

**Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954
From Common Salt to Iodised Salt**

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PFA Act: Common Salt to Iodised Salt

Universal Salt Iodisation has been the mainstay of India's fight against Iodine Deficiency Disorders. The PFA Act of 1954 stipulated the iodine levels in salt. On September 13th 2000, the Government of India removed the ban on the sale of non-iodised salt.

The PFA Act of 1954 has undergone numerous changes after the introduction of Salt Iodisation. The subsequent pages document the changes that were introduced in the PFA Act after the introduction of Salt Iodisation.

1955

Rule A.15- EDIBLE COMMON SALT means a crystalline solid, white, pale, pink or light gray colour free from visible contamination with clay, grit and other extraneous adulterant and impurities. It shall not contain moisture in excess of six percent of the weight of the undried sample. The sodium chloride content (as NaCl) and the matter soluble in water other than sodium chloride on dry weight basis shall be as specified in columns (2) and (3) of the table below against the period of validity mentioned in the corresponding entry in column (1) of the said table. The matter insoluble in water shall not exceed 1.0 percent by weight on dry weight basis.

Table

Period of validity	Minimum percentage of sodium chloride content as NaCl (on dry basis)	Maximum percentage of matter soluble in water other than sodium chloride on (dry basis)
(1)	(2)	(3)
Up to 31-3-1982	94.0	5.0
From 1-4-82 to 31-3-1983	94.5	4.5
From 1-4-83 to 31-3-1984	95.0	4.0
From 1-4-1984 to 31-3-1985	95.5	3.5
From 1-4-1985 onwards	96.0	3.0

Provided that table salt may contain aluminium silicate as an anti-caking agent to a maximum extent of 2.0 per cent:

Provided further that the total matter insoluble in water in such cases shall not exceed 2.2 per cent and sodium chloride content on dry basis shall not be less than 97.0 per cent by weight.

1968

Rule A.15.01. (Introduced on 8th July, 1968) – Iodised salt means a crystalline solid, white or pale, pink or light grey in colour, free from visible contamination with clay, grit and other extraneous adulterants and impurities.

Moisture :	Not more than 6.0 per cent by weight of the undried sample
Sodium chloride (NaCl)	Not more than 96.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Matter insoluble in water	Not more than 1.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Matter insoluble in water	Not more than 3.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Potassium iodide or equivalent iodine	One part to 40000 parts (25 ppm) by weight or of potassium iodate or one to 50000 (20 ppm) by weight.

1987

[Rule A.15.01. (Introduced on 10-11-1987 with effect from 11-2-1988)- IODISED SALT means a crystalline solid, white or pale, pink or light gray colour free from visible contamination with clay, grit and other extraneous adulterant and impurities. It shall conform to the following standards, namely:-

Moisture:	Not more than 6.0 per cent by weight of the undried sample
Sodium chloride (NaCl)	Not more than 96.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Matter insoluble in water	Not more than 1.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Matter insoluble in water other than sodium chloride	Not more than 3.0 per cent by weight on dry basis.
Iodine content at –	
a) Manufacture level	Not less than 30 parts per million on dry weight basis
b) Distribution channel including retail level	Not less than 15 parts per million on dry weight basis

Provided that table iodised salt may contain aluminium silicate as an anti caking agent to a maximum extent of 2.0 percent by weight:

Provided further that the total matter insoluble in water in such cases shall not exceed shall not exceed 2.2 per cent and sodium chloride content on dry basis shall not be less than 97.0 per cent by weight.]

1994

[A. 15.01.01- dated 22-2-1994 with effect from 22-2-1994- POTASSSIUM IODATE means a crystalline powder, white in colour, free from impurities. It shall conform to the following standards, namely:-

1. Potassium iodate (as KIO_3) per cent by wt - Not less than.....99.8
2. Solubility.....Soluble in 30 parts of water
3. Iodide (as I) per cent by weight not more than.....0.002
4. Sulphate (as SD) per cent by weight not more than.....0.002
5. Bromate, Bromide, chlorate and chloride per cent by weight not more than.....0.01
6. Matter insoluble in water per cent by weight not more than.....0.10
7. Less on drying per cent not more than.....0.1
8. pH (5 per cent solution) Neutral
9. Heavy metal (as Pb) ppm not more than..... 10
10. Arsenic (as As) ppm not more than..... 3
11. Iron (as Fe) ppm not more than.....1

PFA Act: From Common Salt to Iodised Salt

Year Rule/ Clause	1985	1997	Sept 13,2000
Rule 42- (Form of labels) , sub rule (V)	Every container or package of table salt or iron fortified common salt containing aluminium silicate as anti caking agent shall bear the following label, namely:- TABLE SALT/ IRON FORTIFIED COMMON SALT* Contains permitted anti caking agent *strike out whichever is not applicable	Every container or package of table iodised salt or iron fortified common salt* containing aluminium silicate as anti caking agent shall bear the following label, namely:- TABLE IODISED SALT/ IRON FORTIFIED COMMON SALT* Contains permitted anti caking agent <i>*strike out whichever is not applicable</i>	Every container or package of edible common or iodised salt or iron fortified common salt containing aluminium silicate as anti caking agent shall bear the following label, namely:- EDIBLE COMMON SALT OR IODISED SALT OR IRON FORTIFIED COMMON SALT* Contains permitted anti caking agent <i>*strike out whichever is not applicable</i>
Rule 42- (Form of labels) , sub rule (ZZZ), After Clause (11)		Every container of package of common salt shall bear the following label, namely:- COMMON SALT FOR IODISATION/ IRON FORTIFICATION/ANIMAL USE/ PRESERVATION/ MEDICINE/ INDUSTRIAL USE* <i>*Strike out whichever is not applicable</i>	THIS CLAUSE WAS OMITTED

Year Rule/ Clause	1985	1997	Sept 13,2000
Rule 44G		<p>Restriction on sale of common salt- No person shall sell or offer or expose for sale or have in his premises for the purpose of sale, common salt for direct human consumption unless the same is iodised.</p> <p>Provided that common salt may be sold or exposed for sale for iodisation, iron fortification, animal use, preservation, manufacturing, medicines and industrial use under proper label declarations as specified under clause (11) of the sub rule (zzz) of rule (42)</p>	THIS CLAUSE WAS OMITTED
Rule (49), sub rule (10)	Table salt or iron fortified common salt containing anti caking agent shall be sold only in a package which shall bear the label as specified in sub rule (V) of rule 42	Table iodised salt or iron fortified common salt containing anti caking agent shall be sold only in a package which shall bear the label as specified in sub rule (V) of rule 42	Edible common salt or iodised salt or iron fortified common salt containing anti caking agent shall be sold only in a package which shall bear the label as specified in sub rule (V) of rule 42