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Report Name: India Halal Market - Update July 2023

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, Agriculture in the Economy, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the News, Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

On April 6, 2023, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI)/Directorate of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued Notification No. 03/2023 - Final Guidelines, Streamlining of the Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products. The ministry's notification informed stakeholders of its final halal certification process guidelines for the export of India-origin meat and meat products. This GAIN-INDIA | IN2023-0054 | India Halal Market – Update July 2023 report updates FAS New Delhi's (Post) earlier GAIN-INDIA | IN2023-0010 | India Halal Market Update - 2023 report.

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) website <https://www.dgft.gov.in/>. The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, USDA, and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Microsoft Edge. Indian host sites will geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

GENERAL INFORMATION

This GAIN-INDIA | IN2023-0054 | India Halal Market – Update July 2023 report updates FAS New Delhi’s (Post) earlier [GAIN-INDIA | IN2023-0010 | India Halal Market Update - 2023](#) report.

Background:

On April 6, 2023, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI)/Directorate of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued **Notification No. 03/2023 - Final Guidelines, Streamlining of the Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products** (see, Appendix I). The ministry’s notification informed stakeholders of its final halal certification process guidelines for the export of India-origin meat and meat products.¹

On January 17, 2023, India had issued draft guidelines and invited stakeholders to comment. India, however, has not yet notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) the January 2023 proposed draft guidelines, nor the current final guidelines (of April 2023).

¹ Harmonized systems (HS) codes 0201 and 0202 fresh/chilled/frozen meat of bovine animals applies to the meat derived from the slaughter of the Asian water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*), also referred to as the domestic water buffalo. Carabeef is the term used to denote the meat derived from the Asian water buffalo; which is processed largely from spent dairy buffalo cows. Most Indian states’ legislation prohibits the slaughter of bovine dairy cattle (*Bos taurus* and *B. indicus*) of all ages, including both female and male calves. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, and Delhi (union territory) all prohibit bovine dairy cattle slaughter, including that of bulls and steers of all ages. The Indian states of Assam and West Bengal do permit bovine dairy cattle slaughter if the animal is at least 14-years of age and receives a ‘fit-for-slaughter’ certificate from the local state authorities. Kerala also allows for bovine dairy cattle slaughter for animals that are unfit for work, cannot breed, or are permanently injured and over 10-years old. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Lakshadweep (union territory) have not enacted any regulations, or laws that address or specifically prohibit cattle slaughter. Most states that prohibit bovine dairy cattle slaughter and can arrest an alleged perpetrator without a warrant. Delhi, Goa, Puducherry, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh can also deny bail (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN5085 | India - Cattle Slaughter Legislations – July 7, 2015](#)). Article 48 in the Indian Constitution indicates that states should consider preventing bovine dairy cattle slaughter but provides no specific enforceable laws or directives on the subject. Agricultural policy, including cattle slaughter, is governed individually by each Indian state. Many Indian states and union territories address cattle slaughter and the interstate movement and trade of live cattle and animal products. However, because there are no central or federal laws for cattle slaughter, most states and union territories have developed varying legislation, including creating different legal definitions for calves, bulls, and bullocks (steers). (See, [GAIN-INDIA | IN2022-0075 | Livestock and Products Annual - 2022](#) and [GAIN-INDIA | IN2023-0018 | Livestock and Products Semi-Annual – 2023](#)).

The final guidelines published lists the following meat and meat products covered under the halal certification process.

S. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Policy Conditions
1.	0201	MEAT OF BOVINE ANIMALS, FRESH AND CHILLED	1. Meat and meat products shall be allowed to be exported as "Halal certified", only if produced, processed and/or packaged in a facility having a valid certification under the "India Conformity Assessment Scheme (i-CAS) — Halal" of the Quality Council of India (QCI), issued by a Certification Body duly accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) as per the guidelines issued/amended from time to time. i-CAS Halal and the guidelines can be accessed at https://qcin.org/i-cas The procedure for export of non-halal certified meat and meat products will remain unchanged.
2.	0202	MEAT OF BOVINE ANIMALS, FROZEN	
3	0204	MEAT OF SHEEP OR GOATS, FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN	
4	0206	EDIBLE OFFAL OF BOVINE ANIMALS, SHEEP, GOAT, FRESH CHILLED OR FROZEN	
5	0207	MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL OF THE POULTRY OF HEADING NO.01.05, FRESH CHILLED OR FROZEN	
6	0210	MEAT/EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL, SALTED, IN BRINE, DRIED SMOKED; EDIBLE FLOURS AND MEALS OF MEAT/MEAT OFFAL	
7	1601	SAUSAGES AND SIMILAR PRODUCTS OF MEAT, MEAT OFFAL, FOOD PREPARATION BASED ON THESE PRODUCTS	
8	1602	OTHER PREPARED OR PRESERVED MEAT, OFFAL	also meet the importing country's requirements/regulations, as applicable, and shall hold valid certificate(s) issued by Halal certification bodies approved under the national halal system of the importing country. In such cases, the Halal certification under i-CAS Halal shall be initially voluntary on the part of the producer/supplier/exporter. 3. All existing Halal Certification Bodies shall have six months' time from the date of issue of this notification to seek accreditation from NABCB for i-CAS Halal. 4. All existing Export Units, including those already registered with APEDA as members, shall have six months' time from the date of issue of this notification, for registering themselves at dedicated and integrated online portal for meat exports developed by APEDA. 5. The export will, however, be subject to the Foreign Trade Policy, as issued/amended by DGFT from time to time.

The full text of **Notification No. 03/2023 – Final Guidelines, Streamlining of the Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products** is located on the MOCI/Directorate General of Foreign Trade's website located at:

<https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/548abe51-57bc-463a-8af8-7e77429155ee/Notification%20English.pdf>.

APPENDIX I: INDIA, MoCI/DGFT'S FINAL GUIDELINES FOR HALAL CERTIFICATION PROCESS FOR THE EXPORT OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

(To be Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section - 3, Sub-Section (ii))

Government of India
 Ministry of Commerce & Industry
 Department of Commerce
 Directorate General of Foreign Trade
 Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi

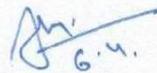
Notification No. 02 /2023
 New Delhi, Dated: 6th April, 2023

Subject: Streamlining of Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products

S.O. (E) In exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 read with section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No. 22 of 1992), as amended, read with Para 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20, the Central Government hereby amends the policy conditions for Meat and Meat Products:

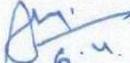
2. Products covered for the purpose of this Notification are as under:

S. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Policy Conditions
1.	0201	MEAT OF BOVINE ANIMALS, FRESH AND CHILLED	1. Meat and meat products shall be allowed to be exported as "Halal certified", only if produced, processed and/or packaged in a facility having a valid certification under the "India Conformity Assessment Scheme (i-CAS) — Halal" of the Quality Council of India (QCI), issued by a Certification Body duly accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) as per the guidelines issued/amended from time to time. i-CAS Halal and the guidelines can be accessed at https://qcin.org/i-cas The procedure for export of non-halal certified meat and meat products will remain unchanged.
2.	0202	MEAT OF BOVINE ANIMALS, FROZEN	
3	0204	MEAT OF SHEEP OR GOATS, FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN	
4	0206	EDIBLE OFFAL OF BOVINE ANIMALS, SHEEP, GOAT, FRESH CHILLED OR FROZEN	
5	0207	MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL OF THE POULTRY OF HEADING NO.01.05, FRESH CHILLED OR FROZEN	
6	0210	MEAT/EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL, SALTED, IN BRINE, DRIED SMOKED; EDIBLE FLOURS AND MEALS OF MEAT/MEAT OFFAL	
7	1601	SAUSAGES AND SIMILAR PRODUCTS OF MEAT, MEAT OFFAL, FOOD PREPARATION BASED ON THESE PRODUCTS	
			2. The export consignment(s) to countries where there is a Regulation on Halal, the producer/supplier/exporter shall


 G.4.

8	1602	OTHER PREPARED OR PRESERVED MEAT, OFFAL	<p>also meet the importing country's requirements/regulations, as applicable, and shall hold valid certificate(s) issued by Halal certification bodies approved under the national halal system of the importing country. In such cases, the Halal certification under i-CAS Halal shall be initially voluntary on the part of the producer/supplier/exporter.</p> <p>3. All existing Halal Certification Bodies shall have six months' time from the date of issue of this notification to seek accreditation from NABCB for i-CAS Halal.</p> <p>4. All existing Export Units, including those already registered with APEDA as members, shall have six months' time from the date of issue of this notification, for registering themselves at dedicated and integrated online portal for meat exports developed by APEDA.</p> <p>5. The export will, however, be subject to the Foreign Trade Policy, as issued/amended by DGFT from time to time.</p>
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3. **Effect of this Notification:** Policy conditions for Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products is notified.


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(Issued from File No. 01/91/171/166/AM21/EC)

Attachments:

No Attachments.