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Your 'chocolate' may just be a lot of vegetable fat

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New Delhi: The next time you bite into a store-bought chocolate bar, check if the pack indeed says 'chocolate'. Many of the brands available in the market contain a high level of vegetable fat – much in excess of the global norm of 5% – which manufacturers manage to push by not declaring the product by the name 'chocolate'.

What has stumped the government agencies is that many of the 'chocolate' bars made and sold in India contain up to 20% vegetable fat, while a popular foreign brand too has been found to have more than 5%. "These companies have been taking the escape route. By not calling their products chocolates, they are out of the purview of norms," said a government source.