

File No: 1 (105) Maggi Noodles/2015/FSSAI (Part-I)  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
(Enforcement Division)  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110002**

Dated, the 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016

**Order**

**Subject: Clarification on use of Monosodium Glutamate as flavour enhancer in seasoning for Noodles and Pastas.**

Under Regulation 3.1.11 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives), Regulations, 2011, Monosodium Glutamate (MSG), a flavour enhancer bearing INS number 621, may be added to specified foods as per the provisions of Appendix A, subject to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) level and under proper declaration as provided in 2.4.5 (18) of the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.

2. It is widely known that Glutamate is naturally found in several common foods such as milk, spices, wheat, vegetables, etc. MSG is the sodium salt of Glutamic acid and one of the many forms of glutamate. Presently, there is no analytical method to determine whether MSG was added to the product during its manufacture or was naturally present in the product. This can however be checked through inspection of the manufacturing premises.

3. To prevent, both, avoidable harassment/ prosecution of Food Business Operators (FBOs) as well as to ensure that consumers are facilitated to exercise informed choices in respect of what they eat, proceedings may be launched against FBOs only when the labels state "No MSG" or "No added MSG" and MSG is actually found in the impugned foodstuff. Commissioners of Food Safety are advised that specific enforcement/ prosecution may not be launched against the manufacturers of Noodles/ Pasta on account of presence of MSG/ Glutamic Acid unless it is ascertained by the department that Monosodium Glutamate flavour enhancer (INS E-621) was deliberately added during the course of manufacture without required declaration on the label as indicated in Para 1 above.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

  
(Rakesh Chandra Sharma)  
Director (Enforcement)  
011-23220994

To,

1. All Commissioner of Food Safety of States/UTs
2. All Central Licensing Authority

Copy to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI- For information.
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI- For information.
3. IEC Division- For uploading on FSSAI website.