Government Issues Show Cause Notices to Edible Oil Companies for VOPPA Non-Compliance

DFPD Intensifies Inspections to Enforce Amended VOPPA Order, 2025

Mandatory Return Filing under VOPPA: Non-Compliant Units Face Action

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The Government of India has strengthened regulatory oversight across the edible oil value chain through the **Vegetable Oil Products, Production and Availability (Regulation) Amendment Order, 2025 (VOPPA Order, 2025)**. The amended Order mandates compulsory registration of all manufacturers, processors, blenders and re-packers of edible oils on the **National Single Window System (NSWS)** and the **VOPPA portal (https://www.edibleoilindia.in)**, along with mandatory monthly submission of detailed production, stock and availability returns.

Under the amended VOPPA Order, 2025, all registered entities are required to file monthly returns covering production, stocks, imports, dispatches, sales and consumption of various edible oil products, including crude and refined vegetable oils, solvent-extracted oils, blended oils, vanaspati, margarine and other notified products. This framework aims to promote transparency, enable data-driven policy decisions and strengthen national food security.

As part of a nationwide compliance drive, the **Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD)** has conducted inspection drives at multiple locations, including **Karnal (Haryana)** and **Jaipur (Rajasthan)** to verify NSWS/VOPPA registrations, assess the accuracy and timeliness of monthly returns, and engage with industry stakeholders to encourage compliance, as part of a broader effort to ensure effective monitoring of the edible oil sector.

Alongside enforcement, the Department is undertaking capacity-building initiatives to facilitate compliance. A workshop was held on **30 January 2026 at RIC, Jaipur**, focusing on accurate data reporting, NSWS registration, use of the VOPPA portal and timely filing of returns. Similar workshops are planned in other major States. In continuation of this initiative, the **third awareness workshop** is proposed to be held on **16 February 2026 at Rajkot, Gujarat**, considering the significant presence of edible oil processing units in the region.

Based on findings from inspections and subsequent reviews, the Department has issued **Show Cause Notices to a few large edible oil companies** for failure to submit mandatory monthly production returns despite repeated reminders through emails and telephonic communications. Such lapses constitute a contravention of the VOPPA Order, 2025, issued under **Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955**.

The concerned entities have been informed that, under **Section 6A of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955**, action including inspection and confiscation may be initiated in cases of contravention. Further, as per **Section 6B**, a reasonable opportunity to show cause must be provided before any confiscation order is passed. Accordingly, the units have been given **seven days** to submit written explanations as to why action should not be initiated against them. The Department has also clarified that similar Show Cause Notices will be issued to all units that are either not registered under the VOPPA framework or have failed to file mandatory returns, to ensure uniform compliance across the sector. Inspection drives will continue on a need basis across edible oil processing units.

The Government reaffirms its commitment to ensuring **transparency, accountability and strict compliance** in the edible oil sector in the interest of effective policy formulation and national food security.

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