

**No. 15(31)2020/FoSCoS/RCD/FSSAI**  
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
(Regulatory Compliance Division)  
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi- 110002

Dated, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

**Order**


**Subject: Data sharing guidelines and format for acquiring data from FSSAI in a formal manner**

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) being a statutory body under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. FSSAI's has its online FoSCoS portal ([https:// https://foscocos.fssai.gov.in/](https://foscocos.fssai.gov.in/)) for enabling food businesses in India to apply and obtain FSSAI License and Registration Certificates which is a complete online process. Further, for the purpose of training of food handlers and supervisors, FSSAI has a Food Safety Training and Certificate portal (<https://fostac.fssai.gov.in>). Similarly, FSSAI has several other online platforms like Food Import Clearing System (FICS), Food Products Identity and Verification System (FPIVS), Indian Food Laboratory Network (InFoLNet), Food Safety and Compliance through Regular Inspections and Sampling (FoSCoRIS) for conducting the regulatory processes and are hosted on NIC servers. The data available in FSSAI's online portals mainly pertains to food businesses in India. With web-enablement, the data can be made available through internet at all levels whether Government Departments or associations or other stakeholders of food safety ecosystem. The data transfer is gradually shifting from sequential transfer from a particular authority to direct web transfer as per data sharing policy so that information is available to all simultaneously. As the portals are hosted on the Govt's NIC servers, data is secured. Further, adequate measures for data security are in place for restricting access to confidential business data by unauthorized entities.

2. Involvement of large number of organizations ranging from government, semi- government, food business associations, consumer organisations, private bodies, civil society, non-government organisations (NGOs), Students of Food Technology and all other stakeholders usually require data for various purposes and raise their request to concerned authorities to access the data. A limited section of data pertaining to food businesses is sensitive and cannot be shared with all or publically, while businesses' general data has no sensitivity attached to it and can be shared publically through the website/concerned portal. The requests for sensitive data shall be made as per guidelines as issued from time to time. The concerned authority on consideration of the request for customized data may decide to provide or not to provide the requisite data. As far as non-sensitive data of businesses is concerned, which can be used for various purposes/studies etc., the data can be obtained from the specific online portals of FSSAI and can be accessed by anyone and anywhere.

3. It has been decided with the approval of competent authority to issue the guidelines related to data sharing. Henceforth, the data pertaining to the Food Businesses as available with FSSAI will be shared only as per the attached guidelines and when the request is made as per the attached format under Annexure-I along with the Undertaking under Annexure-II.

Enclosure: As stated

  
Inoshi Sharma  
Executive Director (Compliance Strategy)  
Email: [ed-office@fssai.gov.in](mailto:ed-office@fssai.gov.in)

**Copy To-**

1. Commissioner of Food Safety of concerned States/UTs and Regional Directors of FSSAI
2. CITO, FSSAI HQ
3. All the central and state government departments

**Copy Information To -**

1. Head(RCD)
2. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
3. PS to CEO, FSSAI

**Data available on FSSAI Web portals  
without approvals**

Type of Information	Portal	Data Fields	Level of Sensitivity	Availability	Approving Authority
Details/Valid Status of License or Registration Certificate	FOSCO S	As decided by the Authority	Low	Programme Division - Regulatory Compliance Division	Approval not required, if available on website, if not available on website, then respective HODs
Company/Entity Name wise Search of FSSAI Licensed/Registered Food Business Operator	FOSCO S	As decided by the Authority	Low	Programme Division - Regulatory Compliance Division	Approval not required, if available on website, if not available on website, then respective HODs
Details of Kind of Business wise Food Business Operators in a State/District (Except Contact Details)	FOSCO S	As decided by the Authority	Low	Programme Division - Regulatory Compliance Division	Approval not required, if available on website, if not available on website, then respective HODs
Details of Products Name wise Manufactures in a State/District	FOSCO S	As decided by the Authority	Low	Programme Division - Regulatory Compliance Division	Approval not required, if available on website, if not available on website, then respective HODs

**Data that can be shared after review**

**Data pertaining to State License and Registration requires approval by concerned State Food Safety Department (SFSD)**

Type of Information	Portal	Data Fields	Level of Sensitivity	Availability	Approving Authority
Data pertaining to an individual Food Business by a Government Agency/Body	Multiple Portals	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned SFSD	High	Concerned Designated Officer (DO)	Any Senior Official in the rank above than Designated Officer
Compliance Related Data of Food Businesses in State/District by a government agency/body	FOSCO S	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned SFSD	High	State Food Safety Department	Commissioner Food Safety or Competent Authority
Data based on License/Registration application of Food Businesses in a particular State/District required by a Private Body (like Training Partners, Auditing Agencies or any other individual etc.) – with specific purpose	FOSCO S	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned SFSD depending on the sensitivity and purpose of requirement	Moderate	State Food Safety Department	Commissioner Food Safety or Competent Authority
Data based on License/Registration application of Food Businesses in a particular State required by concerned State Food Safety Department which is not readily available in authority's dashboard	FOSCO S	As Required	Moderate	Programme Division – Regulatory Compliance Division	Executive Director, FSSAI Hq

**Central License or National level Data (including State level or data pertaining to two or more States/UTs) requires approval from FSSAI's concerned Regional Office or FSSAI Hq, as the case may be**

Type of Information	Portal	Data Fields	Level of sensitivity	Availability	Approving Authority
Data pertaining to an individual Food Business by a Government Agency/Body	Multiple Portals	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned Regional Director	High	Concerned Central Licensing Authority	Director, Regional Office, FSSAI
Compliance Related Data of Food Businesses in two or more States/UTs by a Government agency/body	Multiple Portals	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned Regional Director/Executive Director as the case may be	High	Programme Division of FSSAI Hq	Executive Director, FSSAI Hq
Data based on License/Registration application of Food Businesses in required by a Private Body (like Training Partners, Auditing Agencies or any other individual etc.) -- with specific purpose	FOSC OS	As Required but final set of fields to be decided by the concerned Regional Director or Executive Director, depending on the	Moderate	Programme Division of FSSAI Hq	Executive Director, FSSAI Hq

		sensitivity and purpose of requirement			
Data based on License/Registration application of Food Businesses required by concerned State Food Safety Department or Regional Office, FSSAI which is not readily available in authority's dashboard	FOSCO S	As Required	Moderate	Programme Division – Regulatory Compliance Division	Executive Director, FSSAI Hq
Data required through APIs	FOSCO S	As available for general public on portal's homepage	Low	Programme Division – Regulatory Compliance Division	Executive Director – Compliance Strategy

**Format for Data Request**

1. Name of the Individual/Agency/Organisation/Department Requesting Data:

.....

2. Purpose :

- a. Planning Special Drives
- b. Program management / evaluation
- c. Research
- d. Others (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Details of data use (Explain how the requested data would be used):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Define the data requirement

- a. Component on which information required
- b. Geographical area
- c. Time period
- d. Level of data –Aggregate (Count) or individual level
- e. Indicators/Variables required
- f. Any disaggregation required

Date:

Sign:

Name & Designation:

Institution:

UNDERTAKING

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name),  
working as \_\_\_\_\_ (Designation) in  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete Name and Address of Institution/Organisation), involved in  
\_\_\_\_\_ (purpose of the data requirement)  
\_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to (time period).

I hereby declare that the data that I am provided access to will be used only for the purpose of the work mentioned herein above and only in the manner that FSSAI/State Food Safety Department authorizes and permits. I expressly acknowledge and agree that without prejudice to the all available legal remedies, I am also liable to administrative action in case the data is used for any purpose beyond the scope of the purpose mentioned above. I will not share the data with any one, or publish the research data without prior written consent/permission from FSSAI/State Food Safety Department and shall maintain the confidentiality of all Confidential Information. I will acknowledge FSSAI/State Food Safety Department in all the publications that come out of this analysis.

I/we declare that any information shall not be directly or indirectly used for any commercial purpose. Any information received under fiduciary capacity shall not be shared with any private entity or for other purpose than public interest.

(Signature)

Date:  
Place:  
Contact Details:  
Mobile:  
Email:

(Signature of the Head of Institution/Organisation)

Name of the Head of Institution/Organisation:  
Date:  
Place:                                  Official Seal: