



SPICES BOARD

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry Govt. of India)
Sugandha Bhavan
N.H.By-pass
P.B.No. 2277
Palarivattom P.O.
Kochi - 682 025, India

स्पाइसेस बोर्ड

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
सुगन्ध भवन
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Sub: Prior Confirmation System introduced for Food products by the Government of Japan-Reg.

Spices Board has received a communication from Office of Import Food Safety, Food Inspection and Safety Division, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), Japan, through the Embassy of India, Tokyo, Japan, wherein it has been informed that some of the food imported into Japan from exporting countries have been subjected to prior confirmation and are brought under Prior Confirmation System.

Accordingly, manufacturers of food are required to obtain necessary registration or renewal with effect from June 29, 2021. Registrations effective as of the date of implementation of the system will continue to be permitted, and new registration or renewal of registration will require an application. The unofficial translation of the notification issued by MHLW is attached for ready reference.

The excerpts from the notification are given below

- The following are excluded from the Prior Confirmation System : primary products such as agricultural products and livestock and fishery products, as well as simple processed products thereof (simple processed products shall mean products that have undergone simple processing such as de-skinning, shredding, crushing, light salting, drying, etc., cut and peeled products, and frozen products, etc.) and food, etc. subject to an inspection order under Article 26, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Law (the Law for Partial Revision of the Food Sanitation Law (Law No. 46 of 2018)).
- Based on the exclusion, it is learnt that items like whole spices, spice powders, crushed / flakes are exempted, whereas spice blends, pickles, spice oils & oleoresins etc. may require a registration.
- The period of validity of the registration will be three years from the date of registration.
- Description of the Registration Number: When a manufacturer exports registered food to Japan, the firm shall certify the registration number of the food, by one of the following methods:
 - a) The registration number shall be shown on the containers and packaging of food, etc.
 - b) Documents certifying the registration number prepared by the manufacturer shall be attached to the shipment.
 - c) The registration number shall be certified by other verifiable means.

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The outline of the system on Prior Confirmation (attached) may be perused for details on Application for Prior Confirmation / renewal etc. Also, exporters may consider obtaining clarification on the Prior Confirmation System, from Japanese buyers, so as to avoid possible difficulties in clearing the consignments.

In this regard, all exporters of spices and spice products are advised to ensure compliance with the standards and specifications prescribed by the Government of Japan and to exercise due diligence, while exporting spices and spice products to the country.



Director (MKTG)

To
All Exporters of Spices and Spice Products

(Hindi Version follows)

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