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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

L.D.B 11/80 (30)(A)

FOOD ACT, No. 26 OF 1980

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Health and Mass Media in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980.

Dr. NALINDA JAYATISSA,
Minister of Health and Mass Media.

Colombo,
25th June, 2025.

REGULATIONS

The Food (Labelling and Advertising) Regulations 2022, published in *Gazette Extraordinary*, No. 2319/40 of February 14, 2023, as amended from time to time, are hereby further amended as follows:

(1) In regulation 2 thereof, by the repeal of the proviso to that regulation and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“Provided that these regulations shall not apply to-

- (a) Other than the bulk pack for retail sale, any other packs for sale if the food is of a nature, quality, origin, or brand requested by the purchaser and is weighed, counted, or measured in the presence of the purchaser; and



(b) Business-to-business food products, except for the following mandatory labelling requirements: -

- (i) Common name (in one of the three languages);
- (ii) Trade name;
- (iii) Net contents;
- (iv) Date of Manufacture;
- (v) Date of Expiry;
- (vi) Batch number;
- (vii) Manufacturer (Name and Address);
- (viii) Distributors (Name and Address);
- (ix) Country of origin in case of imported foods; and
- (x) A complete list of ingredients.

Provided further that the statement “NOT FOR RETAIL SALE” shall be printed on the label of such Business-to-Business food products clearly and conspicuously in bold type capital letters and font size of not less than 3 millimeters (3mm).”

(2) in regulation 4 thereof-

(a) In sub-regulation (1) thereof-

(i) by the repeal of paragraph (a) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“(a) common name of the product in bold type in all three languages or, in any two of the three languages on the main panel and the other language on any panel;” and

(ii) by the repeal of paragraph (b) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“(b) trade name and brand name (if any) in any one or more of the three languages in a manner that shall not be deceptive or mislead any person; and”;

(b) In sub-regulation (2) (a) thereof-

After subparagraph of subsection (i) thereof, by the addition of the following: -

Provided that, such exemption shall not apply to the following items: -

- (A) Cereals containing gluten; *i.e.*, wheat, spelt, rye, barley, oats, or their hybridised strains and products of these;
- (B) Crustacea and products of these;
- (C) Eggs and egg products;
- (D) Fish and fish products;
- (E) Peanuts, soybeans and products of these;
- (F) Milk and milk products; (lactose included);
- (G) Tree nuts and nut products.

(c) by the repeal of subparagraph (v) of paragraph (a) thereof; and

(d) In subparagraph (viii) of paragraph (a) thereof, by the substitution for the words “not less than 1.5 millimeters” of the words “not less than 1 millimeter;”.

(3) in regulation 5 thereof, by the repeal of paragraph (e) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“(e) the declarations, other than the declarations of regulation (4)(1), the date of manufacture, the date of expiry and nutrition labelling shall be conspicuously printed in letters of not less than 1.5 millimeters in height.”.

(4) in regulation 8 thereof-

(a) in sub-regulation (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “X flavored” of the words “natural/artificial X flavored”; and

- (b) In sub regulation (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “shall be declared on the label” of the words “shall be declared in the list of ingredients on the label”;
- (5) in regulation 9 thereof-
- (a) in sub regulation (3) thereof, by the repeal of paragraph (b) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following paragraph: -
- “(b) Sweeteners can be used partially in place of sugar, where there is at least thirty *per centum* energy reduction compared to a similar or the original product and a declaration of “energy reduced” may be made on the label.”;
- (b) by the insertion of the following proviso immediately after sub-regulation (5) thereof: -
- “Provided that dairy ingredients, bee honey, bee wax, added micronutrients, food additives and processing aids may be exempted from this requirement.”
- (6) in regulation 12 thereof-
- (a) in sub-regulation (5) thereof-
- (i) by the insertion of the following proviso immediately after paragraph (c) thereof: -
- “Provided that, if a product is manufactured and marketed exclusively for infants or young children or pregnant or lactating mothers, in the absence of a specific standard for such groups, the relevant Average Requirement Values (AR) or Adequate Intake Values (AI) as specified in Schedule IX hereto may be adopted if it is clearly stated on the label.”; and
- (ii) by the repeal of paragraph (d) thereof;
- (b) in paragraph (a) of sub regulation (8) thereof, by the substitution for the words “chilling or freezing; and” of the words “chilling or freezing or drying without significant alteration of the original composition other than moisture; and”
- (c) in sub-regulation (10) thereof-
- (i) by the repeal of paragraph (a) thereof and substitution therefor of the following: -
- “(a) (i) No label or advertisement relating to any food shall indicate that it is a fortified food unless such food has been added with one or more nutrients, whether or not it was normally present in that food, provided that the intended purpose for such addition is to prevent or correct a demonstrated deficiency of one or more of such nutrients in the population; and
- (ii) If the fortification level of a nutrient exceeds one third (1/3) of the Nutrient Reference Value (NRV) as specified in Schedule V hereto or Average Requirement Values (AR) or Adequate Intake Values (AI) as specified in Schedule IX hereto, prior written approval shall be obtained from the Chief Food Authority, before such products are marketed.”; and
- (ii) by the repeal of paragraph (d) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -
- “(d) if the nutrient to be added is to maintain the nutrition at profile at preprocessing level, after processing or the nutrient added to the food does not exceed one third (1/3) of the Nutrient Reference Values (NRVs) specified in Schedule V hereto or Average Requirement values (AR) or Adequate Intake Values (AI) as specified in Schedule IX hereto, the prior written approval of the Chief Food Authority may not be required.”;
- (7) in regulation 13 thereof by the repeal of sub-regulations (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13) and (15) thereof;

(8) in regulation 14 thereof-

- (a) by the insertion immediately after the definition of the expression “bioactive components”, of the following new definition: -

“Business-to-business food products” means food products that are-

- (a) not offered for direct sale to the consumer; and
- (b) only used for further food processing or preparation;

- (b) by the insertion immediately after the definition of the expression “common name”, of the following new definition: -

“Cottage industry” means a small-scale manufacturing business carried out within a household;”;

- (c) by the insertion immediately after the definition of the expression “main panel”, of the following new definition: -

“Milk-based product” means products exclusively derived from milk to which other substances necessary for its manufacture may have been added, and it shall contain not less than eighty *per centum* by mass (80% m/m) of milk and not less than two point eight *per centum* by mass (2.8% m/m) total fat.

Provided that such substances added do not replace in part or in whole any milk constituent, and milk-based products intended for young children shall contain not less than ninety *per centum* by mass (90% m/m) of milk constituents;”;

(9) in Schedule IV thereof-

- (a) by the insertion of the following item immediately after the sub-item 1.1.3 thereof: -

“Notwithstanding the provisions of item 1.1, following foods are exempted from the requirement of the mandatory nutrition declaration:

- Unprocessed products that comprise a single ingredient including raw agricultural products such as wheat, rice, cereals pulses, fruits and vegetables or products that comprise a single ingredient;
- Bottled or packaged drinking water;
- A spice or mixtures thereof;
- Salt;
- Tabletop sweeteners;
- Coffee extracts, whole or milled coffee beans and whole or milled decaffeinated coffee beans, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, soluble coffee powder without any other ingredients;
- Tea including 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;
- Natural vinegars and artificial vinegars without any other added ingredients;
- Flavorings;
- Food additives;
- Processing aids;
- Food enzymes;
- Gelatine;
- Yeast;
- Food in packaging or containers with a total surface area equivalent to or less than 100 cm²; and
- Food manufactured by cottage industries.”;

(b) by the repeal of item 1.2 thereof and the substitution therefor of the following:

“1.2 Nutrient declaration may be voluntary for all other foods except foods mentioned in sub items 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3. It shall be mandatory for all food products other than food products referred in immediately after the sub-item 1.1.3, after the expiry of a period of one year from the date of publication of these regulations in the *Gazette*”;

(c) by the repeal of sub-item 2.1.4 thereof;

(d) by the repeal of item 2.3.2 thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“2.3.2 When nutrient declaration is applied, vitamins and minerals which are present in amounts less than five *per centum* (5%) of the Nutrient Reference Value (NRV) as specified in Schedule V hereto or the Average Requirement (AR) or Adequate Intake (AI) values as specified in Schedule IX hereto, per one hundred grams (100 g) or one hundred milliliters (100 ml) or per serving as quantified on the label shall not be declared.”;

(e) by the repeal of item 4.4 thereof and the substitution therefor of the following:

“4.4. Numerical information on vitamins and minerals shall be expressed in metric units or as a percentage of the Nutrient Reference Value as specified in Schedule V hereto or Average Requirement values (AR) or Adequate Intake Values (AI) as specified in Schedule IX hereto per one hundred grams (100 g) or per one hundred milliliters (100 ml) or per package if the package contains only a single portion. In addition, this information shall be given per serving as quantified on the label or per portion, provided that the number of portions contained in the package is stated. In addition, information on protein and additional nutrients may also be expressed as percentages of the Nutrient Reference Value where an NRV has been established or Reference Intake as specified in Schedule V hereto or Average Requirement values (AR) or Adequate Intake values (AI) as specified in Schedule IX hereto.”;

(f) by the repeal of item 6 thereof and the substitution therefor of the following panel: -

“6. Format for Nutrition Information Panel to appear on product label

Typical Values	Per 100g (in case of solids) Per 100ml (in case of liquids)	Per serving
Energy	kJ	kJ
	kcal	kcal
Carbohydrates	g	g
Dietary Fiber	g	g
Total sugar	g	g
Protein	g	g
Total Fat	g	g
Saturated fatty acids	g	g
Trans-fatty acids	g	g
Sodium (Na)	mg	mg

Serving size is **g or ml**
Number of servings per pack... ”.

(10) in Schedule V thereof-

(a) by the substitution for the words “Regulation 12(5)(a), 12 (6)(b)(c) 12(10)(d)” of the words “Regulation 12(5)(a), 12(6)(b) and (c), 12 (10) (a)(ii), 12(10)(d)”;

(b) by the substitution for the words “***DFE-dietary folate equivalents” of the following: -

“***DFE-dietary folate equivalents

Reference intakes for energy, carbohydrate, total sugar and fat
(adult) Energy: 2000 kcal
Carbohydrate: 275 g
Total sugar: 30 g
Fat: 67g”.

- (11) in Schedule VII thereof, by repeal of item “Fat” under the heading of “COMPONENT” and the corresponding entries thereof under the headings of “CLAIM” and “CONDITIONS” and the substitution therefor of the following item and entries: -

COMPONENT	CLAIM	CONDITIONS
“Fat	Low	not more than 3g per 100g (solids) not
		more than 1.5g per 100ml (liquids)
	Free	not more than 0.5g per 100g (solids)** or 100ml (liquids)***”.

- (12) by the repeal of Schedule IX thereof and the substitution therefor of the following: -

“SCHEDULE IX

Regulations 12(5)(c), 12 (10)(a)(ii) and 12(10)(d)

TABLE A

Daily Average Requirement (AR) for energy, protein, vitamins, and minerals (per day)

Stages of life	Age	Sex	Activity level	Mean weight kg	Energy kcal	Protein g	Vit A µg RAE	Vit C mg	Thiamine mg	Niacin mg	Riboflavin mg	Vit B 6 mg	Folate µg D F E	Calcium mg	Iron mg	Zinc mg
Infants	0-6month	M/F	-	6.1	530	7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	7-12 month	M/F	-	8.6	660	10	190	NA	0.3	3.6	0.4	0.3	80	280	8	2.4
Children	1-3year	M/F	-	11.9	990	9	205	15	0.4	5.4	0.5	0.5	90	390	6	3.6
Pregnancy	1st Trimester	F	Sedentary	69.0	1960	38	540	90	0.8	10.8	1.5	1.5	600	750	21	10.2
	2nd Trimester	F	Sedentary	-	2150	45	540	110	0.9	11.8	1.5	1.5	600	750	21	10.2
	3rd Trimester	F	Sedentary	-	2390	61	540	110	1.0	13.1	1.5	1.5	600	750	21	10.2
Lactation	0-6 months Postpartum	F	Sedentary	-	2390	53	1020	140	1.0	13.1	1.7	1.4	380	750	16	11.3

Sex - M: Male; F: Female ; NA : Not Applicable ; RAE - Retinol Activity Equivalent

TABLE B
Adequate Intake (AI) for vitamins (per day)

Stages of life	Age	Sex	Physical Activity Level (PAL)	Vit D µg	Vit E as α-tocopherol mg	Vit B ₁₂ µg	Vit K µg	Pantothenic acid mg	Biotin µg	Choline mg
Infants	0-6month	M/ F	All	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7-12 month	M/ F	All	10	5	1.5	10	3.0	6	160
Children	1-3year	M/ F	All	15	6	1.5	12	4.0	20	140
Pregnancy	All trimesters	F	All	15	11	4.5	70	5.0	40	480
Lactation	0-6 months Postpartum	F	All	15	11	5.0	70	7.0	45	520

Sex - M: Male; F: Female

TABLE C
Adequate Intake (AI) for minerals (per day)

Stages of life	Age	Sex	Physical Activity Level (PAL)	Chloride mg	Copper mg	Fluoride mg	Magnesium mg	Manganese mg	Phosphorus mg	Potassium mg	Selenium µg	Molybdenum µg	Iodine µg	Sodium g
Infants	0-6 month	Both	All	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7-12 month	Both	All	0.3	0.4	0.4	80	0.02-0.5	160	750	15	10	70	0.2
Children	1-3 year	Both	All	1.7	0.7	0.6	170	0.5	250	800	15	15	90	1.1
Pregnancy	All Trimesters	F	All	3.1	1.5	2.9	300	3.0	550	3500	70	65	200	2.0
Lactation	0-6 months Postpartum	F	All	3.1	1.5	2.9	300	3.0	550	4000	85	65	200	2.0

Sex - M: Male; F: Female

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