



DCGI's New Regulations for Imported Cosmetics

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Recently, the [Drugs Controller General of India \(DCGI\)](#) established new guidelines to enhance the safety, quality, and regulatory compliance of imported cosmetics in India.

- The cosmetic market in India was valued at USD 8.1 billion in 2023, with projections to reach **USD 18.4 billion by 2032.**
- **Guidelines:**
 - Cosmetics can only be imported if their expiration date is at least **six months from the date of import.**
 - Cosmetics containing **hexachlorophene or those tested on animals** after post-November 2014 are banned from being imported.
 - Hexachlorophene, a topical [antibacterial](#) cleanser previously used to clean skin before surgery and prevent infections, **has been banned in cosmetics due to safety concerns.**
 - No cosmetics banned in the country of origin can be imported unless for specific purposes (e.g., testing, analysis).
 - The [Cosmetic Rules, 2020](#) state that no cosmetic should convey any false or misleading information to the user.
 - Importers of new cosmetic products must seek approval from the [Central Licensing Authority](#), with proof of safety and efficacy.
- **DCGI:** The DCGI heads the [Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation \(CDSCO\)](#), which is responsible for ensuring quality drugs supply across the country.

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