

File No. 2(1) CAC/Enf-II/2015/FSSAI/ Vol- V  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)  
**Enforcement Division**  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110 002**

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**Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Central Advisory Committee of the  
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India was held on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 at Raunaq Room, PHD Chambers, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi. Chairperson of the Authority presided over the meeting. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-1**

2. Director (Enforcement) welcomed all the members of CAC. After a brief round of introductions, the proceedings commenced as per the agenda.

**Agenda 15.1  
Disclosure of Interest**

The members filled-in the Disclosure of Interest forms and submitted the same to FSSAI representatives.

**Agenda 15.2  
Confirmation of Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> CAC Meeting**

The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> CAC meeting were approved and adopted.

**Agenda 15.3  
Action Taken Report**

3.1 The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> CAC meeting held on 04.06.2015 was discussed in detail.

3.2 The Chairperson observed that only few States had taken action on the actionable points arising from the last meeting.

3.2.1 It was decided that the States/UTs would be given time till 21.10.2015 for submission of comments on Food Safety Plan and proposed amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registrations of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011.

3.2.2 While discussing the action point on finalizing the procedure of seized articles based on general practices, the Chairperson requested the Chairman of the Committee, Commissioner of Food Safety,

Maharashtra, to discuss and finalize of the said report with the other members of the Committee at the end of the meeting.

- 3.2.3 On the action point on training of newly recruited FSOs, the Chairperson suggested that if States/UTs do not have newly recruited FSOs, they may nominate the existing DOs and FSOs for refresher training. He also suggested the States/UTs to take initiative regarding nomination of officers for training, since training is an ongoing process. He also advised FSSAI to come up with new training programmes for lab personnel, Food Business Operators, etc. States/UTs like Punjab, Goa and Chandigarh mentioned that they have newly inducted officers who require training, and will shortly send proposal for the same to FSSAI.
- 3.2.4 The Chairperson, FSSAI also pointed out that the absence of Commissioners of Food Safety from several States/UTs would result in the difficulty in implementation of various schemes and programmes discussed during the CAC meetings.
- 3.2.5 Shri George Cheriyan, Director CUTS Organisation highlighted the reluctance of various States/UTs to provide details about the composition of their Steering Committees. The Chairperson requested the States/UTs to update the details regarding the composition, record of discussions etc. in the Steering Committees on their websites and the same may also be forwarded to FSSAI for record.
- 3.2.6 Dr. Arun Gupta, Director, Ministry of Railways informed that Railways have forwarded the information of the Designated Officers and their jurisdiction to the Authority.

#### **Agenda 15.4 Enforcement of FSS Act, 2006**

- 4.1 Director (Enforcement) highlighted that Steering Committees were established in 26 States/UTs and Appellate Tribunals in 21 States/UTs.
- 4.2 The Chairperson enquired from the Commissioners of Food Safety of the States/UTs, that have not still constituted Steering Committees and established Appellate Tribunals, about the difficulties faced in doing so to which most the Commissioners informed that the constitution of the Steering Committee and establishment of the Appellate Tribunal are in the final stage. It was decided that a DO letter would be written to the Chief Secretaries of all the States/UT Governments which are yet to establish Steering Committees

and/or Appellate Tribunals, to expedite the process of establishment of the same.

- 4.3 The Chairperson called upon Commissioners of Mizoram, Sikkim to start the process of taking food samples and their analysis.

#### **Agenda 15.5**

##### **Progress of States/UTs regarding Implementation of FSS Act, 2006**

- 5.1 The revised template for the laboratory testing report was discussed. It was pointed out by the Commissioner of Food Safety, Tamil Nadu that in the column for details of non-conforming samples, the head should be amended so as to separately include details of Manufacturer, Retailer, Wholesaler and Transporter. He also pointed out that clarification should be issued that the category of Food Products to be taken from Hotels and Restaurants should include samples of prepared food.
- 5.2 An amended template incorporating the same would be sent to all the States/UTs.
- 5.3 The Commissioner of Food Safety, Tamil Nadu also proposed that a provision should be made in FLRS so that the DOs could key in all the relevant data in real time. The feasibility of the proposal would be worked out by FSSAI in coordination with NISG.
- 5.4 The Designated Officer, Chandigarh raised the issue that when a State/UT sends the data regarding the number of FBOs licensed, the total figure is wrongly reflected since more often than not FBOs having multiple functions in a single license are included in each category resulting in increase in the total number of FBOs. In this regard it was decided that NISG would come up with a solution to address this problem.
- 5.5 The States/UTs were requested to submit half yearly reports for the year 2015 along with the License/Registration & Laboratory Analysis reports, to FSSAI on a regular basis.
- 5.6 The Administrative Setup in States/UTs under FSS Act, 2006 is at **Annexure II**.

#### **Agenda 15.6**

##### **Implementation of FLRS**

- 6.1 Shri I.N. Moorthy, General Manager, NISG gave a presentation on the Status of the Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS). The presentation focused on the total number of States/ UTs that have implemented the online

licensing/ registration system, refresher trainings given to States/ UTs by NISG, and statistical data on the time taken by the FSOs & DOs in licensing/ registering.

- 6.2 Director (Enforcement) informed the Committee that till date 30 States/UTs had adopted the online Licensing and Registration system. It was informed by Joint Controller, Madhya Pradesh that the State has adopted 100% online system for Licensing and Registration. The Chairperson wanted to know the reasons why the remaining six States/UTs had not been able to adopt FLRS. In response, the State of Nagaland informed that the delay in implementation of FLRS system was due to lack of connectivity and infrastructure in the State. States like West Bengal, Odisha and Jammu & Kashmir committed to roll out FLRS by the end of the year.
- 6.3 The Chairperson suggested that the remaining six States/UTs should initially adopt the system in a few Districts and later extend it to the entire State/UT. He also requested to expedite the adoption of FLRS since it would be an effective tool for increasing the implementation of the FSS Act, 2006 across the nation.
- 6.4 During the discussion, it was also pointed out that the States/UTs which have gone online have about 10 Lakh manual applications which are yet to be entered in the Online system. On the basis of Offline entry statistics it was observed that Tamil Nadu and Goa have respectively completed 80% and 100% manual entry for licenses issued before adopting FLRS. It was observed that the reason for the huge backlog in all States/UTs is the lack of funds for recruiting personnel to do the data entry. The Chairperson agreed that FSSAI would look into providing assistance in resolving this issue in coordination with NISG. Meanwhile he requested the Commissioners of Food Safety to devise alternate methods to reduce the backlog.

#### **Agenda 15.7**

##### **Surveillance plan for food safety**

- 7.1 It was pointed out by the Director (Enforcement) that the Surveillance Plan for Food Safety was discussed with the Commissioners of Food Safety in the meeting dated 30th July, 2015. It was informed that the plan may be adopted by the States/UTs from the current month itself instead of January.
- 7.2 Director (Enforcement) reiterated that the surveillance plan may be modified as per the felt needs of the States/UTs, based upon consumption patterns, risks, etc. The plan was approved by all the members of the Committee.

#### **Agenda 15.8**

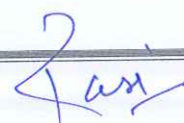
##### **Training and Capacity building**

- 8.1 Current status of various training programmes being organised by FSSAI, like induction training for FSOs, ToT, Orientation training, training of technical officers, along with the institutes nominated for training, was presented before the Committee.
- 8.2 On the point raised by Dr. Arun Gupta, Director/H&FW, Ministry of Railway regarding utilisation of the services of existing Health Inspectors as Food Safety Officers, he was requested to send a self-contained proposal for consideration of the FSSAI.
- 8.3 Director (Imports) informed that a training programme in collaboration with European Union under CITD is proposed to be held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 for Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. The Commissioners of Food Safety of respective states were requested to nominate officials from their States to attend this programme. It was also informed that Boarding and lodging would be provided by FSSAI and Travelling expenses will have to be borne by the concerned State.
- 8.4 Director (QA) informed the Committee about the workshop organized by FSSAI on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 for training manufacturers, for using quick testing kits which would help in ensuring safety of food from the starting point of the food supply chain.
- 8.5 Director (QA) also informed that a training programme is being prepared for the Public Analysts for which the details shall be shared in the near future.

### **Agenda 15.9**

#### **Discussion on issues received from States/UTs**

- 9.1 Issues raised by various State/UTs were discussed. While discussing the issue of referral laboratories, it was pointed out that the time taken by them for submitting their reports is very long. The Chairperson suggested that the States/UTs may conduct a time line study to determine the average time taken by the referral labs to send a report.
- 9.2 Also, Director (QA) requested VIMTA Labs to send their feedback regarding improved lab practices so that the same can be used as a module for training laboratory personnel.
- 9.3 The Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal informed the Committee that some labs refuse to analyse samples on the grounds that the fee of Rs.3,000 is very low. Director (QA) asked her to report the names of such labs to FSSAI so that a show cause notice could be issued to them.



- 9.4 Accepting the request from the State of Goa, the Chairperson agreed to removal of requirement of applicant's photo in certain RC applications like Anganwadis, Mid Day Meal, etc.
- 9.5 Odisha had sought guidance regarding khaini, jarda and mawa masala and it was informed that since the matter is pending in Hon'ble Supreme Court and various Hon'ble High Courts, it was not appropriate to discuss the same at this juncture.
- 9.6 Director (QA) informed the Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha that the guidelines/parameters on MSG shall be issued in due course.
- 9.7 Some States informed that laboratory equipments purchased earlier were lying idle and have become obsolete. The Chairperson asked the States/UTs to get these equipments inspected and made operational, if possible. The FSSAI is likely to shortly receive additional grant for strengthening of labs, which shall be allotted to the States/UTs.
- 9.8 Director (QA) informed that guidelines regarding sampling of foods to be served to VVIPs and sampling methodology for Fruits, Vegetables, Meat and Fish shall be issued in due course.
- 9.9 As regards enforcement of FSS Act for Railway jurisdiction the Chairperson stated that the matter may be taken up with the Railway Board.
- 9.10 Director (QA) informed that Microbiological referral labs cannot be notified in each States/UTs as these labs do not exist in each and every State/UT. As far as notification of accreditation of labs is concerned it is an ongoing process depending upon receipt of applications.

#### **Agenda 15.10**

##### **Any other Agenda with the permission of the Chair**

- 10.1 The Chairperson invited private members to share their issues with the Committee. In response to the request by Shri Pradeep Chordia, Chordia Industries, the Chairperson requested that members from private organisations, industry, and consumer organisations may send their views prior to the meeting so that they can be included in the agenda points and discussed thoroughly by the Committee.
- 10.2 The Chairperson requested all members to share their ideas/suggestions regarding the modifications in the FSS Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations made there under.

10.3 The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from Director (Enforcement).

10.4 Actionable points arising from the meeting are at **Annexure III**.



(Rakesh C. Sharma)  
Director (Enforcement)



(Ashish Bahuguna)  
Chairperson/CEO FSSAI

## ANNEXURE - I

The following members were present during the 15<sup>th</sup> CAC Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 at Raunaq Room, PHD Chambers, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi:-

1. Sh. Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson/CEO, FSSAI
2. Sh. Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards), FSSAI
3. Sh. Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (CODEX), FSSAI
4. Sh. Rakesh Chandra Sharma, Director (Enf./GA/ Training/ Surv.), FSSAI
5. Sh. Bimal K Dubey, Director (Imports/IEC/IC/E&A), FSSAI
6. Dr. Sandhya Kabra, Director (Legal/QA)
7. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (Product Approval), FSSAI
8. Sh. S. Anoop, AD (Enforcement) FSSAI
9. Sh. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, AD (Enforcement) FSSAI
10. Sh. Mahitosh Kumar, SA (Enforcement), FSSAI
11. Sh. S. Meena, AD (GA), FSSAI
12. Sh. Anupam Rastogi, AD (Surveillance), FSSAI
13. Sh. S. R. Samuel, Joint Development Commissioner, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
14. Sh. S. K. Pandey, Assistant Director, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
15. Dr. Subhash Gupta, Joint Commissioner, Department of Food and Public Distribution
16. Dr. Arun Gupta, Director/ H&FW, Ministry of Railway
17. Dr. Megha Khobragade, DADG (IH), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
18. Sh. Rajiv Mishra, Economical Advisor, Ministry of Food Processing Industries
19. Sh. R. K. Gupta, Deputy Commissioner, DADF, Ministry of Agriculture
20. Sh. Ashish V. Gavai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
21. Sh. Rakesh S. Nayal, Under Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
22. Dr. Avijit Roy, OSD (FS), A&N Islands
23. Dr. P. Maujiri, Director PPM, Andhra Pradesh
24. Sh. U K. Mitra, Deputy Commissioner of Food Safety, Arunachal Pradesh
25. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, DO, Chandigarh
26. Dr. Rajendra Sharma, DO, Chandigarh
27. Smt. Mrinalini Darwal, Commissioner of Food Safety, Delhi
28. Sh. Suniti Kumar Gupta, DO, Delhi
29. Smt. Jyoti Sardesai, Deputy Director, Goa
30. Sh. V R. Shah, Deputy Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat
31. Sh. S. Narayanan, Commissioner of Food Safety, Haryana
32. Sh. Rameshwar Sharma, Director, Health Safety & Regulation, Himachal Pradesh
33. Sh. M. K. Bhandari, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir



34. Dr. H.S. Shivakumar, Joint Director, Karnataka
35. Smt. Anupama T. V., Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala
36. Sh. Pramod Kumar Shukla, Joint Controller, Madhya Pradesh
37. Sh. Devendra K. Verma, Sr. Food Safety Officer, Madhya Pradesh
38. Dr. Harshdeep Kamble, Commissioner of Food Safety, Maharashtra
39. Sh. Ganesh Parlikar, Assistant Commissioner of Food Safety, Maharashtra
40. Dr. K V. Methekar, Sr. Food Safety Officer, Maharashtra
41. Dr. K. Ropari, Principal Director and Commissioner of Food Safety, Mizoram
42. Ms. Lalrinkimi Pachnan, Food Safety Officer, Mizoram
43. Dr. Narola Ao, Additional Director, Nagaland
44. Sh. Babaji Charan Das, Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha
45. Sh. G L. Upadhaya, Deputy Commissioner of Food Safety, Puducherry
46. Sh. Hussan Lal, Commissioner of Food Safety, Punjab
47. Dr. Naresh Kumar, State Nodal Officer, Punjab
48. Sh. Ashok Kumar Garg, Public Analyst, Punjab
49. Dr. Aditya Atreya, Designated Officer, Rajasthan
50. Dr. K. Bhandari, Commissioner of Food Safety, Sikkim
51. Sh. B. K. Singh, Commissioner of Food Safety, Uttar Pradesh
52. Sh. Vijay Bahadur, Assistant Commissioner of Food Safety, Uttar Pradesh
53. Smt. Godhuli Mukherjee, Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal
54. Sh. Pradeep Chordia, M.D., Chordia Foods, Pune
55. Sh. George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS International, Jaipur
56. Dr. S.P Vasireddi, Executive Chairman, VIMTA Labs, Hyderabad
57. Sh. Jasmeet Singh, Head Food, FICCI, Delhi
58. Sh. Anaam Sharma, Sr. Assistant Director, FICCI, Delhi
59. Sh. I.N. Moorthy, General Manager, NISG, Hyderabad
60. Sh. Shridhar D, General Manager, NISG, Hyderabad

**\* It may kindly be noted that names of participants have been arranged as appearing in the attendance list and does not follow any order of seniority. Mistakes in the spelling of any name are unintentional and are regretted.**

## ANNEXURE - II

Administrative Setup in States/UTs under FSS Act, 2006							
S. No.	Name of State	FSC	No. of AO	No. of DO	No. of FSO	Steering Committee	Tribunal
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	1	3	3	14	Yes	Yes
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	13	17	34	Yes	No
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	20	20	3	Yes	Yes
4	Assam	1	27	5	40	Yes	Yes
5	Bihar	1	36	9	14	No	No
6	Chandigarh	1	1	2	2	Yes	Yes
7	Chhattisgarh	1	27	27	28	No	Yes
8	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	1	1	1	1	No	No
9	Daman & Diu	1	2	2	3	Yes	Yes
10	Delhi	1	11	9	12	Yes	Yes
11	Goa	1	2	2	9	No	No
12	Gujarat	1	33	33	201	No	Yes
13	Haryana	1	21	21	12	No	Yes
14	Himachal Pradesh	1	10	5	4	Yes	Yes
15	Jammu & Kashmir	1	22	25	87	Yes	No
16	Jharkhand	1	24	24	202	Yes	No
17	Karnataka	1	30	36	68	No	No
18	Kerala	1	19	14	66	Yes	Yes
19	Lakshadweep	1	1	1	15	No	Yes
20	Madhya Pradesh	1	51	51	182	Yes	Yes
21	Maharashtra	1	7	62	298	Yes	Yes
22	Manipur	1	9	9	9	Yes	No
23	Meghalaya	1	7	3	7	Yes	Yes
24	Mizoram	1	9	3	12	Yes	No
25	Nagaland	1	11	11	11	Yes	No
26	Odisha	1	34	37	26	No	No
27	Puducherry	1	2	1	2	Yes	No
28	Punjab	1	22	22	46	Yes	Yes
29	Rajasthan	1	48	42	87	Yes	No
30	Sikkim	1	4	2	2	No	No
31	Tamil Nadu	1	32	32	584	Yes	No
32	Telangana	1	10	15	20	Yes	No
33	Tripura	1	9	9	4	Yes	Yes
34	Uttarakhand	1	13	13	30	Yes	Yes
35	Uttar Pradesh	1	75	38	229	Yes	Yes
36	West Bengal	1	19	19	43	Yes	Yes
<b>Total</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>2407</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>

**Action Points emerging from the meeting:**

Based on the discussions held during the meeting, the following action points emerged:

**A. Action points for States/UTs:-**

1. States/UTs to furnish their comments on Food Safety Plan and proposed amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registrations of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 by 21.10.2015.
2. States of Sikkim and Mizoram to initiate collection of food samples and to regularly send the surveillance reports to FSSAI.
3. States/UTs to submit timely nominations of officers for various Training Programmes organized by FSSAI.
4. States/UTs to update the details regarding the Steering Committees on their website, under intimation to FSSAI.
5. States/UTs may conduct a time line study to determine the average time taken by the referral labs to send reports.
6. The Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal to report the names of labs refusing to analyse samples to FSSAI.
7. States/UTs to get the obsolete equipments inspected and operationalised.

**B. Action points for FSSAI:-**

1. DO letter to be written to the Chief Secretaries of all the defaulter States/UT Governments to expedite the process of establishment of Steering Committees and Appellate Tribunals in respective States/UTs.
2. FSSAI to amend the template of Lab testing report incorporating the comments from the members of the Committee and to circulate it to all the States/UTs.
3. FSSAI to look into providing assistance and resolving the issue of data entry of manually issued licenses in coordination with NISG, Hyderabad.
4. DO letter to be sent to Railway Board regarding Enforcement of FSS Act in Railway jurisdiction.



**C. Action points for NISG:-**

1. NISG to work out feasibility to make a provision in FLRS so that the DOs could key in all the relevant data in real time.
2. NISG to come up with a solution to negate the problem regarding false reflection of number of FBOs licensed, in case of FBOs having multiple functions in a single license in States/UTs which have adopted FLRS.
3. NISG to resolve the issue regarding requirement of applicant's photo in certain RC applications like Anganwadis, Mid Day Meal, etc.

*Rasi*