

**Notice Calling for suggestions, views, comments etc from WTO- SPS Committee members within a period of 60 days on the draft notification related to amendment in microbiological standards.**

**F.No. 1-110/SP (Biological Hazards)/Amendment-1/FSSAI/2018.–**

1. In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, in Appendix B,-

(1) below Table 2B related to Microbiological Standards for Milk and Milk products – Food Safety Criteria,-

(a) after the existing texts under the title ‘Stage where the Microbiological Standards shall apply’, following statement shall be inserted,-

“The Microbiological Standards in Table-2B (Food Safety Criteria) define the acceptability of a batch/lot and shall be met in respect of the product for releasing it in the market. These shall be applicable to the products at the end of the manufacturing process and the products in the market during their shelf- life.”;

(b) the statement “The Microbiological Standards in Table-2B ..... during their shelf- life.” under the title ‘Action in case of unsatisfactory result’ shall be omitted;

(c) in the sub-title “For Regulator” under the title “Sampling Plans and Guidelines”, the texts “The final decision shall be ..... for microbiological parameters.” shall be substituted by the texts “The final decision shall be drawn based on results with no provision for retesting for microbiological parameters except for Table -2B (Food Safety Criteria).”;

(d) after existing texts under the title ‘Reference Test Methods’, the following statement shall be inserted, namely,-

“Test methods prescribed in FSSAI Manual of Methods of Analysis of Foods (Microbiological Testing) may also be referred along with the IS/ISO methods specified for Process Hygiene Criteria and Food Safety Criteria.”.

(2) below Table 4B related to Microbiological Standards for Fruits and Vegetables and their Products – Food Safety Criteria,-

(a) after the existing texts under the title ‘Stage where the Microbiological Standards shall apply’, following statement shall be inserted,-

“The Microbiological Standards in Table-4B (Food Safety Criteria) define the acceptability of a batch/lot and shall be met in respect of the product for releasing it in the market. These shall be applicable to the products at the end of the manufacturing process and the products in the market during their shelf- life.”;

(b) the statement “The Microbiological Standards in Table-4B ..... during their shelf- life.” under the title ‘Action in case of unsatisfactory result’ shall be omitted;

(c) in the sub-title “For Regulator” under the title “Sampling Plans and Guidelines”, the following statement shall be shall be inserted at the end of the paragraph,-

“The final decision shall be drawn based on results with no provision for retesting for microbiological parameters except for Table -4B (Food Safety Criteria).”;

(d) after existing texts under the title ‘Reference Test Methods’, the following statement shall be inserted, namely,-

“Test methods prescribed in FSSAI Manual of Methods of Analysis of Foods (Microbiological Testing) may also be referred along with the IS/ISO methods specified for Process Hygiene Criteria and Food Safety Criteria.”.

(3) in Table 5B related to Microbiological Standards for Meat and Meat Products – Food Safety Criteria, in third Column, the word “*Salmonella*” shall be substituted by “*Salmonella*”.

(4) below the Table 5B related to Microbiological Standards for Meat and Meat Products – Food Safety Criteria,-

(a) after existing texts, the following shall be inserted, namely,-

“ § For poultry meat the requirement shall be applicable for *Salmonella enterica* serovars Typhi, Typhimurium and Enteritidis”;

(b) after the existing texts under the title ‘Stage where the Microbiological Standards shall apply’, following statement shall be inserted,-

“The Microbiological Standards in Table-5B (Food Safety Criteria) define the acceptability of a batch/lot and shall be met in respect of the product for releasing it in the market. These shall be applicable to the products at the end of the manufacturing process and the products in the market during their shelf- life.”;

(c) the statement “The Microbiological Standards in Table-5B ..... during their shelf- life.” under the title ‘Action in case of unsatisfactory result’ shall be omitted;

(d) in the sub-title “For Regulator” under the title “Sampling Plans and Guidelines”, the texts “The final decision shall be ..... for microbiological parameters.” shall be substituted by the texts “The final decision shall be drawn based on results with no provision for retesting for microbiological parameters except for Table -5B (Food Safety Criteria).”;

(e) after existing texts under the title ‘Reference Test Methods’, the following statement shall be inserted, namely,-

“Test methods prescribed in FSSAI Manual of Methods of Analysis of Foods (Microbiological Testing) may also be referred along with the IS/ISO methods specified for Process Hygiene Criteria and Food Safety Criteria.”;

(f) in the table below the title ‘Reference Test Methods’, in the row at serial no. 9, in column 2, the words “*Clostridium perfringens*” shall be substituted with the words “*Clostridium botulinum*”.