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# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### **Final Amendment on Biotoxin Limits in Fish and Fish Products**

**Report Categories:**

Fishery Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

On January 6, 2016, the final amendment on biotoxin limits in fish and fish products was published in the Official Gazette of India.

## **Executive Summary:**

The Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a final draft of [Food Safety and Standards \(Contaminants, Toxins and Residues\) Amendment Regulations, 2016](#). This amendment establishes India's biotoxin limits in fish and fish products. The implementation commences as of the final publication in the Official Gazette, which is January 6, 2016. FSSAI also notes that the final amendment is based on public comments received during the comment period from various stakeholders on the draft regulations published on July 7, 2015.

## **General Information:**

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On January 13, 2016, FSSAI notified [Food Safety and Standards \(Contaminants, Toxins and Residues\) Amendment Regulations, 2016](#), related to biotoxin limits in fish and fish products. However, the implementation of the amendment starts from the date of its final publication in the Official Gazette, *i.e.*, January 6, 2016. The full text of the final amendment published by FSSAI on January 13, 2016, is provided below and is also available on their website: <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. For details on the draft regulation, please refer to GAIN report [IN5094](#) and [IN5121](#).

Details of Notification: F.No.1-10(6)/Standards/SP (Fish and Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013

- Publication Date: January 13, 2016
- Date of Implementation: January 6, 2016

Products affected: Fish and fish products

Agency in Charge: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**(Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)**

**NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 4th January, 2016

**F. No. 1-10(6)/Standards/SP(Fish and Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013**,—Whereas the draft of the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Amendment Regulations, 2015 were published as required under sub-section (1) of section 92 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006), vide notification of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India number F. No. 1-10(6)/Standards/SP(Fish and Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013 dated the 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, inviting objections and suggestions from the persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of the period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette containing the said notification were made available to the public;

And whereas the copies of the said Gazette were made available to the public on the 7th July, 2015;

And whereas the objections and suggestions received from the public in respect of the said draft regulations have been considered by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (i) of sub-section (2) of section 92 read with section 20 and 21 of the said Act, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011, namely:-

**REGULATIONS**

1. **Short title and commencement.** - (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Amendment Regulations, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their final publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011, in regulation 2.2 relating to “crop contaminants and naturally occurring toxic substances”:-

(a) in sub-regulation 2.2.1, after clause 2 relating to “Naturally Occurring Toxic Substances”, the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“3. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) compounds in Fish and Fishery Products:

Sl.No.	Name of the contaminants	Article of food	Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Polychlorinated biphenyls (Sum of PCB28, PCB52, PCB101, PCB138, PCB153 and PCB180)	Inland and Migratory Fish	2.0 ppm
2.	Polychlorinated biphenyls (Sum of PCB28, PCB52, PCB101, PCB138, PCB153 and PCB180)	Marine Fish, Crustaceans and molluscs	0.5 ppm
3.	Benzo(a)pyrene	Smoked Fishery Products	5.0 ppb.”

3. After regulation 2.3 relating to “Residues”, the following regulation shall be inserted namely:-

“2.4. Limits of biotoxins in fish and fishery products:

Sl. No.	Name of the contaminants	Article of food	Limit (µg/kg)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP)	Bivalve Molluscs	80 µg/100g (Saxitoxin Equivalent)
2.	Amnesic Shellfish Poison (ASP)	Bivalve Molluscs	20 µg/g (Domoic acid equivalent)
3.	Diarrhetic shellfish poison (DSP)	Bivalve Molluscs	160 µg of Okadaic acid equivalent/Kg
4.	Azaspiracid poison (AZP)	Bivalve Molluscs	160 µg of azaspiracid equivalent/Kg
5.	Brevetoxin (BTX)	Bivalve Molluscs	200 mouse units or equivalent/Kg.”

[ADVT.III/4/Exty./]

PAWAN KUMAR AGARWAL, Chief Executive Officer

**Note.** -The principal regulations were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4 vide notification number F. No. 2-15015/30/2010, dated the 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2011 and subsequently amended vide notification numbers:

- (i) F. No. 1-12/Sci.panel/(Notification)/FSSAI/2012, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2014;
- (ii) F. No. P. 15025/264/13-PA/FSSAI, dated 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
- (iii) F. No. 1-99/1/SP(contaminants)/FSSAI/2009, dated 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
- (iv) F. No. 1-99/4/SP(Contaminants)/FSSAI/2014, dated 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.