

FOODLEX

A newsletter on Food Laws, Legal Metrology
and Pesticide Regulations

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Check on the sale of the Junk Foods in the colleges and schools

The Ministry for Health and Family Welfare, has requested the Chief Ministers and Health Ministers of States /Union Territories and the Minister of Human Resources Development to consider issuing appropriate directions to the school and colleges for withdrawing foods high in saturated fats and carbonated drinks from their canteens and promote healthy food habits amongst their students.

The present step is targeted to check the high consumption of "Junk Food" amongst the children. Although the term "Junk Food" is not defined under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 but foods which have high fat, salt and sugar, with no protein, minerals and vitamins are considered as "unhealthy foods" under the Act.

Raids at the shops situated in the Airport

Officials of the Legal Metrology Department has raided shops inside the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) at Hyderabad and registered cases against four shopkeepers for selling goods in violation of the Legal Metrology Packaged Commodity Rules, 2011.

Further, cases were booked against Shoppers Stop, WHSmith Store and Monsoon bar under relevant provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and corresponding rules. It was contended that products such as perfumes, ink bottles, shawls, mouth freshners, tea powders, handkerchiefs, etc. were sold without complying with the mandatory provisions of the Act.

Appeal to plug the loopholes under The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (FSSA)

An association of more than 40 package drink water manufacturing units have lodged the complaint with the Commissioner of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) to plug the existing loopholes under the existing FSSA.

It was alleged that certain companies are intentionally avoiding use of the words "packaged" or "mineral" drinking water to avoid meeting of any standards prescribed under the FSSA.

Further, by using the words "herbal" or "flavoured water", which have been categorised as traditional food products under the FSSA and are exempted from standards, the companies are able to supply water cheaply and undercuts the others which meticulously follows the standards.

Caselaw: Shyamlal vs. State¹

In the present matter, the question put before the Court is whether the Court are competent to reduce the sentence of the Accused even below

Dear Reader,

In the recent Notification No. 32 (RE-2012)/2009-14, the Centre Govt. amended its earlier notification pertaining to prohibition of the export of the edible oils. Earlier, Indian Govt. has banned exports of edible oils in branded consumer packs in order to check the rising domestic prices.

By present notification earlier ban on edible oil exports is partially curbed and the export of edible oils in branded consumer packs of upto 5 Kgs is permitted till 30th September 2013, with a limit of 20,000 tonnes.

Further, a cap of minimum export price of \$1,500 per tonne has also been placed in order to curb the export of cheaper variants of edible oils.

However, this is definitely a positive move for the country which is the world's top consumer/importer of vegetable oils as it will encourage the export groundnut, sunflower and rapeseed oils.

(Gurmeet Singh Kainth)
Partner

minimum prescribed sentence of six months under section 16(1)(c) of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 (PFA).

The Accused was convicted under section 16(1)(c) of the PFA along with sections 353/186 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC).

However, considering the facts that crime was committed about 23 years ago and the petitioner now is about 70 years old with no criminal antecedents, the Delhi High Court reduced the sentence to the period already undergone by him even though it is less than the prescribed period under the PFA.

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