

Dr. G. S. G. Ayyangar, IAS
Additional Secretary & Chief Executive Officer




FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS
AUTHORITY OF INDIA
Inspiring Trust, Assuring Safe & Nutritious Food
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

Move/Genl Admn/FSSAI/2020
Dated, the 25th April 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has the mandate to implement the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and other Rules and Regulations notified under the Act. Regular laboratory testing of food items is critical to ensure food safety. The safety of food has assumed paramount importance during present times when supply chains of food are rather fragmented. Further, many high risk category food business, as per the conditions of licence, are required to test their products periodically. Besides, in some industries like dairy- FSSAI has mandated a scheme of testing and inspection which requires testing by laboratories on regular basis at various stages of processing. These test are required to be conducted in NABL accredited /FSSAI notified labs only.

To enable faster food testing, FSSAI has recognised a large number of private laboratories (in addition to laboratories in public sector) to meet the requirement of the food industry. Needless to say that these laboratories need to function even during the lockdown period as they attend samples not only from the industry but also enforcement samples from Food Safety Officers of state governments.

It has been pointed out by some laboratories that they are finding it difficult to obtain necessary movement passes for their staff and as a result, their functioning is being adversely affected.

I would, therefore, like to request you to kindly instruct the local administration to issue necessary movement passes to the staff of FSSAI recognised private food laboratories in your state (list enclosed) as per their request so that these laboratories are allowed to function during the lockdown.

With *best regards*

Yours *sincerely*
ema
20/04/2020
(Dr. G S G Ayyangar)

Chief Secretaries of States
(As per list attached)

Copy forwarded to : Food safety Commissioners



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