

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: December 31,2020

Report Number: IN2020-0203

Report Name: COVID-19 in India - Weekly Food Retail Update

Country: India

Post: Mumbai

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Retail Foods, Agriculture in the News

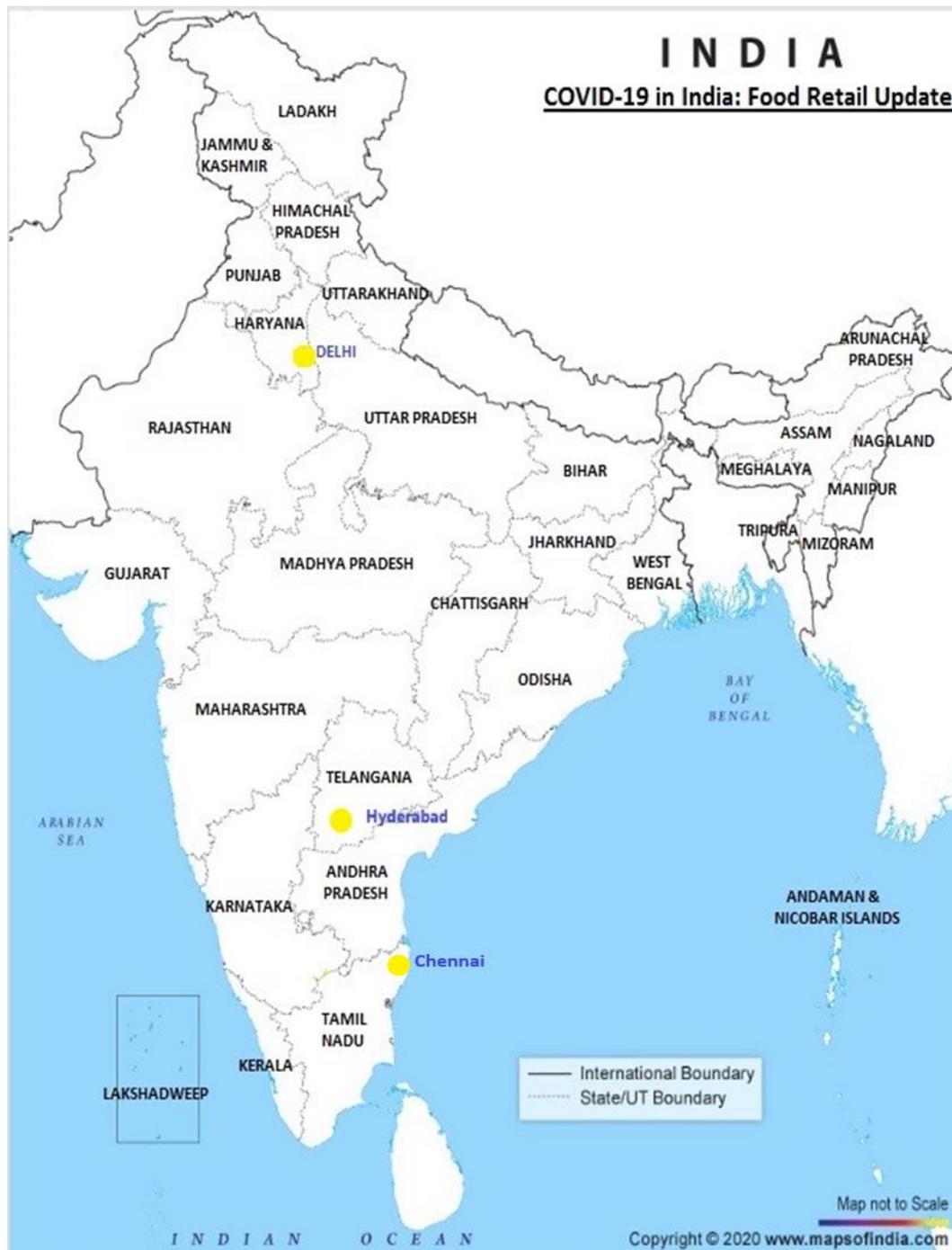
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Report Highlights:

Weekly report as of December 31, 2020, of COVID-19 impact on India's food retail sector.

India Food Retail Update as of Thursday, December 31, 2020



- 1. Delhi:** Due to a recent decline in onion prices, the Government of India will lift the ban on onions exports on January 1, 2021. The government banned onion exports during September 2020 due to a sharp rise in domestic prices and low supplies as a result of crop damage caused by heavy rains (See: [GAIN IN2020-0124](#)).
- 2. Hyderabad:** According to a local retail contact, grocery sales have returned to pre-COVID-19 levels. Footfall has increased but not returned to normal levels as many consumers still prefer to purchase their groceries through home delivery. Retail chains can easily source locally produced products, such as fresh produce, dairy, and other staples. However, the amount of imported products is constrained due to supply chain disruptions and higher costs, resulting in a shortage of imported processed foods. The supply of organic produce, a fast-growing product category, is also constrained as select suppliers were forced to shut down due to COVID-19.
- 3. Chennai:** According to a local retail contact, grocery sales and footfall have returned to pre-COVID-19 levels. The delivery of imported products is hampered by port delays, but the retailer has enough stocks to meet current demand. Consumers are increasingly demanding “immunity boosting” foods such fresh fruits, dry nuts, and spices.

Attachments:

No Attachments.