

# FOODLEX

A newsletter on Food Laws, Legal Metrology  
and Pesticide Regulations

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## New Product Approval Procedure

In order to streamline the product approval procedure and the licensing of foods in a timely manner; Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has notified new product approval procedure which would supersede all advisories and clarifications regarding Product Approval issued previously by the said authority. This procedure is effective from 11.12.12.

## Labels must for Genetically Modified (GM) foods

The said amendment has added another clause in the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodity) Rules, 2012; which makes it mandatory to label the genetically Modified foods with GM with effect from 01-01-2013. This further opens up a debate about the authority of Consumer Affairs under Legal Metrology Act to lay down regulations for GM food which should fall under Food Safety and Standards Act.

## India To Reduce Trans Fats In Vanaspati Oils

In an attempt to combat the sharp rise in obesity-related ailments in India, the national government is planning to reduce Trans Fatty Acid (TFA) content in vanaspati oil over the next couple of years. The proposed norms have come after a report from the Centre for Science and Environment, which stated that seven branded edible oils sold in the country, had TFA content up to 12 times the 2% benchmark used by Denmark.

## Antibiotic Controls for Food Producing Animals

The Ministry of Health has for the first time, notified a time-frame for which food-producing animals or marine products have to be kept off antibiotics before they enter the human food chain. The same would be partially enforced for a three-month period in early January.

Dear Reader,

As per the directive of Consumer Affairs Department under the Legal Metrology Act, with effect from 01-11-2012 usage of all non-standard packs is restrained. But, can we combine two leftover non-standard packs to form a one standardized pack?

Further, do you think by issuing a notification about Genetically Modified foods under the province of Legal Metrology Act, Consumer Affairs Ministry have transgressed its limit and is trying to venture into the territory more suitable for FSSA.

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