

Policy and Commitment on a Deforestation-Free and Conversion-Free Supply Chain

DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD is a leading manufacturer of shrimp feed in India. Since the commencement of its operations in 2016, the company has consistently produced shrimp feed in full compliance with applicable national laws. Sustainability is a core principle at DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD, and the company is committed to responsible sourcing of all raw materials, including plant-based ingredients, with due consideration for environmental protection, conservation of natural resources, and product quality.

In India, deforestation for agricultural and other non-forest purposes is prohibited under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. These legislations are intended to prevent forest loss and ensure the conservation of forest lands.

In alignment with these legal requirements, DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD ensures that all plant-based ingredients are sourced exclusively from legally approved agricultural lands. The company does not procure ingredients derived from areas affected by deforestation or land conversion since 1993, including any illegally converted lands (though such practices are not applicable in the Indian context).

As DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD progresses toward Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) Feed Certification, the company reaffirms its commitment to sourcing plant-based ingredients in accordance with ASC principles, ensuring that all such materials originate from deforestation-free and conversion-free (DC-Free) supply chains.

DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD is committed to sourcing plant-based raw materials only from deforestation-free and conversion-free supply chains. The company shall not source plant-based ingredients originating from land that was deforested or converted from natural ecosystems on or after 31 December 2020, which is the cut-off date established under the ASC Feed Standard. Suppliers shall provide evidence through recognized certification schemes (e.g., RTRS, ProTerra) or equivalent due diligence systems demonstrating compliance with this cut-off date.

To uphold this commitment, DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD has established the following measures:

- A robust due diligence system has been implemented, including supplier and manufacturer evaluations, routine risk assessments, and verification through both direct engagement and independent third-party validation to confirm low-risk sourcing.
- All suppliers are required to hold ASC-recognized certifications such as ProTerra or RTRS for soya-based ingredients, or alternatively undergo third-party assessments to demonstrate effective due diligence.

M/s. DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PRIVATE LIMITED

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- Suppliers are subject to regular monitoring through annual evaluations and unannounced inspections.
- In the event of any breach of the deforestation-free and conversion-free policy, procurement from the concerned supplier will be immediately suspended, and a remediation plan will be initiated with defined timelines and stakeholder or community involvement where applicable.
- If remediation efforts fail to meet the required standards, permanent disengagement from the supplier will be enforced.
- The Sustainability Team is responsible for ongoing monitoring, evaluation, approval, or rejection of suppliers based on their compliance with DC-Free requirements.
- Periodic training on deforestation-free and conversion-free principles will be provided to employees and suppliers to ensure continued awareness and compliance.

DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD will conduct annual reporting on the procurement of plant-based ingredients and their DC-Free status. These reports will be submitted to ASC and made publicly available on the DEEPAK NEXGEN FEEDS PVT LTD website.

For Deepak Nexgen Feeds Pvt.Ltd

Director

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