

File No. 18-14/2021-DC
Government of India
Directorate General of Health Services
Central Drugs Standard Control Organization
(DTAB-DCC Division)

FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi-110002
Date: 10.09.2021

ADVISORY NOTICE

Advisory on voluntary indication of red/brown or green dot on every package of soaps, shampoos, toothpastes and other cosmetics and toiletries for non-vegetarian or vegetarian origin.

This office has received various VIP references, representations from time to time regarding mandatory indication of red/brown or green dot on every package of soaps, shampoos, toothpastes and other cosmetics and toiletries for its non-vegetarian or vegetarian origin by way of amendment in the Rules.

Earlier, this issue was deliberated in the 79th meeting of Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) held on 16.05.2018, wherein, the Board agreed for mandating the indication of green or red /brown dot on every package of soaps, shampoos, tooth paste & other cosmetics & toiletries for vegetarian/non-vegetarian respectively by amending the Drugs Rules, 1945. The Board also suggested taking opinion from stakeholders and public before taking action in the matter.

However, in the mean time separate Cosmetics Rules were published vide G.S.R. 763(E) dated 15.12.2020.

The issue was again put up for deliberation in 86th DTAB meeting held on 13.04.2021 and after detailed deliberation, the Board emphasized that there is no clarity and system to certify vegetarian and Non-vegetarian ingredients in the Country. Therefore, the Board did not agree for mandating the indication of green or red /brown dot on every package of Cosmetics, as it may complicate the regulation and add regulatory burden on stakeholders.

However, the Board opined that, it can be voluntary and left to the company's own decision for labelling red/brown or green dot on packages of soaps, shampoos, toothpastes and other cosmetics and toiletries for non-vegetarian or vegetarian origin.

In view of above, it is advised that the manufacturers of cosmetics may indicate red/brown or green dot on packages of soaps, shampoos, toothpastes and other cosmetics and toiletries on voluntary basis for its non-vegetarian or vegetarian origin respectively.

For information and necessary action to:

1. All State/UT Drugs Controllers
2. All stakeholders
3. Zonal/Sub-zonal offices of CDSCO.