

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Commissioner Food & Drug Administration
Drugs & Food Control Organization, J&K
Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar

Order No. 74 -FDA of 2025

Dated: 27.10.2025

PROHIBITORY ORDER

Whereas, in terms of regulations 2.1.16 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, Paneer is defined as the product obtained from any variant of milk with or without added milk solids, by precipitation with permitted acidulants such as lactic acid, citric acid, malic acid, vinegar, glucono delta lactone, or sour whey & heating ; and expressly restrict the inclusion of non-dairy or foreign fat in any form; and

Whereas, during the current financial year 2025-26, large quantities of loose paneer consignments transported and stored under unsanitary and non-refrigerated conditions imported from neighboring States have been intercepted and seized by the enforcement officers duly appointed under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 ,rules and regulations made there under; and

Whereas, such seized stock of loose paneer was found to be without invoices, bills, or warranty declarations, which is in violation of regulations 2.1.14(2) of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, which is reproduce as under :-

"Guarantee Every manufacturer ,distributor or dealer selling an article of food to a vendor shall give either separately or in the bill,cash memo or label a warranty in form E."

Whereas, in terms of section 26 of the FSS Act,2006, it is the responsibility of every Food Business Operator (FBO) to ensure that the article of the food satisfy the requirements of the FSS Act and the rules and the regulations made hereunder at all stages of productions,processing, import,distribution ans sale within the businesses under his control; and

Whereas, Part-III of Schedule-IV of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 prescribes that potentially high-risk foods shall be received and maintained at or below 5°C, and non-compliance of the same poses a direct risk to food safety and public health; and

Whereas, the Food Analyst, National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad has confirmed that the sample of Paneer lifted during enforcement action tested positive for Beta-Sitosterol, conclusively indicating the presence of vegetable/foreign fat, and was consequently declared Unsafe under Section 3(1)(zz) read with Section 26(2)(i) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006; and

Whereas, the Regulation 2.1.1(10) of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 expressly prohibits the sale of any milk or milk product containing substances not naturally present in milk, except as otherwise provided under the regulations; and

Whereas, Section 18(1)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 mandates that all implementing authorities shall be guided by the principle of achieving an appropriate level of protection of human life and health, while ensuring fair practices in food trade and Section 18(1)(f) further provides that where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a food may present a risk to human health, the Commissioner of Food Safety shall take appropriate measures to inform the public and to prevent, reduce, or eliminate that risk; and

Whereas, Section 26 of the Act explicitly prohibits the manufacture, storage, distribution, or sale of unsafe food, and makes every FBO responsible for compliance with food safety standards; and

Whereas, Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 empowers the Commissioner of Food Safety to prohibit, in the interest of public health, the manufacture, storage, distribution, or sale of any article of food in the whole or part of the State for such period, not exceeding one year, as may be specified in the order;

Now, Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, I, Smita Sethi, Commissioner of Food Safety, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, being satisfied that the loose paneer consignments containing foreign fat and without any traceability pose a serious risk to public health, do hereby prohibit with immediate effect, the manufacture, sale, distribution, import and transportation of loose Paneer containing foreign fat from the neighboring states within the territorial jurisdiction of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, until further orders.

This prohibition shall remain operative until duly revoked or modified upon satisfaction that the conditions posing health risk no longer exist and that the concerned food business operators have complied with all provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the regulations framed there under.



(Smita Sethi), JKAS

Commissioner,
Food and Drugs Administration,
Jammu & Kashmir

Copy to the:

1. CEO, FSSAI, New Delhi for information.
2. Secretary to Government, Health & Medical Education Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K for information.
3. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu / Kashmir for information and necessary action.
4. All Deputy Commissioners (Food Safety) for strict enforcement within their jurisdictions.
5. All Designated Officers, J&K to ensure compliance and submit status reports fortnightly.
6. Officer incharge of website O/O State Drugs Controller, J&K.
7. Record file.