SFA Export Library Market Reports on Food Import Regulations and Standards

Country of Origin	Singapore (SG)
Country of Destination	India (IN)
Food Product Category	Fruits & Vegetables & Their Products
Product Code	HS Codes: 0701 – 0714, 0801 – 0810, 2001 – 2008

The information in this document has been compiled and provided by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA). SFA emphasises that importers and exporters have the responsibility to find out the import requirements of destination countries/regions/markets. Exporters are advised to confirm with their importers on the import requirements and eligibility of their product before exporting.

SN	Sub-header	Details
1	**Product eligibility / ineligibility**	Fruits & vegetables are eligible to be exported from Singapore to India.
2	**Importing country authority**	According to the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been established to regulate the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of food. According to the Destructive Insects and Pests Act 1914 and Plant Quarantine Order (Regulation of Import into India) 2003, the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQS) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for inspection of imported agricultural commodities for preventing the introduction of exotic pests and diseases to ensure agricultural bio-security. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is responsible for the promotion and facilitation of exports and imports.
3	**Pre-export approvals by importing country**	**Establishments** No establishment listing is required for fruits and vegetables and their products exported from Singapore to India. **Note**: For reference on HS Codes, please check the Indian Trade Clarification Harmonised System (ITC-HS) from https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/

		Importer-Exporter Code Importer must obtain Importer Exporter Code (IEC) - a key business identification number which is mandatory for exports or imports - issued by DGFT before embarking on commercial trade. **Prohibited or Restricted Items** Importer must study the list of prohibited items and restricted items as published by DGFT before importing into India. Prohibited items cannot be imported into India under any circumstances. Restricted items must be licensed or authorized by DGFT before importing into India. **FSSAI License** According to the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 no person shall commence any food business unless he (the importer) possesses a valid license. Schedule 1 provides the list of food business (which include but not limited to "all importers importing food items including food ingredients and additives for commercial use") that are under the purview of Central Licensing Authority in FSSAI. **Phytosanitary Import Permit** According to Plant Quarantine Order (Regulation of Import into India) 2003, import of plants and plant material listed in - Schedule-V (require additional declarations and special conditions by authorised institutions); - Schedule-VI (require additional declarations and special conditions); and - Schedule-VII (require phytosanitary certificate with general conditions) also require the relevant issuing authority to issue an import permit to the importer subject to the prescribed restrictions and conditions. See Schedule X for details. For import of commodities not covered under Schedule-V, Schedule-VI and Schedule-VII, Pest Risk Analysis is mandatory for import of new commodities into India. For this purpose, the importer or National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of exporting country shall submit an application for Pest Risk Analysis for import of agricultural commodities into India. See Plant Quarantine Information System for details.

		Designated Point of Entries High risk food products such as (i) milk and milk products, (ii) egg powder, (iii) meat and meat products including poultry, fish, and their products, (iv) foods for infant nutrition / infant foods, and (v) nutraceuticals, health supplements, **foods for dietary uses, probiotic and prebiotic foods, foods for special medical purposes** shall be imported through designated Indian ports. The list of designated ports is published in Import of high risk food products at specific ports under FSSAI Advisories/Orders. **Note**: The published list is dynamic and will be updated from time to time. **Import for 100% Export or Re-Export** Importer is required to undertake further declaration if the imported food consignment is meant for 100% export or re-export. See Advisory regarding import of food consignment for 100% export or re-export purpose (Oct 2023).
4	**Export certificates for food**	**Phytosanitary Certificate** A Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the National Parks Board (NParks) is required for each consignment of fresh fruits and vegetables. For exports that require a Phytosanitary Certificate, you may forward the import permit / conditions to NParks here. According to the Plant Quarantine Order (Regulation of Import into India) 2003, no consignment (of fresh fruits or vegetables) shall be permitted import unless accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by an authorized officer at the country of origin in PQ Form 21 or at the country of re-export in PQ Form 22. Regulation 10 Special conditions for import of plant species of the Plant Quarantine Order (Regulation of Import into India) 2003, stipulates that every consignment of plant species herein specified in Schedule-V and Schedule-VI shall be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the authorized officer at country of origin or Phytosanitary Certificate Re-export issued by the country of re-export along with attested copy of original phytosanitary certificate from country of origin, as the case may be, with the additional declarations being free from pests mentioned under Schedule-V and VI of this order or that the pests as specified do not occur in the country or state of origin.

5	**Regulations and standards**	Interested exporters who wish to export fruits & vegetables products to India must meet all their regulations and standards including the Food Safety and Standards Regulations (FSSR). The following links are provided as a guide: **(1) Pesticide Residues** Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 stipulates limit requirements for pesticide residues and insecticides in food. In addition, the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQS) publishes the list of pesticides (Mar 2024) which are banned, refused registration and restricted use. **(2) Antibiotics and Veterinary Drug Residues** Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 stipulates limit requirements for antibiotics and other pharma-cologically active substances in food. **(3) Contaminants and Toxins** Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 stipulates limit requirements for metal contaminants, crop contaminants and natural toxic substances, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH), biotoxins, and other contaminants in food. **(4) Microorganisms** Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 stipulates microbiological requirements in food in Appendix B (page 757 of 887 onwards). **(5) Food Additives** Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 stipulates definitions, application principles, specifications, and standards of food additives in Chapter 3. **(6) Restriction on Sales**

		Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011 stipulates restrictions on radiation processing of food as well as restrictions on use of flavouring agents. **(7) Product Standards** Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 stipulates product standards for fruits and vegetables products, including thermally processed fruits (canned/bottled/flexible packaged/aseptically packed), thermally processed fruit salad/cocktail/mix, thermally processed curried vegetables (soups), fruit/vegetables juices, and others in Chapter 2. Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2023 have particularly specified standards for Basmati rice while Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Second Amendment Regulations, 2023 have particularly specified standard of millets. **(8) Others** The Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQS) has developed some national standards related to fruits and vegetables. NSPM-9: Guidelines for Certification of Forced Hot-Air Treatment Facilities for Wood Packaging Material NSPM-12: Guidelines for Assessment, Audit and Accreditation of Fumigation Agencies for undertaking Methyl Bromide Fumigation
6	**Labelling, packaging and marking requirements**	**(1) Labelling** Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 stipulates regulations for packaging and labelling of foods. Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 general requirements of pre-packaged foods as well as labelling requirements of pre-packaged foods (name of food, list of ingredients, nutritional information, declaration regarding vegetarian and non-vegetarian, declaration of food additives, declaration of name and complete address, FSSAI logo and license number, net quantity, retail sale price and consumer care details as per Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011,

		lot/code/batch identification, date marking, labelling of imported food, country of origin for imported foods, instructions for use, and declaration regarding food allergen). For example, eggs are non-vegetarian products and should be declared non-vegetarian. Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017 requires imported food to comply with standards for packaging and labelling. The Authorised Officer shall reject the consignment not complying with the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 at the visual inspection and no sample shall be drawn from the consignment. **(2) Advertising and Claims** Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claiming) Regulations, 2018 stipulates regulations for general principles for claims and advertisements, regulations for nutrition claims (nutrient content claim or nutrient comparative claim), regulations for non-addition claims, regulations for health claims (including nutrient function claims), regulations for claims related to dietary guidelines or healthy diets, regulations for conditional claims, and regulations for prohibited claims. **(3) Packaging and Marking Requirements** Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018 stipulates general requirements of food packaging materials, specific requirements for primary food packaging, as well as requirement for specific migration limits of substances from various types of packaging materials intended to be in contact with articles of food.
7	**Other information**	**(1) India's Import Clearance** FSSAI has an online system for clearance of food imports, Food Import Clearance System (FICS), which is seamlessly integrated with Customs ICE-GATE (Indian Customs Electronic Data Interchange Gateway) for trade facilitation. Selective sampling & testing of food articles on basis of risk profiling done by FSSAI is implemented at Customs ICEGATE. **(2) India's Import Procedures** FSSAI's Manual for Food Imports provides a guiding document for importers for better understanding of clearance process of imported food consignments by FSSAI.

		(3) WTO Import Licensing Procedures India's legislation and notifications **(4) USDA Gain Reports and Analysis** India FAIRS Country Report provides guidelines on India's food import regulations to American exporters. India FSSAI Issues Clarification for Microbial Testing Requirements for Imported Food Products provides clarifications to Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations, 2017. **(5) Contact Information** See the list of FSSAI's authorised officers who are based in different offices. See the point of entries for import of food items with authorised officers. See the directory of DAHD officers.

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