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Karnataka Bans Production and Sale of "Analogue Paneer" for One Year

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Karnataka Bans Production and Sale of "Analogue Paneer" for One Year

22 August 2026 · 1 min read ·

✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

*Karnataka's **Food Safety and Drug Administration** prohibited the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of “analogue paneer” when sold or labelled as paneer, background: notification issued August 17, 2026, effective for one year, widely reported August 22, 2026.*

What the Ban Covers

Analogue paneer refers to paneer-like products where milk fat and solids are wholly or partly replaced with vegetable oil, fat, or other non-dairy ingredients. Notably, tested paneer samples in Karnataka showed **no actual adulteration**, meaning the ban is precautionary and labelling-driven rather than a response to detected contamination. **FSSAI**-standardised dairy-analogue products, such as Frozen Dessert, Processed Cheese, and Mixed Fat Spread, remain excluded from this ban since they carry their own recognised standards.

Why This Matters

The ban reflects a regulatory gap: states are stepping in with ad hoc, time-bound restrictions in areas where the central regulator, **FSSAI**, has not yet framed binding composition or labelling standards for non-standardised dairy-analogue products, creating a state-by-state patchwork.

UPSC Relevance

This connects GS3 food processing and regulatory governance with GS2 Centre-state regulatory **federalism**. A useful Mains angle examines whether **FSSAI** should fast-track a uniform national standard for dairy-analogue products to prevent regulatory fragmentation, especially given rising demand for plant-based dairy alternatives.

 FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGE PEDIA**KARNATAKA ANALOGUE PANEER BAN:**

Effective: August 17, 2026, for one year

Legal basis: Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006

Excluded: FSSAI-standardised products (Frozen Dessert, Processed Cheese, Mixed Fat Spread)

Karnataka lab tests found no actual adulteration in tested samples

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS:

Background: FSSAI West Region separately issued a public notice on correct labelling of “cheese analogues” on April 22, 2026

Sources: PIB, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Source: Karnataka Bans Production and Sale of "Analogue Paneer" for One Year — Ujjayari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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