons(India) Limited