No impact of Swiss withdrawal of MFN status to India: Nestlé India

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Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) major Nestlé India on Thursday said the suspension of the MFN (most favoured nation) clause granted to India by Switzerland will have 'no impact' on the company.

The suspension of MFN status under the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) is a policy issue between the government of India and Switzerland and is not 'Nestlé-specific', the FMCG firm said in a statement. Nestlé India, which owns popular brands such as Maggi, Nescafe and KitKat, said the company was already "deducting 10 per cent withholding tax" on cross-country payments.

Earlier on December

11, the Swiss government
had announced the suspension of the MFN status granted to
India following a ruling by the
Supreme Court of India, which in a

judgement last year had said MFN status under the DTAA cannot be enforced unless notified under Section 90 of the Income Tax

Act.

This judgement of the apex court had come in a case related to Nestle, where it overturned an ear-

lier order passed by the Delhi High Court in 2021, which had upheld the residual tax rates' applicability after considering the MFN clause in DTAA.