

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny in the Food Import Clearance System

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and
Standards - Narrative

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Report Highlights:

Effective February 2, 2016, the Government of India's (GOI), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India implemented its new web portal-based Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny (PADS) system for the clearance of food imports.

Executive Summary:

In an effort to better regulate the imported food product consignments, FSSAI has implemented the PADS system under the Food Import Clearance System (FICS). Through this new system, FSSAI will review the clearing house agent (CHA) and importer application documents prior to the arrival of shipments into India.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

FSSAI introduced the PADS as a means to better regulate the arrival of non-standardized food products into India. The PADS application is similar to the previous requirement of a no objection certificate (NOC) by the CHA or importer. However under PADS, certain fields and documents are not mandatory. This enables the CHA or importer to file the application and allows FSSAI to review the document prior to the arrival of the consignment at the port of entry. Also, because PADS is a web-based system, it provides 24-hour accessibility for all involved. There are no additional fees associated with using the PADS system.

In an effort to familiarize the system, it is now fully active at the Delhi air and land ports (Indira Gandhi International Airport, Tughlakabad, Patparganj) and the Mumbai air and sea ports (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust Nhava Sheva, Sahar Air Cargo). FSSAI expects to activate the system in all other ports soon.

The links to access the PADS manual, summary, and FAQs are provided:

[Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny Manual](#)

[Scheme of Pre-arrival Document Scrutiny](#)

[FAQs for Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny](#)

All information related to PADS can be accessed from FSSAI's website at: [Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny](#) and email address for all PADS related queries is: fics@fssai.gov.in.



सत्यमेव जयते

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare



Food Import Clearance System v3.0



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Pre Arrival Document Scheme is now active in FICS. Pl read the user manual and scheme related document in the CHA/Importer Updates section below for more details. FAQs are also available below for your understanding.

CHA / Importer Updates

- Labelling Requirements as per FSS Regulation(s) 2011
- Scheme of Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny (PADS) **MSM**
- Download FAQs for Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny (PADS) **MSM**
- Download User Manual for CHA / Importer
- Download User Manual for Document Briefcase
- Download User Manual for License Validity of CHA Process
- Download User Manual for Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny (PADS) **MSM**

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9:30am to 6pm on all working days