

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: May 23, 2022

Report Number: IN2022-0048

Report Name: Indian government resumes GM-origin soybean meal imports

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Agriculture in the News, Oilseeds and Products, Biotechnology - Plants and Animals, Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On May 2, 2022, the Ministry of Consumer, Food and Public Distribution, through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade announced approval for the importation of an additional 550,000 metric tons (MT) of soybean meal (including GE derived). This import quota is the remaining amount unfilled from the Indian government's previous 1.2 million metric tons (MMT) quota established in August 2021. India is permitting imports to run through September 30, 2022; bills of lading must be dated on or before this date. This move was made as a response to high soybean meal prices to alleviate India's poultry and livestock industry, for which this meal is a critical feed input.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
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POLICY

Report Overview

On May 2, 2022, India's Ministry of Consumer, Food and Public Distribution, through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade opened a tariff rate quota (TRQ) of an additional 550,000 metric tons (MT) of soybean meal, including soybean meal derived from genetically engineered (GE)-soybeans. Imports are permissible through the eight ports authorized in 2021: Nhava Sheva, Petrapole, Mumbai, Tuticorin, Vishakhapatnam, Ghodjanga, Kolkata, and the Ranaghat railway station. For imports, prior clearance must be obtained from the DGFT and the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying/Animal Husbandry and Dairying Department.

Following the first soybean meal TRQ, the Indian government set stock limits on soybean meal to further check rising domestic prices from December 23, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (See USDA GAIN: [IN2021-0150](#)). Since February 2022, India's poultry and livestock industry associations, again citing shortfalls in domestic soybean arrivals, successfully advocated for the Indian government to resume limited soybean meal imports. The new soybean meal TRQ would fulfill the original 1.2 million metric tons (MMT) allocation the Indian government established in August 2021. Last year, India imported approximately 650,000 MT of soybean meal primarily from Argentina, Vietnam, and Thailand. Despite sufficient domestic supplies, growing demand by the domestic animal feed industry and increased oil meal exports have contributed to keeping soybean meal prices high in market year ([October-September](#)) 2022/23. For more information about India's oilseed trade and outlook, please refer to GAIN [IN2022-0032](#).

The full text of the announcement is mentioned below and can be found at <https://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2022/235514.pdf>

Addendum: Gazette of India Extraordinary Announcement

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(Department of Commerce)
(DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF FOREIGN TRADE)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 2nd May, 2022

No. 02 /2015-2020

Subject: Extension of relaxation of the Provisions under Notification 20/2015-20 dated 24.08.2021

S.O. 2053(E).—In exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 and Section 5 of FT(D&R) Act, 1992 read with paragraph 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2015-2020, as amended from time to time, the Central Government hereby amends the DGFT Notification No. 20/2015-2020 dated 24.08.2021 read with Notification 23/2015-20 dated 03.09.2021, Notification No. 26/2015-20 dated 13.09.2021, Notification 32/2015-20 dated 25.09.2021 and Notification 36/2015-20 dated 08.10.2021 as under:

- i. For import of remaining Quantities of 5.5 Lakh MTs the last date of imports is extended to 30th September 2022, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. The import of given consignments may be considered for Bill of Lading or Lorry Receipt dated on or before 30th September, 2022. Furthermore, 'Out of charge' may be authorised by the Customs Authorities on or before 31st December, 2022.
- ii. It is reiterated that import is allowed only through the (8) ports as notified earlier i.e., Nhava Sheva Port (INNSA1), LCS Petrapole (INPTPB), Mumbai Sea Port (INBOM1), Tuticorin Sea Port (INTUT1), Vishakhapatnam Sea Port (INVTZ1), Ghoadanga LCS (INGJXB), Kolkata (INCCU1) and Ranaghat Railway Station (INRNG2).
- iii. Strict monitoring of import quantity to be ensured by Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAH&D) so that the mandated quantity of 5.50 lakh MT is not breached.

2. Effect of the Notification:

Relaxation of import provisions under Notification No. 20/2015-20 dated 24.08.2021 to allow import of the remaining quantity of 5.50 Lakh MT upto 30.9.2022 or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Bill of lading of such import consignments to be on or before 30.9.2022 and "Out of Charge" of such consignments to be authorised by customs on or before 31.12.2022.

This issues with the approval of the Minister of Commerce & Industry.

[F. No. M-5012/300/2002/PC-2(A)/Part-VI/E-9019]

SANTOSH KUMAR SARANGI, Director General of Foreign Trade
& Ex- officio Addl. Secy.

Attachments:

[235514.pdf](#)