

F. No. 1-11/Standards/SP(water and beverages)-13/FSSAI-2018
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(Regulation division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

Dated, the 5th February, 2019

Subject: Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding statutory warning on label of Alcoholic Beverages.

The Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages Standards) Regulations, 2018 was notified on 19.03.2018 where in Regulations 5.12 specifies the requirement of statutory Warning "**CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH**" and "**BE SAFE-DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**" on the label of alcoholic beverages with the font size of not less than 3 mm. As per this notification, a transition period up to 1st April, 2019 was given to the Food Business Operators to comply with these regulations.

2. Meanwhile, representations were received from various stakeholders in respect of the challenges in complying with requirement of the above mentioned font size (i.e. 3 mm) on smaller packs of alcoholic beverages. The issue was discussed in the 13th meeting of Scientific Panel on Water and Beverages held on 15.01.2019. After detailed deliberations Scientific Panel recommended the following, -

- (i) For Alcoholic Beverages having pack size up to 200ml, the font size of statutory warning shall be not less than 1.5 mm;
- (ii) For Alcoholic Beverages having pack size above 200ml, the font size of statutory warning shall be not less than 3 mm;

4. In view of the above, it has been decided to permit the font size of statutory warning for Alcoholic Beverages as mentioned in para 2 pending the due process of making amendment to the Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages Standards) Regulations, 2018.

5. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested with Food Authority under Section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

(Parveen Jargar)
Joint Director (Regulatory Compliance)

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioner

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI
3. All Directors, FSSAI
4. Department of Excise of all State/UT