



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

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## India

### FAIRS Product Specific

## Proposed Amendment to the PFA Rule relating to Dry Fruits & Nuts

### 2003

**Approved by:**

Chad Russell

U.S. Embassy, FASNEWDELHI

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**Report Highlights:**

On June 16, 2003, the Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (GOI) issued a draft Gazette notification under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), proposing stringent standards for raisins, pistachios, and dry fruits and nuts (including almonds), among other products. According to Indian almond industry sources, these amendments, if implemented, may have a negative impact on US exports of almonds to India.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
New Delhi [IN1]  
[IN]

**Introduction:** This report summarizes a proposed draft amendment to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules framed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954, which sets stringent standards for raisins, pistachio nuts, and dry fruits and nuts (including almonds), among other products.

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

**FAS/New Delhi Note:** Based on our interpretation of the draft rules, the standards contained therein are not yet in effect. This is also the view of some traders whom we have contacted. However, the sixty-day comment period has expired. To date, we are not aware of any negative impact on India's imports of products covered by the draft rule, including almonds. These draft rules cover a very broad range of products, of which almonds are of particular interest due to the volume of U.S. exports of these nuts to India.

**Type of Regulation:** Draft

**Important Dates:**

- Publication Date: June 16, 2003
- Time period for receiving Comments/Suggestions: 60 days from the date of publication (August 15, 2003).

**Comments/suggestions should be addressed to:**

Secretary  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Government of India  
Nirman Bhawan  
New Delhi – 110 011  
Phone: 91-11-23018863  
E-mail: [secyhlt@nb.nic.in](mailto:secyhlt@nb.nic.in)

**Products Affected:** Almonds, pistachios, raisins, and other dry fruits and nuts, among other products.

**Agency in Charge:** Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI

**Proposed Major Changes:** Raisins, pistachios, and dry fruits and nuts (including almonds) should conform to the following requirements:

**Raisins:**

i. Moisture (m/m)	Not more than 15.0 percent
ii. Damaged raisins (m/m)	Not more than 2.0 percent
iii. Sugared raisins (m/m)	Not more than 15.0 percent

Note:

m/m = mass/mass

Damaged raisins: raisins affected by sunburn, scars, mechanical injury which seriously affects the appearance, edibility and keeping quality.

Sugared raisins: raisins with external or internal sugar crystals which are readily apparent and seriously affect the appearance of the raisins.

**Pistachio Nuts:**

i. Moisture (m/m)	Not more than 7.0 percent
ii. Unopened shells (m/m)	Not more than 2.0 percent
iii. Empty shells (m/m)	Not more than 1.0 percent

## Note:

Unopened shells: shells which are not split open but contain fully developed kernel.

Empty shells: shells in which kernel is not developed

Mouldy shells: nuts affected by mould

**Dry Fruits and Nuts (including almonds):**

i. Extraneous vegetable matter (m/m)	Not more than 1.0 percent
ii. Damaged/discolored units (m/m)	Not more than 2.0 percent
iii. Acidity of extracted fat expressed as Oleic Acid	Not more than 1.25 percent

## Note:

Extraneous vegetable matter: stalks, pieces of shells, pits, fiber, peel, etc.

Damaged/discolored: units affected by sunburn, scars, mechanical injury, discoloration, and insects

The Draft Notification is available at: <http://mohfw.nic.in/pfa.htm>, by clicking on draft notifications and selecting GSR No. 489(E) dated 14/05/2003.

**For More Information:** Contact the Department of Prevention of Food Adulteration web site: <http://mohfw.nic.in/pfa.htm>

This website is mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above site.