

**Notice Calling for suggestions, views, comments etc from WTO- SPS
Committee members within a period of 60 days on the draft notification
related to Standards for Packaged Drinking Water.**

2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 in regulation 2.10 relating to “Beverages”, namely:-
 - (a) for sub-regulation 2.10.8 relating to ‘Packaged Drinking Water (other than Mineral Water), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“2.10.8 Packaged Drinking Water (other than Packaged Natural Mineral Water)

1. Means water, other than natural mineral water that is likely to be used for human consumption and that is offered or sold in packaged form, by whatever name it may be called, offered or sold.
2. Water shall be derived from surface water or civic water supply or underground water or sea water or any other consistent source of water which may be subjected to herein under specified treatments, namely, decantation, filtration, combination of filtration, aerations, filtration with membrane filter depth filter, cartridge filter, activated carbon filtration, demineralization, remineralisation, reverse osmosis and packed after disinfecting the water to a level that shall not lead to any harmful effect in the drinking water by means of chemical agents or physical methods to reduce the number of micro-organisms to a level below scientifically accepted level for food safety or its suitability.

Provided that sea water, before being subjected to the above treatments, shall be subjected to desalination and related processes.
3. It shall be filled in sealed containers of various compositions, forms and capacities that are suitable for direct consumption without further treatment. In case remineralisation is a part of the treatment process, the ingredients used shall conform to food grade/pharma grade quality.
4. Packaged drinking water shall be clear without any sediments, suspended particles and extraneous matter. It shall also comply with the requirements given in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Table 1: Microbiological Requirements

Packaged drinking water shall comply with the following requirements:

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	<i>Escherichia coli</i> (or thermotolerant bacteria), cfu / 250 ml	Absent
2.	<i>Coliform</i> bacteria, cfu/250 ml	Absent
3.	<i>Faecal Streptococci</i> , and <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , cfu /250 ml	Absent
4.	<i>Salmonellatyphi</i> , cfu /250 ml	Absent
5.	<i>Sulphite Reducing Anaerobes</i> , cfu/50 ml	Absent
6.	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , cfu/250 ml	Absent
7.	Aerobic Microbial Count at 20-22° C in 72 h, cfu /ml, max	100
	at 37± 1° C in 24 h, cfu /ml, max	20
8.	Yeast and mould/ 250 ml	Absent
9.	<i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Shigella</i> , cfu/250 ml	Absent
10.	<i>Vibrio cholera</i> , and <i>V. parahaemolyticus</i> cfu/250 ml	Absent

5. Packaged drinking water shall be clear without any sediments, suspended particles and extraneous matter. It shall also comply with the requirements given in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Table 2 Organoleptic and physical parameters

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Colour, true colour units, <i>Max</i>	2
2.	Odour	Agreeable
3.	Taste	Agreeable [Action Tendency Scale a) or b) or c)]
4.	Turbidity, nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU), <i>Max</i>	2
5.	Total dissolved solids, mg/l, <i>Max</i>	500
6.	pH	6.0 - 8.5

Table 3 General parameters concerning substances undesirable in excessive amounts

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Barium (as Ba), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.7
2.	Copper (as Cu), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.05
3.	Iron (as Fe), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.1
4.	Manganese (as Mn), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.1
5.	Nitrate (as NO ₃) mg/l, <i>Max</i>	45
6.	Nitrite (as NO ₂), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.02
7.	Fluoride (as F), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	1.0
8.	Zinc (as Zn), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	5
9.	Silver (as Ag), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.01
10.	Aluminium (as Al), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.03
11.	Chloride (as Cl), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	200
12.	Selenium (as Se), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.01
13.	Sulphate (as SO ₄), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	200
14.	Alkalinity (as HCO ₃), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	200
15.	Calcium (as Ca), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	75
16.	Magnesium (as Mg), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	30
17.	Sodium (as Na), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	200
18.	Residual free chloride, mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.2
19.	Phenolic compounds (as C ₆ H ₅ OH),	Absent
20.	Mineral oil	Absent
21.	Anionic surface active agents (as MBAS), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.2
22.	Sulphide (as H ₂ S), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.05
23.	Antimony (as Sb), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.005
24.	Borates (as B), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	5
25.	Bromates (as BrO ₃), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.01

Table 4 Parameters concerning toxic substance

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Mercury (as Hg), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.001
2.	Cadmium (as Cd), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.003
3.	Arsenic (as As), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.01
4.	Cyanide (as CN)	Absent
5.	Lead (as Pb), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.01
6.	Chromium (as Cr), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.05
7.	Nickel (as Ni), mg/l, <i>Max</i>	0.02
8.	Polychlorinated biphenyle (PCB)	Not detectable

9.	Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons	Not detectable
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Table 5 Parameters concerning radio-active residues

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Alpha emitters, Becquerel (Bq/l), <i>Max</i>	0.1
2.	Beta emitters, Becquerel (Bq/l), <i>Max</i>	1

Table 6 Parameters concerning pesticide residues

Sr. No.	Characteristic	Permissible Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Pesticide residues considered individually	Not more than 0.0001 mg/l
2.	Total pesticide residue	Not more than 0.0005 mg/l

6. The product shall comply with labelling requirements as laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling), Regulations, 2011.