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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 1694/5 - 2011 පෙබරවාරි 23 වැනි බදාදා - 2011.02.23  
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**PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL**

**Government Notifications**

L.D.-B 11/80.

**FOOD Act No. 26 of 1980**

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Health under section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980 in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee.

MAITHRIPALA SIRISENA,  
Minister of Health.

Ministry of Health,  
Colombo,  
31st January 2011.

**Regulations**

1. These regulations may be cited as the Food (Shelf Life of Imported Food Items) Regulations 2011 and shall come into effect on 01st August 2011.

2. All items of food imported into Sri Lanka shall at the point of entry into Sri Lanka, possess a minimum period of sixty *percentum* (60%) of unexpired shelf life ;

Provided that the shelf life period specified above, shall not be enforced in respect of imported fresh fruits and vegetables and potatoes which have not been peeled or cut.

3. The period of shelf life of an item of imported food shall be determined on the basis of the date of manufacture and the date of expiry as declared by the manufacturer of the product and which is depicted on the label attached thereto.

4. For the purposes of these regulations, the expression “end of shelf life” shall be identified by the use of the words “date of expiry”, “best before”, “use by” or “use before” or other similar words which convey this meaning and which are used by a manufacturer of any food item being imported into Sri Lanka.

5. For the purpose of these regulations “shelf life” means the period of time between the date of manufacture and its usability by the consumer, during which time the product is safe for human consumption and is of satisfactory quality in terms of nutritional value, flavour, texture and appearance.

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