

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Bangladesh Food Safety Authority**

**Draft Notification**

Date: .....

**S.R.O No. 93-Law/2017.-** In exercise of the power conferred by section 87 of the Food Safety Act, 2013 (Act No. 43 of 2013), the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority, with prior approval of the Government, make the following regulations, namely: -

**Chapter I**  
**Preliminary**

1. **Title and commencement.** - (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety (Labeling of Packaged Food) Regulations, 2023.  
(2) These regulations shall come into force six months after the gazette notification.
2. **Definitions.** - (1) Unless there is anything repugnant to the subject or context, in these regulations, -
  - a. **'Act'** means the Food Safety Act, 2013 (Act No. 43 of 2013);
  - b. **'Assorted pack'** means any package or container containing multiple units of different food products intended and displayed for retail sale as one single pack.
  - c. **'Best before'** means the date which signifies the end of the period under any stated storage conditions during which the food product shall remain fully marketable and shall retain any specific qualities for which tacit or express claims have been made, and beyond that date, the food may still be perfectly safe to consume, though, its quality may have diminished;
  - d. **'Bar code'** or **'QR code'** means any impression of sketch of black and white line which can be read out by electronic device and remains hidden.
  - e. **'Claim'** means any representation or description or suggestion regarding the specific qualities of food like- its source of origin, nutrition quality, processing, composition, nature, etc. and shall also include any kind of presentation or description or advice which is related to such qualities;
  - f. **'e-commerce'** means buying and selling of goods and services over digital and electronic network;
  - g. **'Expiry date'** or **'Use by date'** means the date which signifies the end of the estimated period under any stated storage conditions, after which the product may not remain safe, and the food shall not be sold or distributed for human consumption;
  - h. **'Food consumer'** means the ultimate consumer of any food or food-item, who does not use such food or food-item in any activity of food business;
  - i. **'Food ingredient'** means any component or ingredient, including food additives, used to manufacture or prepare food and is present in the final product possibly in a modified form;

- j. **'Food additive'** means a substance, added to food for special purpose within the limit prescribed by regulation, which is not normally consumed as a food, but is used, as a typical ingredient, in food during processing, manufacturing, packaging and preservation thereof to arrive, directly or indirectly, at an intended usefulness, and impacts the food to keep its quality intact without using any adulterant or other contaminant;
- k. **'Label'** means any tag, brand, mark, picture, spot, hallmark, graphic or descriptive instruction which may be easily conspicuous on the package of food and is affixed or stamped by written, printed, sealed or by computerized printing with stencil, embossed or with indispensable ink;
- l. **'Labeling'** means any written, printed, or graphic description that is present on the label, accompanying the food, or is displayed near the food;
- m. **'Lot number' or 'Code number' or 'Batch number'** means the identification mark depicted on the label using numeral or alphabet or combinations thereof;
- n. **'Main panel'** means that part of the container/package which is intended or likely to be displayed or presented or shown or examined by the customer under normal and customary conditions of display, sale or purchase of the food article contained therein;
- o. **'Net-quantity'** means the accurate quantity by weight or measure, or number of the commodity contained in the package but excluding the weight of the packaging or wrapper;
- p. **'Non-retail containers'** means any container that is not intended to be offered for direct sale to the consumer. The food in the non-retail container is for further business activities before being offered to the consumer;
- q. **'Package'** means any case, box, carton, packet, Sac-Pac, container, wrapper, vessel, tin, bottle, can, band, ticket, reel, frame, cone, capsule, lid, and such type of substance used to cover or preserve any product;
- r. **'Pre-Packaged food'** means the food, which is placed in a package of any nature, in such a manner that the contents cannot be changed without tampering with it and which is ready for sale to the consumer. (Note: the expression "package" wherever it occurs in these regulations, shall be construed as package containing pre-packaged food);

(2) The words and expressions used in these regulations but not defined shall have the same meaning as defined in the Act or any other rules or regulations under the Act.

- 3. Provided that in case of conflict with similar provisions of other rules or regulations, the provisions under this regulation shall prevail for food and food products.



## Chapter 2 Labeling

4. **General conditions of labeling of packaged food.** - (1) Every packaged food shall be labelled with information as required under these regulations unless otherwise provided.
- a. The information required under these regulations shall be given on the package or container and applied in such a manner that they are clear, unambiguous, prominent, conspicuous, and readily legible by the consumer under normal conditions of purchase and use and where any tampering with it will be evident;
  - b. Packaged food shall not be described or presented on any label or in any labelling in a manner that is false, misleading, or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its character in any respect;
  - c. Label shall be applied in such a manner that it will not become separated from the container;
  - d. The particulars of declaration required under these Regulations to be specified on the label shall be in Bengali. For imported products, if the label is in English or any other foreign language, a label/sticker containing at least the declarations specified under Section 5.1, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8 & 5.9 shall be attached. If label is in any other foreign language– all declarations shall also appear either in Bangla or English;
  - e. Where a package is provided with an outside container or wrapper and such container or wrapper is displayed for retail sale, it shall also contain all the declarations which are required to appear on the package except where such container or wrapper itself is transparent and the declarations on the package(s) are easily readable through such outside container or wrapper;  

Note: for the purpose of this clause, in case of a transparent multi-unit package containing several retail units the label of at least one retail unit containing the declarations required under these regulations shall be visible;
  - f. When a food product is sold through E-commerce or any other direct selling means, the mandatory requirements of the label as given in these regulations shall be provided to the consumer through appropriate means before sale except ‘batch number/ lot number, best before use, expiry date, date of manufacturing/packing’; E-commerce Food Business Operators shall get the above-mentioned information from respective Food Business Operators and provide on their website as applicable;
  - g. To ensure safe food, special instruction, if any, about food processing, packaging, preserving, storing, transporting, and distributing shall, where applicable, be mentioned in the label of packaged food;
  - h. Any expression like ‘Recommended by doctor, expert or any such person or institution’ shall not be published or declared in the label from which any purchaser may be misguided;

- i. Any kind of misleading information or claim like 'Curative' etc. or any false information or claim of the amount or nutrition quality of food and any misleading statement about source of origin shall not be inscribed on the label to increase the importance of any food or food product;
- j. Provided that subject to the approval of the Government or any authority determined by the Government, a seal may be stamped in conformation of its quality and standard;
- k. No food or food product shall be sold changing the information written in the label of packaged food or food product by way of tearing or erasing;

**5. Labelling Requirements.** – (a) In addition to general requirements specified in Regulation 4, every package shall carry the following information on the label:

**5.1 The name of the food:**

- 5.1.1. The name shall be specific and shall indicate the true nature of the food;
- 5.1.2. Where a name or names have been established for a food under food standards established under any law In Bangladesh, at least one of these names shall be used;
- 5.1.3. In the absence of any such name, either a common or usual name existing by common usage as an appropriate descriptive term which is not misleading or confusing to the consumer shall be used;
- 5.1.4. The name by which it is sold shall be understood in Bangladesh;
- 5.1.5. It may additionally have a 'coined', 'fanciful', 'brand' or 'trade name';
- 5.1.6. In close proximity, the name of the food, additional words or phrases as necessary may be declared to bring out the true nature and physical condition of the food including the type of packing medium, style, condition or type of treatment it has undergone like dried, concentrated, reconstituted, smoked etc. as necessary to avoid misleading or confusing the consumer;
- 5.1.7. The name of imported food products shall be labeled in such way that the true nature of the product is revealed and general customers in Bangladesh are not misled or confused;

**5.2 List of Ingredients:** Except for single ingredient foods, a list of ingredients shall be declared on the label in the following manner:

- 5.2.1. The list of ingredients including substances used as food additives shall be declared on label preceded by an appropriate title such as the term 'Ingredients' or 'List of Ingredients';
- 5.2.2. The name of ingredients used in the product shall be listed in descending order of their composition by weight or volume or percentage, at the time of its manufacture;
- 5.2.3. A specific name shall be used for each ingredient in the list of ingredients;
- 5.2.4. (a) Where an ingredient is itself the product of two or more ingredients, such a compound ingredient shall be declared, by their specific names;

(i) As such, in the list of ingredients, provided that it is immediately accompanied by a list, in brackets, of its ingredients in descending order of proportion (m/m, mass/mass) at the time of manufacture of such compound ingredients;

or

(ii) By declaring all the ingredients of compound ingredient as if they were individual ingredients of the final food;

(b) Provided that where a compound ingredient constitutes less than 5% of the food, the ingredients, other than food additives that serve the technological function in the food products, need not be declared. However, if any of the component ingredients within this 5%, are allergens as per section 5.5.1 then declaration required for allergen as provided in Clause 5.5 shall be provided;

5.2.5 Any package containing added food additives, shall not use the expression 'pure food' or 'pure' or any other such phrase claiming purity of the product;

5.2.6 (a) Added water shall be declared in the list of ingredients except in cases where water forms part of an ingredient, such as, brine, syrup, or broth, used in the compound food and so declared in the list of ingredients;

(b) Provided that water or other volatile ingredients evaporated in the course of manufacture need not be declared;

(c) Provided further that in case of dehydrated or condensed food, which are intended to be reconstituted by addition of water, the ingredients in such reconstituted food shall be declared in descending order of weight or volume, and shall contain a statement such as 'Ingredients of the product when prepared in accordance with the directions on the label';

### **5.3 Declaration regarding Food Additives. -**

5.3.1 Functional classes for food additives used in a food product shall be declared together with the specific name(s) or recognized International Numbering System (INS) in the list of the ingredients;

5.3.2 Every food to which a flavoring agent and/or flavor enhancer is added, it shall be declared in the list of ingredients provided that:

i) In case of artificial flavoring agent/flavor enhancer label shall mention 'artificial flavoring agent/flavor enhancer' or

ii) In case of Natural flavoring agent/flavor enhancer or Nature identical agents' declaration 'Natural Flavoring/flavor enhancer' or 'Nature Identical Flavoring/Flavor enhancer' or both shall be declared as the case may be. they may also be given within ingredient list in combined format Flavor ( ... and...);

5.3.3 If any food or food product contains natural coloring material, the expression, 'natural coloring' or 'containing natural color' shall be declared on the label of such food product;

- 5.3.4 In case of addition of coloring material approved under Food Safety (Use of Food Additives) Regulation, 2017, the expression, 'contains permitted natural/artificial colors or both' shall be mentioned;
- 5.3.5 Any artificial coloring or flavoring or mixture of artificial coloring or flavoring agents shall not be sold, if the following information is not properly mentioned, namely: -
- i. The expression "artificial food coloring" or "artificial favoring";
  - ii. Color index name (if any);
  - iii. Lot or Batch number;
  - iv. Expiry Date;
  - v. Net weight;
  - vi. Instruction regarding using method; and
  - vii. Name & address of the manufacturer;
- 5.3.6 Any food additives shall not be sold to be used in food, if the following information is not properly mentioned, namely:
- i. General name;
  - ii. Chemical name;
  - iii. Net Weight;
  - iv. Instruction regarding using method;
  - v. Name & address of the manufacturer; and
  - vi. Expiry Date;

**5.4 Quantitative Ingredients Declaration:** (1) The ingoing percentage of an ingredient (including compound ingredients or categories of ingredients), by weight or volume as appropriate, at the time of manufacture, shall be disclosed for foods sold as a mixture or combination where the ingredient:

- i. is emphasized as present on the label through words or pictures or graphics; or
- ii. is not within the name of the food but, is essential to characterize the food and is expected to be present in the food by consumers, and if the omission of the quantitative ingredient declaration will mislead or deceive the consumer;

(2) provided that such disclosures are not required where:

- (a) the ingredients are used as flavoring agents including spices or condiments or herbs or their extracts or mixed masalas or seasonings;
- (b) a reference in the name of food to an ingredient or category of ingredients, if that reference would not mislead or deceive or would not be likely to create an erroneous impression to the consumer regarding the character of the food because the variation in quantity of ingredient(s) between products is not necessary to characterize the food or distinguish it from similar foods;
- (c) the drained net weight is indicated on the label as required, except in case of mixed ingredients products where certain ingredient(s) is/are emphasized;
- (d) specific provisions are stipulated under these regulations for a food;

- (e) a pictorial representation of a serving suggestion is made for consumer information and use;
  - (f) Added Micro-Nutrients and their preparations like vitamins, minerals, amino acids etc. that are subject to a nutrition declaration as per requirements specified in this regulation;
- (3) The information required in Section 5.3 shall be declared on the product label as a numerical percentage. The ingoing percentage, by weight or volume as appropriate, of each such ingredient shall be given on the adjacent to each appropriate ingredient listed in the ingredient list as a minimum percentage where emphasis is on the presence of the ingredient and a maximum percentage where emphasis is on the low level of the ingredient;
  - (4) For foodstuffs which have lost moisture following heat or other treatment, the percentage (by weight or by volume) shall correspond to the quantity of the ingredient(s) used, related to the finished product;
  - (5) When the quantity of an ingredient or the total quantity of all ingredients expressed on the labelling exceeds 100%, the percentage may be replaced by the declaration of the weight of the ingredient(s) used to prepare 100g of finished product;
  - (6) A food additive carried over into a food through the raw material or other ingredients and if present in an amount sufficient to perform a technological function in that food shall also be included in the list of ingredients;

**5.5 Special conditions for labeling packaged food creating allergy or**

**Intolerances:** (1) The following food or ingredients known to cause allergy or intolerance or sensitivity to consumers, if contained in a packaged food or food product, shall be declared as part of the ingredients list in a conspicuous manner (bold or underlined or italics) or may be given separately as given in brackets: -

- (a) the foods which contain gluten, such as- wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt-or their hybridized strains and products of these or any product produced from it; (To be declared as name of the cereal)
  - (b) Crustacean shellfish, shrimp, lobster, crab; (To be declared as Crustacean);
  - (c) Egg; (To be declared as Egg);
  - (d) Fish and fish products; (To be declared as Fish);
  - (e) Milk and milk products (with lactose) To be declared as Milk);
  - (g) ground nut; tree nuts, such as- almond, hazel nut, walnut, cashew nut, pecan nut, Brazil nut, pistachio nut, and macadamia; (to be declared as nuts);
  - (h) Sulphite- the foods or food ingredients containing the density of sulphite present in 10gm/per kg or more; (To be declared as sulphite);
  - (i) Sesame;
  - (j) Soya bean; (To be declared as Soy); and
  - (k) Celery group.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-regulations 5.4(1) and 5.4(2), there shall not be any obligation to mention the name of the following food products /ingredients

on label which may be produced from allergic or sensitive food ingredients or where the product itself is a food allergen.

- (a) glucose syrup made of wheat, dextrose, maltodextrin; and the products thereof, provided these ingredients have been assessed as safe and gluten is not more than 20 mg/kg.];
- (b) glucose syrup made of barley;
- (c) gelatin made of fish;
- (d) completely refined oil and fat made of soya bean;
- (e) naturally mixed Tocopherol, such as- Tocopherol E-306, natural D-alpha Tocopherol, natural D-alpha Tocopherol acetate, natural D-alpha Tocopherol succinate and Stanol Ester; and
- (f) lactitol made of milk.
- (g) Distilled alcoholic beverages derived from ingredients and
- (h) Raw agricultural commodities.

**Explanation** - In this regulation- 'allergic or intolerances or sensitive food ingredients' means such foods and food ingredients or food products which may create physical allergic reaction or any unbearable reaction to sensitive consumers.

#### 5.6 Nutritional Information:

- (1) In the label of all packaged food, the following information about nutrition if present in the food shall compulsorily be declared, per 100g or 100ml or per single consumption pack of the product;
  - i. Energy value (kcal)
  - ii. Protein (g);
  - iii. Total Fat, Saturated Fat & Trans Fat
  - ~~iv.~~ Carbohydrate (g) and Total Sugars (g)
  - v. Sodium (mg);
  - vi. Salt;
- (2) Along with the subject matter of declaration of nutrition quality mentioned in regulation 5.6(1) the quantity of the following ingredients may be added, namely:
  - i. mono-unsaturates;
  - ii. poly-unsaturates;
  - iii. poly-ol;
  - iv. fiber;
  - v. Cholesterol (mg)
- (3) If, only for natural reason, the presence of salt exists in any food or food product, then besides declaration of nutrition quality, a statement in this behalf can be given;
- (4) Provided that the food claimed to be enriched with nutrients, such as, minerals, proteins, vitamins, amino acids or enzymes shall give the quantities of such added nutrients on the label;
- (5) For the purposes of these regulations, following definitions shall be applicable:
  - (i) 'Sugars' means all monosaccharides (glucose, fructose, etc.) and disaccharides (maltose, sucrose, lactose, etc.).
  - (ii) 'Added sugars' means monosaccharides and disaccharides added to



foods and beverages.

- (iii) **'Total fat'** means total lipids including saturated fat, monounsaturated fat, polyunsaturated fat, and trans-fat.
  - (A) **'Saturated fats'** means fatty acids without double bonds.
  - (B) **'Monounsaturated fats'** means fatty acids with one cis double bond.
  - (C) **'Polyunsaturated fats'** means fatty acids with cis-cis methylene interrupted double bonds.
  - (D) **'Trans-fat'** means all the geometrical isomers of monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids having non-conjugated, interrupted by at least one methylene group, carbon-carbon double bonds in the trans configuration.
- (iv) **'Nutrient'** means a constituent of food, which:
  - (A) provides energy; or
  - (B) has specific metabolic or physiological functions; or
  - (C) is needed for growth and development and maintenance of healthy life;

(6) The following foods are exempted from mandatory nutritional labeling:

- i. Raw agricultural minimally processed products such as wheat, rice, cereals, pulses, fruits, and vegetables and/or products that comprise a single ingredient;  
  
Explanation: Minimally processed foods are the ones that are slightly altered for the main purpose of preservation, but which do not substantially change the nutritional content of the food. This may involve cleaning and removing inedible or unwanted parts, grinding, refrigeration, freezing and vacuum-packaging.
- ii. Processed products which the only processing they have been subjected to is maturing and that comprise a single ingredient;
- iii. Waters intended for human consumption, including those where the only added ingredients are carbon dioxide;
- iv. An herb, a spice or mixtures thereof/Curry Powder except Sprinkler masala (masalas meant for direct consumption);
- v. Salt and salt substitutes;
- vi. Tabletop sweeteners;
- vii. Coffee extracts and chicory extracts, whole or milled coffee beans and whole or milled decaffeinated coffee beans, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, soluble coffee powder, coffee chicory mixture;
- viii. Herbal and fruit infusions, tea, decaffeinated tea, instant or soluble tea or tea extract, decaffeinated instant or soluble tea or tea extract, which do not contain other added ingredients than flavorings which do not modify the nutritional value of the tea;
- ix. Fermented vinegars and substitutes for vinegar, including those where the only added ingredients are flavorings;

- x. Flavorings, Food additives, Processing aids, Food enzymes, Gelatin, Yeast;
  - xi. Chewing gum and bubble gum;
  - xii. Alcoholic Beverages.
  - xiii. Health supplements, Nutraceuticals and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (FSDU) in tablet and capsule format, with respect to macronutrients, when sources of energy are insignificant.
- (7) However, nutritional information shall be required in the above-mentioned products if a nutrition or health claim is made on the label;
- (8) Every package of edible oils, inter-esterified vegetable fat, both hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated oils, edible fats, margarine, and fat spreads (mixed fat spread and vegetable fat spread) shall declare the quantity of monounsaturated fatty acid, polyunsaturated fatty acid, omega-3 fatty acid and omega-6 fatty acid content on the label;
- (9) The content of saturated fat and trans-fat may be declared on the label as 'not more than'.
- (10) **Calculation of Nutrients:** For the purposes of these regulations, the calculations of nutrients should be based on the following:
- (i) Calculation of Energy: The amount of energy to be listed should be calculated by using the following conversion factors:

(A) Carbohydrates	4 kcal/g
(D) Protein	4 kcal/g
(E) Fat	9 kcal/g

(ii) Calculation of Protein - The amount of protein to be listed should be calculated using the formula:

Protein = Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen x 6.25 (Unless a different factor scientifically justified, may be used)

Provided that for calculating protein content in milk a conversion factor of 6.38 needs to be used.

(11) The compliance to quantity of declared nutrients on the label shall be according to the established practices.

Explanation — For the purpose of this provision, at the time of analysis, due consideration, based on shelf-life, storage, and inherent nature of the food, variability of the nutrient in the product, whether the nutrient has been added or is naturally occurring in the product etc. shall be kept in view while evaluating quantity of declared nutrients;

## **5.7 Declaration of name and complete address of manufacturer or FBO:**

- 5.7.1 The name and full address of the manufacturer according to trade license shall clearly be mentioned in the label in accordance with the following conditions:
- i. In case of manufacturer having manufacturing unit in more than one place, name and full address of the registered head office shall be given;
  - ii. Where the manufacturer, packager, bottler or tinner are different entities, name and full address of all entities or the name and full address of the brand owner's registered office shall be given;
  - iii. In case of ordered food products, names and full addresses of the manufacturer, and the marketer;
  - iv. Such name and address shall be preceded by the qualifying words 'Manufactured by (Mfg by, Mfd by)' or 'Marketed by (Mkt by)' or 'Manufactured & Marketed by' or "Packed & Marketed by" as the case may be;
  - v. In case of alcoholic beverages, 'Bottled by' or 'Blended and Bottled by' or 'Imported and Bottled by' or 'distilled and bottled by' shall also be declared on label;
  - vi. Where an article of food is imported, the package of food shall also carry the name and complete address of the importer in Bangladesh;
  - vii. Where any food article manufactured outside Bangladesh but is packaged or bottled in Bangladesh, the package containing such food article shall also bear on the label, the name of the country of origin of the food article and the name and complete address of the importer and the premises of packing or bottling in Bangladesh;

## **5.8 Country of Origin for Imported Foods:**

- 5.8.1. The country of origin (name and full address of the manufacturer/producer) of the food shall be declared on the label of food imported into Bangladesh;
- 5.8.2. When a food undergoes processing in a second country which changes its nature, the country in which the processing is performed resulting in change in HS Code at the 6-digit level shall be the county of origin for the purposes of this clause;

## **5.9 Date Marking:**

- 5.9.1. 'Date of manufacture or packaging' and 'Expiry/Use by' shall be declared on the label and shall be grouped together and given at one place;  
However, in case of long-term preservable food or food product, the expression "Best Before" shall be written by indispensable ink or by carving;
- 5.9.2. The manner of declaration of date of manufacture or packaging/Expiry/Use by/Best Before shall be as follows:
- i. the date, month and year using the DD/MM/YY format for products with a short shelf life of up to 3 months;

- ii. the month and the year for products with a shelf life of more than three months in the format MM/YY; Provided that for products with shelf life of more than three months, the 'DD/MM/YY' format may also be used;
  - iii. the Expiry Date declaration on label shall be preceded by the expressions 'Expiry' or 'Exp' or 'Use by';
  - iv. the Best Before Date when declared shall be preceded by the expressions 'Best Before Date' or 'BBD';
- 5.9.3. In addition to the expiry or use by, any special conditions for the storage of the food shall be declared on the label if the validity of the date depends thereon. If required, storage conditions after opening the pack may also be specified;
- 5.9.4. Instructions for use, including reconstitution, where applicable, shall be included on the label, to ensure proper utilization of the food or where such food requires directions for reasons for health and safety (e.g., 'Refrigerate after opening', 'keep in cool and dry place', 'cooked at boiling temperature');
- 5.9.5. Notwithstanding anything contained in this regulation, an indication of the 'Expiry' shall not be required for:
- (i) Fresh fruits and vegetables, including potatoes which have not been peeled, cut or similarly treated;
  - (ii) All types of wine;
  - (iii) Alcoholic beverages containing 10% or more by volume of alcohol;
  - (iv) Vinegar;
  - (v) Sugar boiled confectionery;
  - (vi) Food grade salt for industrial use;
  - (vii) Solid sugars;
  - (viii) Chewing gum and bubble gum;
- 5.9.6. For Assorted packs, Shelf-life declared on assorted packs should be that of the product having the earliest shelf life declared amongst the different pre-packaged food packed inside;
- 5.9.7. If the products inside are different food products, then each individual pack shall contain all the mandatory information and if the outer cover is not transparent and mandatory declarations are not visible from outside then outer cover shall also carry all mandatory information;

Provided where area of Principal display Panel of the Assorted Pack is less than .... sq cm, then the outer cover shall indicate at least the Name of food(s), Net quantity, and allergen declaration if applicable.

**5.10. Lot/Code/Batch identification number:**

- 5.10.1** A batch number or code number or lot number shall be declared on the label preceded by expression 'Lot number' or 'code number' or 'batch number' or—by any unique identification mark by which the food can be traced in manufacture and identified in distribution;
- 5.10.2** Batch number on label shall be preceded by words such as 'Batch No' or 'B. No' or 'L. No' or 'Lot No' or 'Code no' or 'LN/CN/BN' etc.

**5.11 Net quantity:**

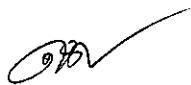
- 5.11.1** The net weight and quantity of packaged food shall be mentioned in the following manner:
- (a) in case of liquid food, unit of volume shall be milliliter or liter; and
  - (b) in case of food other than liquid, unit of weight shall be milligram or gram or kilogram;

Provided that the word "Net" must be specified either before or after the quantity declaration. If the word is declared after the quantity, then it shall be closed by first bracket.

For example: 1 kg (Net) or 1 Liter (Net), etc. The description and size of fonts used for declaring the units of weight, quantity or number shall be as following:

- a. In the case of a package having a capacity of five cubic centimeters or less, the principal display panel may be a card or tape affixed firmly to the package and shall bear the required information.
- b. The height of any numeral in the declaration required under these rules, on the principal display panel shall not be less than. -
  - i. as shown in Table- 01, if the net quantity is declared in terms of weight or volume;
  - ii. as shown in Table- 02, if the net quantity is declared in terms of length, area or number;
  - iii. The height of letters in the declaration shall not be less than 1 mm height and when blown, formed, molded, embossed or perforated, the height of letters shall not be less than 2 mm;

Provided that the width of the letter or numeral shall not be less than one third of its height, except in the case of numeral '1' and letters (i), (I) and (l);



**Table: 01**  
**Minimum Height of Numeral**

Serial Number	Net Quantity in Weight/Volume	Minimum Height in mm	
		Normal Case	When blown, formed, molded, embossed, and perforated in container
1	Up to 200g/ml	1	2
2	Above 200g/ml and up to 500g/ml	2	4
3	Above 500g/ml	4	6

**Table: 02**  
**Minimum Height of Numeral**

Serial Number	Net Quantity in length, area or number, area of principal panel	Minimum Height in mm	
		Normal Case	When blown, formed, molded, embossed, and perforated in container
1	Up to 100 cm <sup>2</sup>	1	2
2	Above 100 cm <sup>2</sup> and up to 500 cm <sup>2</sup>	2	4
3	Above 500 cm <sup>2</sup> and up to 2500 cm <sup>2</sup>	4	6
4	Above 2500 cm <sup>2</sup>	6	6

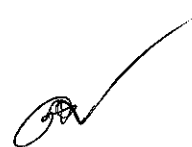
The provisions under sub-rule (1) to (3) shall not apply to a package if the information to be specified on such package under this rule is also required to be given by or under any other law for the time being in force.

**5.11.2** In the case of frozen products, the quantity shall be specified at the temperature fixed by the manufacturer to maintain the normality of the product mixture, concentration level and consistency.

**5.12 Special conditions for voluntary labeling of pre-packaged vegetarian or non-vegetarian foods-**

5.12.1. Manufacturers of packaged vegetarian or non-vegetarian foods of food products including food additives, processing aids etc., where applicable may choose to carry the carry the expression 'vegetarian' or 'non-vegetarian' through a symbol and color code on the label as stipulated below. This shall be printed against a contrast background on the label;

- (a) declaration of non-vegetarian food shall be made through a brown color filled triangle inside a square with brown outline (as shown below) having the sides not less than the minimum size specified in the Table:4 below:





- (b) in addition to the said symbol, if any food or food product, contains egg only as non-Vegetarian ingredient, the manufacturer or packer or seller, may separately provide a declaration to that effect.
- (c) declaration of vegetarian food shall be made through a green color filled circle inside a square with green outline (as shown below) having the diameter of circle and sides of the square not less than the minimum size specified in the Table:4 below:



Table: The measurement of the diameter of the symbol mentioned in clauses (a) and (c) shall be as follows: -

**Table: 4**  
**Minimum Height of Numeral**

No.	Area of main display panel in cm. square	Minimum size of diameters of circle in mm	Minimum size of each side of triangle in mm
1	Up to 100	3	2.5
2	Above 100 to 500	4	3.5
3	Above 500 to 2500	6	5
4	Above 2500	8	7

5.12.2 For the purpose of this regulation -

- (a) **“Non-vegetarian food”** means such type of food which is produced, entirely or partly, from animal source, such as- animal, bird, fish and egg including other animal products, but shall not include milk and dairy product; and
- (b) **“Vegetarian food”** means all foods or food products other than animal products.

5.12.3 Provisions of this clause 5.11 shall not be applicable on mineral water, packaged drinking water, carbonated water, alcoholic beverages, liquid milk, milk powders and honey.

**5.13 Size of letters or numerals used for the mandatory declarations other than veg or non-veg logo.**

5.13.1 The height of any numeral and letter required under these regulations, on the Main panel shall be as shown in Table: 5 below:

**Table: 5**  
**Minimum Height of numeral and letter**

Serial Number	Net Quantity in length, area or number, area of principal panel	Minimum Height of numeral and letter in mm	
		Normal Case	When blown, formed, molded, embossed, and perforated in container
1	Up to 100 cm <sup>2</sup>	1	2
2	Above 100 cm <sup>2</sup> and up to 500 cm <sup>2</sup>	2	4
3	Above 500 cm <sup>2</sup> and up to 2500 cm <sup>2</sup>	4	6
4	Above 2500 cm <sup>2</sup>	6	6

**5.14 Area of Main Panel:**

5.14.1. For Purposes of Section 5.12 & 5.13-The area of main panel shall be calculated in the following manner:

- (a) In the case of a rectangular package, forty percent of the product of height and width of the panel of such package having the largest area;
- (b) In case of cylindrical or nearly cylindrical, round or nearly round, oval or nearly oval package, forty percent of the product of the height and average circumference of such package; or
- (c) In the case of package of any other shape, twenty percent of the total surface area of the package;
- (d) In the case of package having a capacity of ten cubic centimeters or less, the main panel may be card or tape affixed firmly to the package and bearing the required information under these regulations.

5.14.2. Provided further that the size of numeral or letter required for all declarations under these regulations on the crown or closure of returnable glass bottle shall not be less than 1 mm.

5.14.3. The width of the letter or numeral shall not be less than one-third of its height, but this proviso shall not apply in the case of numeral "1" and letters i, I and l.

**5.15 Labeling Requirements of non-retail container**

5.15.1. Every packaged food meant for non-retail sale shall provide the following mandatory information either on the container or pasted on the label thereto:

- (a) Name of the food;
- (b) Date marking and storage instructions, when required for the safety or integrity of the product;
- (c) Lot No. /Batch No. /Code No and
- (d) Name and address of the manufacturer or packer (including country of origin for imported



packages).

Provided that in the case of non-retail container containing multiple types of food, the mandatory information shall be provided for all types of foods contained therein.

5.15.2. The following information if not provided on the label shall be provided in the accompanying documents:

- (a) List of ingredients and
- (b) Net Quantity.

Provided that the information required under sub-regulation 5.13.2 shall be traceable to the food in non-retail containers.

5.15.3. Provided that if all information required under sub-regulation 5.13.1 & 5.13.2 is made available on the label of pre-packaged foods within the non-retail container, then the information stipulated in sub-regulation 5.13.1 & 5.13.2 is not required on the non-Retail containers.

5.15.4. In the case of a non-retail container used as a food transportation unit that is not amenable to possess a label, all the information required under sub-regulation 5.13.1 and 5.13.2 shall be provided in the accompanying documents or through appropriate other means (e.g., electronically between food businesses) and shall be effectively traceable to the food in such containers.

5.15.5. Every package meant for non- retail sale shall be clearly identifiable as such, if the container is not clearly identifiable as a non-retail container, the container shall bear a statement to indicate that the food is not intended to be sold directly to the consumer or to clearly identify it as a non-retail container. Some examples of such statements are:

“Non-retail container”

“Non-retail container - not for direct sale to consumer”

“Not for direct sale to consumer” etc.


## **5.16 Product specific labeling**

- (1) Every package containing the following articles of food shall bear the following declarations on the label in a conspicuous manner which will stand out as compared to all other mandatory declarations like in bold letters or in capital letters or inside a rectangular box etc.
- (2) Special Conditions Packaged Processed Dairy- In case of processed milk, advertisement shall be promoted following the following rules and procedures, as:
  - (a) In case of "Skimmed Milk" or "Pasteurized Milk" or any other processed milk, in clearly mentioning the expression "Skimmed Milk" or "Pasteurized Milk" on the body of the container, wherever required, quantity of cream, net quantity of milk and list of used ingredients have to be mentioned clearly.
  - (b) For condensed milk either sweetened or non-sweetened with full cream or with half cream or without cream, the expression "Not suitable for infant" have to be clearly inscribed on the body of each container, and

(c) In case of both types i.e., with full cream & without cream, or dry powdered milk, manufacturing process (spray, roller, or freeze-drying) has to be clearly inscribed on the body of the container and in case of sweetened or non-sweetened butter-free dry milk, the expression "Not suitable for infant" has to be clearly inscribed.

(3) Every package of food containing the following ingredients/additives shall bear the following declarations on the label in a separate rectangular box;

Sl no	Ingredients/additives	Declarations
1	10% or more polyols or polydextrose	Polyols / Polydextrose may have laxative effect
2	Cheese(s), if coated/packed in food grade waxes	coated wax to be removed before consumption
3	Frozen Desert/Frozen Confection	Frozen Desserts/Frozen Confections - made with Edible Vegetable Oil*/and Vegetable Fat
4	Fresh fruit if coated with wax	coated with wax (give name of wax)
5	Gelatin meant for human consumption	Gelatin Food Grade with source (animal/plant)
6	One-time usable plastic bottles of packaged drinking water and mineral water	crush the bottle after use. dispose the bottle responsibly.
7	Food products containing added plant stanol esters	Contains Plant Stanol Esters (as Plant Stanols) --- g/100g or 100ml. Patients on cholesterol lowering medication should use the product under medical supervision. May not be nutritionally appropriate for pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consumption of more than 3g/day, total of sterol, stanols or combination thereof shall be avoided.</li> </ul>
8	Food products with added Trehalose	Contains Trehalose
	Aspartame (Methyl ester), Acesulfame Potassium, Aspartame-Acesulfame, salt, Sucralose, Saccharins, Neotame, Steviol Glycoside and Polyols marketed as "Table Top Sweetener"	i. Not recommended for phenylketonurics & pregnant and lactating mothers (in case of Aspartame (Methyl ester)) ii. Not recommended for children; pregnant and lactating mothers (in case of Acesulfame Potassium) iii. Not recommended for phenylketonurics; for children; pregnant and lactating mothers (in case off Aspartame-Acesulfame salt) iv. Not recommended for children" (in case of saccharins) v. Polyols may have laxative effect (in case of Polyols)

9	<p>(a) The label of a food, which has been treated with ionizing radiation,</p> <p>(b) Any food that has undergone the process of irradiation</p>	<p>1. Carry a written statement indicating the treatment in close proximity to the name of the food.</p> <p>2. Bear the Radiation logo as given below in green color with the following declaration:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">i. date, month &amp; year of radiation;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">ii. radiation unit;</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
10	Package of food containing mixture of coffee and chicory	<p>Instant Coffee-Chicory mixture made from blends of coffee and chicory.</p> <p>This mixture contains  Coffee..... Percent  Chicory.....Percent</p>
11	Packaged Mineral Water where brand name designates the product with a locality, hamlet, or specified place	The name of the locality, hamlet, or specified place
12	Low Fat milk	"Low Fat milk"
13	Pasteurized milk	"Pasteurized milk"
14	Powder milk	the manufacturing process like spray or roller or fridge drying
15	Sweetened or non-sweetened cream	"Not suitable for infant"

**5.17 Special conditions for labeling genetically modified packaged food:**

If any agriculture product is produced by modifying its genetic characteristics, the expression "Genetically Modified Food (GM Food)" shall be mentioned in its label.

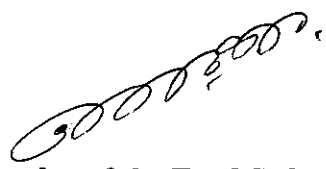


### 5.18 Exemptions:

- (1) Where the surface area of the package is not more than 100 square centimeters, the label of such package shall be exempted from the requirements of list of ingredients, Lot Number or Batch Number or Code Number, nutritional information, labelling of irradiated food, declaration of food additives, the name and complete address of the manufacturer in case of imported products and instructions for use, but these information shall be given on the multi-unit packages;
- (2) To trace out the source of packaged food, the manufacturer thereof shall, within possible shortest time but definitely within 5 years from the date of implementation of this regulation, take initiative to introduce bar code on the label; but until such sign is not introduced, all information for tracing out the source of food, such as- information on raw-materials, food ingredients and all stages of production and distribution of packaged food shall be preserved till 3 (three) months after expiry date of the food product and shall be shown to the food inspection authorities on demand;
- (3) **Certain regulations not to be applicable.** - In case of selling any food or food product without packaging to the ultimate consumers, or in case of packaging at the time of sale on request of the consumer, the regulations shall be applicable;
- (4) The following labelling requirements are exempted if they are provided in a Barcode/Global Trade Identification Number (GTIN); -
  - (a) Address of the Manufacturer if it is different from brand owner
  - (b) Address of marketer, packer, or bottler, as required

### Chapter IV Miscellaneous

19. **Inapplicability.** - The provisions of the Pure Food Rules, 1967, which are related to the provisions of these regulations shall be inapplicable as soon as maybe after these regulations have come into force.
20. **Publication of English Text.** - After the commencement of these regulations, the Authority, shall, if necessary, with prior approval of the Government, by notification in the official Gazette, publish an Authentic English Text of these regulations:  
Provided that in case of conflict between the Bangla text and the English text, the Bangla text shall prevail. (To be included in Bengali version).

  
By order of the Food Safety Authority  
Md. Abdul Qayyum Sarkar  
Chairman