

Minutes of the 37th meeting of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of FSSAI held at Kochi, Kerala on 23.08.2022

1st Session

The 37th Central Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting of Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) was held at Kochi, Kerala on 23rd August, 2022. The meeting was held in hybrid mode and some of the participants attended the meeting online. The list of participants is annexed.

At the outset, Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala on behalf of the State of Kerala welcomed the CAC members and special invitees. Head RCD also welcomed the participants and informed that the CAC has been reconstituted vide gazette notification dated 27th July, 2022 and fresh nominations have been made in place of the outgoing private members. The CAC put on record the contribution made by the outgoing members and welcomed the new members. Head RCD gave a brief overview of the agenda of CAC meeting.

CEO, FSSAI, in his opening remarks thanked the Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala and his team for making excellent arrangements for the CAC meeting at Kochi and hoped for a fruitful and enriching discussion during the meeting to address various food safety issues and improve the overall food safety ecosystem across the country. CEO, FSSAI also released the book "Food Safety Guide" for guidance of the food regulatory officers and consumers brought out by Food Safety Department, Kerala.

The agenda items were taken up thereafter as under: -

Agenda Item 1: Declaration of Interest by Members

All members of CAC were requested to make "Specific Declaration of Interest" and "Declaration Concerning Confidentiality" in the forms provided with the agenda and submit latest by 26.08.2022.

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 36th CAC Meeting

The committee noted that the minutes of the 36th Central Advisory Committee meeting held on 20th May, 2022 were circulated on 27.06.2022 to all the CAC members and States/UTs for comments. The committee further noted that no comments were received from the members on the minutes.

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes as circulated.

Agenda Item 3: Action Taken Report

The action taken report on the minutes of the 36th CAC meeting held on 20.05.2022 was noted.

States/UTs were requested to submit Action taken reports at least 10 days before CAC meeting so as to enable their examination and inclusion in the agenda.

Agenda 4: Review of performance of States/UTs based on 1st Quarterly Report (of 2022-23)

The committee discussed the 1st Quarterly State Performance Report (1st April- 30th June) of FY 2022-23. The following observations were made and decisions taken: -

Form 1: Administrative Structure

It was observed that there has been an increase in the total number of DOs and FSOs in the country. CEO, FSSAI appreciated Kerala, Maharashtra and Rajasthan for recruiting/promoting regular DOs/FSOs. He emphasized on the importance of robust manpower at field level for implementing food safety activities. He expressed concern that there were only part time DOs in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Tripura and asked the States/UTs to take action to have full time DOs.

Action Decided-

- (i) States/UTs to take steps for recruitment and creation of posts of FSOs and DOs.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 2: Details of Adjudication cases

It was noted that pendency of cases has been gradually increasing due to slow disposal of cases. It was also noted that in some states including north eastern states, no case was filed during the quarter under review which reflects poorly on the enforcement activities in these states. CEO emphasised upon expediting disposal of cases as increase in disposal time reduces impact of cases filed. CEO, FSSAI advised the CFSs to review the status of filing of cases.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to expedite disposal of pending cases and review the status of cases filed.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 3: Details of Appellate Tribunal and Advisory Committee

Decrease in overall number of cases pending under Appellate Tribunal was noted. DLAC is pending in many States/UTs like Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Delhi, Haryana, Puducherry and Telangana, while constitution of SLAC is still pending with Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and Haryana.

Puducherry informed about constituting DLAC for only Karaikal district, while the remaining smaller districts would be taken care under SLAC.

CEO, FSSAI emphasized on the importance of DLAC and SLAC meetings in the interest of food safety and urged States/UTs to hold regular meetings and expedite the process of disposal of pending cases by tribunal. He advised all the States/UTs to club the DLAC meetings with the District Health Committee meetings so that DLAC meetings are held regularly. It was also noted that some vacancies are laying in the SLCs and DLACs.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to expedite disposal of cases pending under Appellate Tribunal.
- (ii) States/UTs to constitute/reconstitute DLAC and SLAC and organize SLAC and DLAC meetings in a timely manner and fill vacancies if any.
- (iii) Explore the possibilities of clubbing the DLAC meetings with the District Health Committee meetings

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 4- Active State Licenses and Registrations

Net increase of 8% in licenses and registrations was observed. Assam and Bihar were advised to make special efforts to increase coverage of licenses/registrations. CFS, Tamil Nadu pointed out issues relating to auto generation of licenses, higher amount of penalty, delay in annual reports and suggested to make FOSTAC training mandatory for applying for license and to specify minimum qualification for FBOs and medical tests required to be undertaken by the FBOs.

CEO, FSSAI clarified that the issues raised by CFS, Tamil Nadu have been addressed in the amendment to licensing and registration regulation which are pending approval of the Ministry. He also mentioned that Food safety in the concurrent list, every State/UT is free to take decisions on its own regarding laying minimum qualification for FBOs. Since linking food business with qualification of the FBO may not work in every State/UT in a universal way and arise complications, the Central Government has not laid any such requirement till now. He suggested presenting the case study of Tamil Nadu in this regard in the next CAC meeting. Regarding defining the medical tests to be undertaken by FBO, he explained that confining to certain medical tests would not serve the purpose in days to come as the requirement of tests varies with time and it is better to keep it up to the medical officer to prescribe tests to confirm that the FBO/workers in a food business unit are free of any communicable disease and fit enough to work in a food business. Further he also suggested CFS, Tamil Nadu to examine this issue comparing existing norms in the countries abroad and submit a proposal for consideration.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to make efforts to bring more food businesses under the regulatory regime through licenses and registrations.

(ii) CFS, Tamil Nadu to take necessary action as advised by CEO, FSSAI.

(Action required: States and UTs, CFS, Tamil Nadu)

Form 5- State Licenses pendency

It was observed that 14% of the pending applications are pending for more than 6 months. CEO, FSSAI emphasized that due care should be taken so that license applications should not be auto generated. In case of such a situation, inspection of such food businesses should be undertaken.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to ensure minimization of pendency of state license applications
- (ii) State/UTs to ensure timely processing of applications so as to avoid auto-generation of licenses.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 6: State Registrations Pendency

It was observed that more than 82% of the applications are pending for more than 30 days. The States/UTs were complemented for putting effort in reducing the number of auto generated registrations and advised to take necessary action to reduce pendency and minimize auto generation of registrations.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to ensure minimization of pendency of state registration applications
- (ii) State/UTs to ensure timely processing of applications so as to avoid auto-generation of registrations.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 7- Consumer Grievances

It was noted that Consumer Grievances pending for more than 30 days have been increased in comparison to that in the previous quarter with major concerns in respect to Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

CEO, FSSAI advised the States/UTs to be more responsive to the grievances received from the consumer, as these act as mirror for the efforts and activities of the food safety department and help identifying the gaps and hotspots.

CFS, Rajasthan, requested to make all the pending grievances in respect of a particular State/UT to be made visible on the dashboard of CFS, so that their monitoring and disposal can be expedited.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to ensure resolving consumer grievances within stipulated time frame.
- (ii) FSSAI, HQ, IT Division to enable the viewing option for all pending grievances at CFS dashboard.

(Action required: States and UTs, FSSAI, HQ, IT Division)

Form 8- Inspections, Legal Sampling and Testing

It was pointed out that in the first quarter of 2022-23, the total number of inspections through FoSCoRIS have increased from the expected figure, though the States/UTs where less than 30% of the expected inspections have been undertaken were a matter of concern. Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan were complemented for drawing a good number of samples despite limited manpower.

CEO, FSSAI highlighted that though more than 100% of the expected number of inspections have been achieved in the country, the number of samples lifted were less than half of the actual number of inspections carried out. Regarding this the States/UTs like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim were asked to review the performances of the FSOs so that lifting of legal samples is done as per the expected target. During discussion it was also pointed out that the CFS should have the access to reassign/alter the jurisdiction of FSOs working under him by himself in FoSCoS as and when required, without routing through FSSAI, HQ. This would reduce time for generating credentials and mapping for each FSO. Further, it was also pointed out that the number of samples found to be non-conforming is quite high amongst the samples tested, to which the CFSs were asked to review the main causes for such failures at both sampling and laboratory testing ends. It was also informed that Risk Based Inspection System (RBIS) has been integrated in the FoSCoRIS, which will help in focusing and prioritizing inspections more on the high risk businesses.

Action Decided-

- (i) FSSAI, HQ, IT Division to include the feature of visibility of all pending grievances in the CFS dashboard and access to CFSs to reassign/alter the jurisdiction of FSOs working under him as and when required in FoSCoS.
- (ii) States/UTs to undertake inspections through FOSCORIS and ensure drawing of the number of legal samples as per the stipulated expected sampling.
- (iii) States/UTs to review reasons for having large number of non-conforming legal samples.

(Action required: FSSAI, HQ, IT Division, RCD, States and UTs)

Form 9: Eat Right initiatives

During the discussion, it was pointed out that though many States/UTs are doing a commendable job in completing the certification of clusters- Clean Street Food Hubs, Fruits & Vegetable Markets, BHOG, Eat Right Stations, and Eat Right Campuses & Schools, a majority of them have not initiated any certification process since the beginning of first quarter, 2022-23. States like Tamil Nadu has successfully been able to encourage FBOs in the hotels and restaurant industry to liaison with the listed food donating agencies and donate the surplus food through them to people in need.

However, the progress of the Hygiene Rating Audits was found to be very poor in the quarter concerned. Concerns were also raised on lesser collection of used cooking oil by biodiesel manufacturers in the quarter.

CFS, Tamil Nadu pointed out that in the State; the audit agencies are charging diverse amount for the third-party audits, which is creating a big trouble in assigning work to the agencies. CFS, Kerala suggested a modification in the checklist for audits, to enable easier compliances at the end of small FBOs.

To the issue raised by CFS, Tamil Nadu, CEO, FSSAI suggested that the State may either call for competitive bidding or call/ invite all existing audit agencies working in their State for an open discussion, create consensus and finalize the uniform rate at which all agencies would work. Further, CFS, Kerala was asked to share a proposal on revision of the checklist for audit of petty FBOs for consideration by the Food Authority.

In case of certified clusters, monitoring and inspection on hygiene and safety is being taken care of as and when any complaint is received and also during renewal of the Certificate. It was also reiterated that though Hygiene Rating is not mandatory for any food business, creating awareness and demand from the consumer vis-a-vis persuading the FBOs can bring the FBO under its ambit. For requirements of any training related to the Eat Right Initiatives for the FSOs and DOs, the States were requested to write at iec@gov.in.

Action Decided:

- i) State/UTs to take active participation in activities under Eat Right India initiative for building food safety awareness.
- ii) Kerala to share proposal for modification of the checklist for hygiene rating audits keeping in line with schedule IV of FSSR, 2011 as stated above.
- iii) States/UTs to ensure compliance and safe disposal of UCO and maintenance of data on receipt and disposal of UCO by concerned FBOs.

(Action required: States and UTs, CFS, Kerala)

Form 10: Testing Infrastructure

In order to ensure consistency in test results and robustness in testing and to increase efficiency of manpower in the laboratories, it is essential for the laboratory personnel to take part in the Proficiency Testing Participation (PTP) and participate in the training programmes for laboratory personnel being organised on regular basis. Advisor (QA) raised his concern over decreased number of PTP by the labs and less participation of laboratory personnel in training programmes. He requested all the states/UT's to increase participation in PTP and nominate more lab personnel for hands on training programmes.

CFSs of Mizoram and West Bengal agreed to the misinformation provided for the quarter and confirmed that the total number of SFTLs in the States are 1 and 2 respectively, making the total number of SFTLs to 73 in the entire country.

Dr. Vasireddy, CAC member, suggested that the refresher training should be organised for the lab personnel. Thus the proficiency in laboratory testing can be improved and same can be judged in Inter Lab Comparison (ILC).

CEO, FSSAI agreed with the observation of Advisor, QA and emphasized on the importance of training to all the laboratory personnel and participation in PTP by the labs.

All the States/UT's are required to fill up the vacant technical posts including post of the Food Analyst. CEO also reiterated to delegate financial power to the In-Charge of the Laboratory.

CEO, FSSAI pointed out that the Sample Management Systems have not been installed in every district in case of Andhra Pradesh, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry and Telangana. He emphasized the importance of robust storage systems in handling of the legal samples.

He further appreciated that the number of NABL accredited laboratories has increased in the country after the labs from Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh obtained NABL accreditation and thus the total number of NABL accredited SFTLs has become 56.

Action Point:

- (i) All CFSs to encourage all laboratory personnel to participate in PTP and hands on training regularly.
- (ii) States/UTs to expedite and ensure the installation of SMS in all districts.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 11: CSS for strengthening of SFTLs

CEO, FSSAI reviewed Form 11 and raised his concern over the basis for calculation of pending UC. He suggested that the "balance UC" would be calculated based on grants due for utilization for that particular financial year and not on the grants utilized.

During the discussion, it was appreciated that the number of utilization certificates due from the States/UTs have decreased.

Further, he mentioned that 40 microbiology laboratories (on turnkey) have been sanctioned under CSS and two vendors have been selected through the tender process for setting up of these labs.

Advisor, QA requested the CFS of all the States especially Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu for providing confirmation on scope of setting up Microbiology laboratory, if any, by 15th September, 2022.

Action points:

- (i) QA Division, FSSAI, HQ, to modify Form 11 as stated above.
- (ii) States/UTs to utilize CSS grants released by FSSAI at the earliest.
- (iii) States/UTs to submit Utilization Certificate in proper format to FSSAI at the earliest.
- (iv) States/UTs stated above to confirm in writing the possibility of setting up Microbiology laboratory by 15th September, 2022.
- (v) States/UTs, whichever have received layout for Microbiology Laboratory from the vendors, are requested to submit the same for Vetting by FSSAI without delay.

(Action required: FSSAI, HQ, QA Division, States and UTs)

Form 12: Testing Infrastructure utilization

Advisor QA reiterated that, the States/UTs not having NABL accredited laboratories or having limited scope of parameters, can send the samples to any other FSSAI notified NABL accredited private laboratories in the country.

Advisor, QA highlighted that the percentage of samples received by SFTLs has gone down by 20% compared to the last quarter.

CEO, FSSAI pointed out that in Form 12, the total of the average number of days required for testing of samples should be a weighted average taking into account the number of samples tested by the laboratories of the country. He also highlighted that, despite providing funds for equipment and manpower, the productivity of SFTLs with respect to the number of samples tested per month is quite low. He also raised the

concern over the effective utilization of manpower in the state food testing laboratories. High testing time was observed in Bihar, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh.

CEO, FSSAI further mentioned that according to the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the distribution of only fortified rice throughout the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the entire country would only be permitted after March 2024. Thus, to ensure sufficient testing infrastructure for testing of fortified rice, all the 35 SFTL's having HEE should be equipped with the basic testing equipment in order to test the samples of fortified rice. Therefore, all the concerned states have been requested to procure and install equipment required for testing of fortificants, immediately and to participate in PT programme being organised by EFRAC, Kolkata. EFRAC has confirmed the participation of only 30 officials from SFTLs in the training organised for rice fortificants testing, so far.

CFS Punjab mentioned about the availability of large number of manufacturers of Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) in the state and requested that the number of labs should be increased to carter the sample testing requirement. CEO, FSSAI mentioned that the standardization of fortified rice has already been done by FSSAI. 54 private laboratories and 35 SFTLs have already been identified for undertaking testing of fortificant. But since FSSAI is not the authority to set up a laboratory, any such requirement is to be looked upon by the States/UTs. He reiterated that FSSAI can provide technical and financial assistance for procuring equipment and by organising training to such laboratories, if required. Training of the FRK manufacturers and millers can be done by NFRC, FSSAI. Further the facility for machinery and training of FRK manufacturers and millers available at IIT, Kharagpur and NIFTEM.

Action Decided:

- (i) RCD, FSSAI, HQ to revise calculation of the total of the average number of days required for testing of samples in Form 12 as stated above.
- (ii) All concerned States to immediately procure and install equipment required for testing of fortified rice.

(Action required: States and UTs)

CEO, FSSAI observed that improvement has been noticed in the area of food fortification as more fortified staples are being included under 3 schemes- ICDS, MDM and PDS, but showed concerns on the poor coverage of fortified staples in Andaman & Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry. He advised all States/UTS should show 100% implementation of all 5 kinds of fortified staples in ICDS, MDM and fortified rice in at least PDS.

It was further pointed out that all States/UTs should appoint nodal officers for food fortification and encourage DOs & FSOs to undertake training on FRK so that they become aware of monitoring, sampling methods. Regarding collection of fortified food samples, it was reiterated by ED, CS that States/UTs should include fortified staples in their monthly food analysis plan and samples should be lifted even from the FCI godown or PDS distribution centres. She showed concerns over the rejection of a huge number of applications for granting +F endorsement in FoSCOS and asked the States/UTs to identify the reasons for such actions, so that suitable measures can be taken to reduce such rejections. Further, she pointed out that only 2 pre-license inspections were carried out of 26 licenses issued from manufacturers of FRK, whereas all such licenses are required to have pre-license inspections as per order dated 02.05.2022. As per the direction of Department of Food and Public Distribution, the States/UTs were requested to extensively undertake demonstration programmes, create awareness through social media, radio, television, media workshops, using FSWs etc. on food fortification. The fund received under IEC activities under MoU and the available resource materials available at the food fortification website can be used. The States/UTs were also requested to utilize the technical expertise of Development Partners available in each State/UT to undertake the training of the manufacturers of FRK and rice millers.

Action Decided:

- (i) All States/UTs to appoint Nodal officers for Food fortification and encourage DOs and FSOs to undertake training on FRK and inform FSSAI.
- (ii) States/UTs conduct inter-departmental meetings with ICDS, MDM and PDS to promote, monitor and cover food fortification under ICDS/MDM/PDS and also disseminate information and create awareness on food fortification amongst the FBOs and consumers.
- (iii) CFSs to ensure inspection of FBOs where licenses/registrations have already been granted without conducting inspection as per the above-mentioned order.
- (iv) Since only 2 pre-license inspections were carried out of 26 licenses issued from manufacturers of FRK, the concerned CFSs should ensure inspections of the remaining 24 licenses and submit the report before next CAC meeting
- (v) States/UTs to assess the fortified staples available in the open market and share the details of food brands available.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Form 14: FoSTaC & Regulatory staff Training

It was observed that the total number of Food Safety Supervisors (FSSs) trained in the quarter concerned has increased compared to that in the last quarter and hopefully it will achieve the expected target of 1 million soon. But the matter of concern was States/UTs like Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim where there were no trained FSSs existing in the 1st quarter. Lakshadweep was specially highlighted as no FSSs exists in the UT and no FoSTAC training has been conducted till date.

CEO, FSSAI raised a concern on how to reach out to the petty FBOS and provide basic training on hygiene and cleanliness to them and requested States/UTs to provide some solution.

Action Decided:

- (i) States/UTs to undertake FSSs training and utilize the funds released under MoU for imparting FoSTAC training to petty FBOs.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Agenda 5: MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Ecosystem in the country

CEO, FSSAI briefed about the concept of MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs in place since 2020, wherein the CFSSs of the States/UTs review the State/UT specific gaps in food safety ecosystem to be addressed and submit an annual Work Plan proposal seeking financial assistance. He emphasized on maintaining financial propriety vis-a-vis the quality of work to be performed with the funds received under MoU. Further, the States/UTs were requested to surrender the unspent funds under the Work Plan 2020-21 as this is one of the conditions to be complied for releasing the second tranche amount under the Work plan of 2022-23. It was decided to continue the scheme and the States/UTs were advised to prepare Work Plan proposals for 2023-24, as the same would be sought in October, 22.

Head, RCD presenting the latest status of Work plan proposals 2022-23 under MoU, requested States/UTs to take necessary action and comply with the conditions stipulated for availing the funds in two tranches. Further he also requested all the States/UTs to submit UCs against the funds received under Work Plan 2020-21.

Action Decided-

- (i) Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Jharkhand, Puducherry, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh to submit the Work Plan duly signed by the Commissioner of Food Safety along with UC for the fund received under Work Plan 2020-21 so that release of first tranche amount could be processed.

- (ii) Assam, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Odisha to submit clarifications sought for settling the UC for the funds released under Work Plan 2020-21.
- (iii) States/UTs in receipt of first tranche amount, to expedite the utilization of the funds received and seek second tranche amount under Work Plan 2022-23 along with all the requisite documents as detailed under point no. C.3 of agenda 5.
- (iv) States/UTs to work on drafting proposals of Work Plan 2023-24.
(Action required: States and UTs)

2nd session

Agenda Item 6: Enhancing the Security Parameters of FosCoS

ED, CS informed that in view of the large database involved with FoSCoS and necessity of integration with various Government platforms and other stakeholders, there is a critical need to focus on enhancing security parameters. She highlighted a phase-wise development of security aspects of FoSCoS portal to be made into effect both at FBO and Licensing Authority end.

She further apprised about improved, newly added security features like OTP based Login/Dual authentication, Authentication through AADHAAR, avoiding sign-in from more than one location, mandatory password changes after 45 days, implementation of session time out, pop-up notification reminding to update mobile numbers/e-mail ids once in 90 days in the dashboard of FBOs. Also printing of user ID of issuing authority in masked form in license and registration copies, authentication through AADHAAR are to be incorporated at licensing authority end.

Action Decided

- (i) CFSs of the States/UTs were requested to sensitize the FBOs, DOs, FSOs and other users of the system regarding the enhanced security parameters of the FoSCoS. **(Action required: States/UTs, FSSAI, HQ, IT Division)**

Agenda Item 7: Promoting Ease of doing Business and helping Start-ups by reducing the initial payment towards license application fee to Rs. 1000.

To promote ease of doing business, address grievances related to financial losses (amounting to high application fee) due to rejection of application and reduce monetary burden specially on the small FBOs with Start-up concepts, ED (CS) proposed that the application fee may be bifurcated into Rs. 1000 as initial payment during applying and the differential fee (total applicable license fee depending on the number of years

selected minus Rs 1000), however differential fee has to be paid by FBOs within 30 days of generation of license and the proposal was endorsed by CAC members. There will be no change in amount of application fee that has to be paid by the FBO mentioned under Schedule 3 of FSS (L & R) Regulation, 2011.

CEO, FSSAI added that no manual intervention will be there in generating licence once the differential fee has been remitted by FBO.

The agenda has been unanimously agreed by the CAC members for further necessary action.

Action Decided

(i) The agenda will be submitted for the consideration and approval of Food Authority in its next meeting.

(Action required: FSSAI Hq)

Agenda Item 8: Status and Monitoring of Risk Based Inspections

CEO, FSSAI mentioned that RBIS (Risk Based Inspections through FoSCoS) implementation is utmost important in order to bring rationality and objectivity in inspections carried out by FSOs, which will help in bringing high risk businesses under the ambit of inspections at least once a year, bring transparency in inspections conducted and curb the malpractices of corruptions. CEO, FSSAI appreciated Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh for 100% adherence to RBIS and requested CFS of the Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi Karnataka, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Puducherry, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana and Tripura to ensure inspection of units reflected by RBIS.

Few States/UTs raised the issue of inadequate manpower - FSOs in States/UTs. CEO, FSSAI suggested to augment the manpower of the states for inspection by recruiting FSOs and using services of FSSAI empanelled Third Party Auditors.

Action Decided

(i) CFSs of States/UTs were to ensure that all the inspections are conducted through FoSCoRIS.

(ii) State/UTs were requested to send nominations for training of DOs/FSOs for the FoSCoS, RBIS, FoSCoRIS and Eat Right Challenges.

(ii) CFS of States/UTs were requested to monitor the status of compliance to the RBIS and ensure that the targeted inspections are conducted within the specified time frame.

(Action required: States/UTs, IT Division)

Agenda Item 9: Proposal to increase the Legal Sampling Targets for FSOs to further strengthen the enforcement actions under FSS Act, 2006 and Rules/Regulations made thereunder

As per instructions in vogue, the current target for FSOs for legal sampling is 30 samples per FSO per quarter. Keeping in view the increasing role of food processing industry, growing number of FBOs each year and rising demand for the packaged food, ED, CS proposed to increase the legal sampling targets to 60 samples per FSO per quarter. This will ensure safety and compliance with standards and give wider coverage to big range of food products. After the fruitful discussions, CAC members emerged out with the decision to set new targets of 15 Surveillance sample per FSO per quarter and 30 legal Sampling per FSO per quarter apart from the inspections allocated by RBIS. CEO, FSSAI reiterated that distribution of samples among rural and urban FSOs is at discretion of CFS of States/UTs.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to formulate strategies and make efforts to increase legal and surveillance sampling in order to bring the actual sampling closer to the ideal targets.
- (ii) States/UTs to conduct 15 surveillance sample per FSO per quarter and 30 legal sampling per FSO per quarter.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Agenda Item 10: Social and Behavioural Change, Update on Eat Right India Initiatives

A. Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts

ED (CS) informed that Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts has been successfully culminated in which a total 188 Cities /Districts participated and 75 winners were announced on 7th June, 2022. CFS of Delhi and Madhya Pradesh requested to increase the timelines for Phase II of Eat Right Challenge for Districts. With the consensus of CAC members, it was decided to extend the last date of Phase II for Eat Right Challenge for Districts for one month i.e by end of October, 2022. Accordingly, evaluation will be done from 1st November, 2022 to 15th November, 2022 and announcement of winners will be done afterwards. States/UTs who still haven't submitted the UCs for funds released against Eat Right Challenge – Phase I were requested to submit the same at the earliest.

All States/UTs were also requested to promote and ensure participation from Research Institutions/Universities for the Eat Right Research Awards and Grant Phase

II and converge with the local School administration in various cities/districts to ensure participation in Eat Right Creativity Challenge III. ED, CS informed that Eat Right Creativity Challenge has been launched as part of the celebrations of *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*. It aims to tap the creative talent of students and enable them to inculcate healthy eating habits. The competition commenced from 07th June 2022 and will be open till 31st October 2022.

Cities/Districts who haven't organized Eat Right Melas and Walkathon under *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* celebrations till 15 August, 2022, were asked to finalise the events within next one month.

ED, CS further highlighted that Eat Right Station is an initiative to ensure that safe and wholesome food is being served to the passengers, visitors and railway officials at the station complex and apprised that funds provided for Eat Right Stations can be used for FoSTaC training as well as Hygiene Rating audits at Station premises.

CFS, Madhya Pradesh suggested to include Eat Right module in the training curriculum of CHOs (Community Health Officers) and Director (SR), suggested inclusion of weightage for Eat Right Campus in the NAAC rating system. Both suggestions were agreed upon.

Further, ED, CS informed that the web-pages for Eat Right India (ERI) Initiatives have been revamped and the certification process of ERI Initiatives will now be done online and status of certification for each initiative can be seen on the respective websites which contains the list of certified till date and pending for approval. She also mentioned that DOs/FSOs should visit the revised websites and checklists in detail before commencing the certification process.

B. Food Fortification

The agenda was discussed while deliberating on Form 9 and Form 13 in the 1st Session. The action to be taken has been mentioned in the relevant portion.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to submit UCs for the released fund for Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts – Phase I and surrender the un-utilized funds to FSSAI, as applicable, who have not done the same yet.
- (ii) FSSAI to coordinate with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for inclusion of Eat Right Module in the curriculum of CHOs and adding weightage for the Eat Right Campus certification under NAAC rating system.
- (iii) Extension of Eat Right Challenge for Districts Phase II till 30.10.2022.
- (iv) The new nomenclature - BLESS (Blissful Eating at Sacred Sites) suggested by the State of Odisha for BHOG project was decided with the consensus of CAC members.

- (v) States/UTs to promote and ensure participation from research institutions/Universities/Academic institutions at their States/UT level.
- (vi) States/UTs to implement Eat Right Station initiative from the proposed list of Stations shared by the Railway Board.

**(Action required: FSSAI, HQ, SBCE, States/UTs along with
Railway Board)**

C. Presentation by State/UTs

1. Presentation by Richard L Noronha, Designated Officer, FDA Goa on Journey of Panaji Smart City: Innovative approach and future plans

The State of Goa shared challenges as well as strategies adopted in their journey of implementing various Eat Right Initiatives with a series of efforts for consumer awareness including inter-departmental coordination; positive image building through print and digital media; regular messaging through advertisements and radio; offline citizen engagement activities like walkathons and melas. The State has coordinated with Nutrition Committee of Department of Education and finalized a healthy and local food menu with innovative names to attract students towards traditional food items. State also revealed future prospects and commitments to improve Food Safety ecosystem going forward with measurable interventions.

2. Presentation by the CFS, West Bengal on Food Safety Ecosystem in West Bengal - New Initiatives

State presented a series of innovative steps to improve access to safe and wholesome food including a district food safety Index; pilot study on impact of Fortification in Mid-Day Meals; Impact of Low Salt, Sugar and Oil in diets through a pilot study to the CAC members. The State of West Bengal informed about creation of Research and Development wing in Food Safety Branch for data analysis, planning of surveillance strategies; launching of IEC material in local languages; awareness program with Health workers (CHO/ASHA) along with creating awareness through mass media to bring about behavioural changes among people at the grass root level.

3. Presentation by Shri Ashwin Rodrigues, Owner & Winemaker, Good Drop Wine Cellars

Wine Producers Association briefed CAC about the difficulties faced by small stakeholders of industry in the competitive market and suggested to bring uniformity in the label Standards. Wine industry came up with the idea that state specific requirements, non-consumer related mandatory information and non-critical requirements may be stored in QR codes to avoid duplication of information.

CEO, FSSAI appreciated the enthusiasm of the State of Goa in overcoming the challenges and seamless implementation of various Eat Right Initiatives along with focus on inter-departmental coordination to improve food safety and quality. He appreciated the State of West Bengal for taking a systematic approach to ensure food safety as well as interest shown by the District Administration to take forward the initiative of District Food Safety Index on the similar lines of State Food Safety Index by the Food Authority, released every year.

He also endorsed the solutions proposed by the Wine Producers Association and informed that definition of alcohol in FSSR, 2011 is as per the international standards and uniform across the country so variations and duplication in the information may be avoided as well state specific information may be compiled in one box/QR code on the label. He also requested CFS of all States/UTs to take-up the matter with the respective excise departments in the States/UTs.

4. Presentation by CTO, FSSAI

In line with the requirement proposed in 36th CAC meeting, CTO, FSSAI presented the complete process on FoSCoS to view the details of Registrations/License of outside jurisdiction of the state, history of Registrations/License searched by the Commissioners/Joint Commissioners till date and details of the Registrations/License of their jurisdiction being searched by other Commissioners/Joint Commissioners.

Agenda Item 11: Training and Capacity Building

11.1. Training of FSOs, DOs and AOs-

JD, Training, informed that a total of 1358 regulatory officials were trained during first quarter of 2022-23 on various topics like Induction/Refresher Training for FSOs, Induction cum Refresher Training for DOs and Training on recent Development in FoSCoS, FoSCoRIS and Eat Right India Initiatives for all DOs. However, Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Jharkhand, Kerala, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Puducherry, Sikkim, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh were requested to expedite the nominations for training of those of regulatory officials in respect of whom no training of FSS has been conducted during last 5 years.

It was also informed that the duration of Induction Training Programme for FSOs has been restored from 30 days to 40 days.

11.2. Selection of individuals as Trainers for training of regulatory Officials-

States/UTs were requested to submit nominations of experienced/competent regulatory officials as faculty members for training of regulatory officials. The request was also placed and discussed in the last CAC meeting and 10 nominations of FSOs/DOs from only 6 states have been received.

11.3 Printing, distribution and Translation of FSO manual in booklet form-

States/UTs were requested to get the FSO manual printed and distributed amongst their FSOs and those States/UTs which are willing to translate the *ibid* manual in their regional language may seek fund from FSSAI under MoU the same.

11.4 Trainings conducted under FoSTAC programme in States/UTs-

JD, Training, highlighted that the remarkable milestone of training 1 million Food Safety Supervisors (FSSs) under ambitious FoSTaC Training Programme is going to be achieved soon. States/UTs were requested to organise FoSTAC training programmes with the help of 182 FSSAI empanelled training partners and utilise the funds received under MoU.

11.5 Removal of validity for the Food Safety Supervisors (FSS) Certificate-

States/UTs were asked to take note that validity for the FSS certificate has been perpetual. However, However, if the food handler changes KoB, he/she will have to undergo the FoSTaC training afresh and obtain a new FSS certificate for the respective KoB. Further, the food handlers having FSS certificate will have to undergo refresher training in case there is any change in the Schedule 4 of Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to send the nomination for Training of FSOs, DOs and AOs to FSSAI.
- (ii) States/UTs to expedite and complete the printing of FSO manual and if required, to translate the *ibid* manual in their regional language and seek fund under MoU for translation of the same.
- (iii) States/UTs to nominate their experience/competent regulatory officials as faculty members for training of regulatory officials.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, Training Division)

Agenda Item 12: Clarification on cases filed

This agenda was not discussed in the CAC.

Agenda Item 13: Credible Food Testing and Effective Surveillance

Agenda 13.1: Status of Notified laboratories

Advisor, QA updated CAC on following points:

1. FSSAI has a network of 247 laboratories for primary food testing which includes 54 State Food Testing Laboratories recognized & notified u/s 43(1) of the FSS Act, 2006.
2. One State laboratory is still continuing u/s 98 of FSS Act while 21 SFTLs are still under discontinuation from the ambit of Section 98 of the Act.

3. 20 Referral laboratories for appellate testing are recognized and notified u/s 43(2) of the Act.

Action Points:

- i) State Food Testing Laboratories, Aurangabad, has been requested to expedite the process of FSSAI notification and other 21 discontinued labs are requested to submit the applications to NABL for accreditation with an intimation of the same to FSSAI.
- ii) All approved SFTLs on INFoLNET are requested to upload analysis report on INFoLNET. SFTL-Patna, Bihar and Nagpur to expedite the process of registration on INFoLNET portal.

(Action required: States and UTs)

Agenda 13.2: Review of progress of Central Sector Scheme-Upgradation of State Food Testing Laboratories(SFTL)

Advisor, (QA) presented information on mapping of equipment and Food category/Sub-category for integrated Assessment so as to facilitate the SFTL to apply for the category/ sub category based on the resources available with the lab and requested all SFTLs to adhere to the timeline submitted by them for applying to NABL under integrated assessment system. He reiterated that, labs not having FSSAI- NABL integrated assessment for at least one product category / sub category will be de-notified after June 2023. In addition to the above he mentioned that, the overall grant of Rs. 355.73 Crore has been released to the states under Central Sector Scheme and requested the States/UTs for following actions:

- i) State of Andhra Pradesh to submit a proposal in prescribed format for Setting up of a Basic Food Testing Laboratory with Microbiology Laboratory at Regional Public Health Laboratory (RPHL), Vishakhapatnam.
- ii) SFTLs where the microbiological testing facilities are in place are requested to utilize microbiology facilities and to send the MPRs to FSSAI from time to time.
- iii) SFTL, Madurai and SFTL, Telangana are requested to expedite the process of setting up of Microbiology laboratory (standalone) and to initiate the process of procurement, install the equipment, carry out calibration and method validation and apply for ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation.
- iv) SFTLs having the operational HEE, should submit information on both regulatory and surveillance samples analyzed by these labs.
- v) SFTLs from Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Puducherry are requested to operationalize HEE.
- vi) Andhra Pradesh, to expedite the process of NABL accreditation of RPHL, Visakhapatnam as it is being taken up under the Basic Lab category.

Action Points: -

- i) CEO, FSSAI reiterated that Laboratories which will not be having NABL accreditation under Integrated Assessment till June,2023 will not be allowed to continue as FSSAI notified laboratory.
- ii) State Food Testing Laboratory at Aurangabad to submit application for notification of the lab u/s 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006.
- iii) All States/UTs to apply for integrated assessment and share scope of testing and parameters (under NABL).
- iv) States/UTs to utilize the grants for consumables and contingency and to provide the hard copy of UCs in the prescribed format against the grants released for specific purposes.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs,QA Division)

Agenda 13.3: Food Safety on Wheels/Mobile Food Testing Labs

Advisor (QA) presented the FSW web portal of FSSAI to show the live locations of Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs). It was pointed out that Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs) were not being used optimally for all the three activities and their use has come down drastically in the quarter concerned, especially in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry and Punjab.

Advisor, QA appraised the state-wise position of the sanctioned Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs) (160 vehicles delivered + grant released for 108 vehicles) and informed about the FSW portal and requested all State/UTs for registering their FSWS on the portal, if not done yet and to upload Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs). In addition to above States/UTs were requested on following points-

- i) All CFS are requested to visit FSW portal and monitor the movement of vehicle in the respective State/UT. It was also requested to utilize FSWS for Testing, Training and Awareness activities.
- ii) States/UTs to complete procurement of Dongles for FSWS.
- iii) States/UTs to submit the MPRs within stipulated time and upload the same on FSW web portal.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, QA Division)

Agenda 13.4: Training and Capacity Building

Advisor, QA, informed that 10 training programs for laboratory personnel of States/UTs have been conducted in the quarter in areas of food safety testing in different food commodities and method verification for Rice Fortificant Testing. In all 29 training programs (Offline and Online) were conducted by ITCFSAN, Mumbai, CMAT and NFL Ghaziabad, wherein 1353 participants attended the training programme.

Action Point:

SFTLs to indicate their specific training requirements on regular basis in the Google form link and to encourage laboratory personnel for all types of trainings. The States/UTs to submit the training requirements of laboratory personnel in accordance with training calendar for physical training programmes.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs, FSSAI, HQ, QA Division)

Agenda 13.5: Providing 3 Basic Equipment (HPLC, GC, UV-VIS) to States/UTs

Advisor, QA apprised the current status of the grant sanctioned/released to States/UTs.

Action Decided

- i) States/UTs to remit the balance grants (non-procurement/ partial procurement till 31.03.2022) and to submit fresh proposal (if any) under supplementary Work Plan 2022-23 for procurement of these equipment through MoU.
- ii) States/UTs are requested to submit the Utilization Certificates of grants utilised towards the procurement of Basic Equipment.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs, QA Division)

Agenda 13.6 Utilization of Hand-held devices/Rapid Kits by States/UTs

Advisor, QA updated the CAC that, four types of hand held devices (Raptor Diagnostic Reader, Spectrophotometer, Frying Oil Monitor and Microbial Identification Kits) have been already provided to States/UTs for the purpose of testing purity, total polar compound and acid value of oil and to check antibiotics and various pathogenic microorganism in food items. The states are requested to use these hand held devices effectively and to submit report to FSSAI.

Action Decided

States/UTs to provide details of tests carried out through hand-held devices/Rapid Kits on monthly basis.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, FSSAI, HQ, QA Division)

Agenda 13.7 Strengthening of Sample Management System with cold chain facility by FSSAI in States/UTs at district level

Advisor (QA) stated that out of 36 States/UTs, 31 States/UTs have implemented Sample Management System to ensure efficient flow of sample from field to the laboratory without compromising its integrity.

Action Decided

- i) Haryana and Rajasthan are requested to expedite the installation process pending with states.
- ii) States/UTs to submit the quarterly report in the Google form shared with the States.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, FSSAI, HQ, QA Division)

Agenda 13.8: PAN-India Surveillance on Tea

Advisor, QA, highlighted the key updates on PAN India surveillance on tea to ensure the compliance with quality and safety standards prescribed by FSSAI and to find out the level of adulteration and hotspots of adulteration if any. The surveillance was conducted through National Commodities Management Services Ltd. (NCML) on behalf of FSSAI. Out of the 250 districts/cities, 20 districts were selected based on the tea production, 50 districts were selected based on population and 180 cities/locations were randomly selected representing each zone of the country. FSSAI will share the results & findings after the compilation of data.

(For Information)

Agenda 13.9: Cost of testing charges by labs

CEO, FSSAI informed CAC that FSSAI is aiming to find avenues to reduce the testing fee therefore all the CAC members were requested to ponder over and come up with the ideas in the upcoming 38th CAC meeting.

Supplementary Agenda

Notification of FBOs in house laboratories under section 43 (1) of FSS Act, 2006

During deliberation at length on the request for notifying the in-house laboratory of M/s Patanjali Food & Herbal Park Pvt. Ltd., Haridwar, it was decided in consensus with all the CAC members that in-house testing laboratories of any FBO shall not be notified by FSSAI because of reasons like conflict of interest, location of such labs within manufacturing area of FBO, presence of Directors of FBO in the constitution of Board of Management and difficulty in regular monitoring and verification of minor details of the in-house laboratory. Thus it was decided that the in-house Central Laboratory of M/s Patanjali Food & Herbal Park Pvt.Ltd., Haridwar shall not be notified by FSSAI and on the same grounds, the in-house laboratory of M/s ITC Foods Pvt Ltd. Agri Business Division-ILTD, Spices Laboratory, Guntur whose accreditation has expired

on 18.08.2022 shall be de-notified and 'Assurance Laboratory, M/s LT Foods Ltd., Sonipat' whose validity period is up to 06.05.2023 shall be de-notified on expiry of its validity period.

Chintan Shivir

A "Chintan Shivir" was held on Day 2 of the CAC meeting. Five groups were made comprising of FSCs and other members and topics were shared with the Commissioners of Food Safety for further deliberation. The detail of which are provided below-

Group 1 MONITORING OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY TRAINING PARTNERS BY STATES/UTS	Group 2 ILLEGAL SLAUGHTERING/MEAT SHOPS/ABATTOIRS CONDUCTING ACTIVITIES- UNHYGIENIC CONDITION/WITHOUT FSSAI LICENSE/REGISTRATION	Group 3 FBOs CONDUCTING ACTIVITIES EITHER WITHOUT LICENSE/REGISTRATION OR ON EXPIRED LICENSE/REGISTRATION	Group 4 LACK OF EFFICIENT FOOD TESTING INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE STATE/UT LEVEL	Group 5 REMOVAL OF USED COOKING OIL (UCO) IN THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN
Shri Abhijit Baruah, IAS, CFS, Assam	Dr. Shamia Iqbal, IAS, CFS, Karnataka	Sh Shakeel-Ul-Rehman, IAS, CFS, Jammu & Kashmir	Sh. Tapan Kanti Rudra, IAS, CFS, West Bengal	Dr. D Anandan, IAS, CFS, Sikkim
Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS, CFS, Ladakh	Ms. Jyoti Sardesai, CFS, Goa	Dr. Brundha D, IAS, CFS Odisha	Sh. Sunil Sharma, IAS, CFS, Rajasthan	Smt. R M Kurbah, IAS, CFS, Meghalaya
Dr. Sonia Oinam, Deputy Secretary (Health & FW), Manipur	Dr. Abhinav Trikha, IAS, CFS, Punjab	Sh. Neeraj Kumar, IAS, Jt. Commissioner, HP	Ms. Monica Malik, IAS, CFS Haryana	Sh. Thiru R Lalvena, IAS, CFS, Tamil Nadu
Mr. H S Singh, Deputy Comm, Uttar Pradesh	Dr. Shivaleela, Director, IPM, Telangana	Dr M P Basheer, Director, Lakshadweep	Dr. K Jagdeeswari, MD Director, Andhra Pradesh	Sh Chandan Kumar, IAS, JS, Jharkhand
Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, DO, Chandigarh	Sh N Poornachandra Rao, Ass Food Controller, AP	Dr. S D Balakrishnan, DO, Puducherry	G Laxmi Narayana Reddy, Chief Public Analyst, Telangana	Dr. S Rajen Singh, Joint Director, Manipur
Mr. Vineet Kumar, Asst Commissioner, UP	Sh. Mangesh Mane, Asst Comm, Maharashtra	Dyvanidhi, FSO, Telangana	Sh Domendra Dhruw, FSO, Chhattisgarh	Sh T P Singh, FSO, Bihar
Sh. Ashish Kumar Yadav, FSO, Chattisgarh	Sh S Ravindra Reddy, FSO AP	Sh George Cheriyian, Director, Consumers	Ms. S Saroja, ED, Consumers	Dr. S P Vasireddi, Chairman, Food Lab
Sh. Chinnusamy C, Agriculture	Mrs. Gunjan Jha, Specialist, Agriculture	Mr. Ajith Kumar K, Asst Comm, M/O Animal Husbandry	Dr. Balwinder Bajwa, Director, CEO Food Labs	Dr. Sutapa S Mukherjee, Jt. Technical Advisor, M/O WCD
Mr. Sharad N Hulale, Under Secretary, MoFPI	Dr. K Sridhar, EDHG, M/O Railways	Sh. Vishwajeet Haldar, Dy. Comm, Dept of Food & Public Distribution	Dr. Abhilasha Singh Mathuriya, Joint Director, M/O Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Dr. A Vamsi Krishna, Scientist, Dept. Of Biotechnology
Sh Jitendra Ahlawat, Dy. Secretary, Dept of Consumer Affairs	Sh. Neeraj Arora, Dy. Director, M/O MSME			

The topics for discussion were selected considering the issues of major concerns in food safety in the recent times. The idea was to chalk out a possible way forward/solution to the emerging issues based on the experiences/conditions prevailing in the States/UTs, so as to take a holistic decision during policy making and at the implementation level by FSSAI, if required.

Each group presented the respective topics in brief and deliberations were made. The sessions also presented some very interesting ideas/ solutions that can be easily implemented at the States/ UTs level. Each group was asked to submit a detailed report (not the power-point) incorporating the suggestions proposed during the discussion, latest by 15.09.2022.

While concluding, CEO, FSSAI thanked the Kerala team for their wholehearted effort in organising the CAC meeting in “*God’s own country*” and confirmed holding 38th CAC meeting and “*Chintan Shivar*” physically in the State of Madhya Pradesh in the month of November, 2022. However, the venue and date were yet to be finalized. Accordingly, the State of Madhya Pradesh was requested to take necessary action and confirm the venue.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


(S. Gopalakrishnan)
CEO, FSSAI

ANNEXURE – I

List of Participants

1. Shri Arun Singhal, CEO, FSSAI- In Chair

Representatives of Ministries/ Departments: -

1. Dr. K. Sridhar, EDHG, M/o Railways
2. Dr. Sutapa S Mukherjee, Joint Technical Adviser, Ministry of Women and Child Development
3. Dr. Abhilasha Singh Mathuriya, Joint Director/ Scientist D, M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change
4. Dr. A.Vamsi Krishna, Scientist-E, Department of Biotechnology
5. Sh. Jitendra Ahlawat, Deputy Secretary, D/o Consumer Affair
6. Sh. Neeraj Arora, Deputy Director, M/o MSME
7. Sh. Ajith Kumar K, Assistant Commissioner, D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying
8. Sh. Sharad N. Hulale, Undersecretary, M/o Food Processing Industries

Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs:

1. Sh. Abhijit Baruah, Commissioner of Food Safety, Assam
2. Ms. Neha Bansal, Commissioner of Food Safety, NCT of Delhi
3. Ms. Jyoti J. Sardesai, Commissioner of Food Safety, Goa
4. Dr. H. G. Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, FDCA, Gujarat
5. Ms. Monica Malik, Commissioner of Food Safety, Haryana
6. Sh. Shakeel-UI-Rehman, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu and Kashmir
7. Dr. Shamla Iqbal, Commissioner of Food Safety, Karnataka
8. Sh. V.R. Vinod, Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala
9. Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Commissioner of Food Safety, Ladakh
10. Dr. Sudam Khade, Commissioner of Food Safety, Madhya Pradesh
11. Ms. R.M. Kurbah, Commissioner of Food Safety, Meghalaya
12. Dr. Brundha D, Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha
13. Dr. Abhinav Trikha, Commissioner of Food Safety, Punjab
14. Sh. Sunil Sharma, Commissioner of Food Safety, Rajasthan
15. Dr. D. Anandan, Commissioner of Food Safety, Sikkim
16. Sh. Thiru. R. Lalvena, Commissioner of Food Safety, Tamil Nadu
17. Sh. Tapan Kanti Rudra, Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal

Members from various fields (Private Members):

1. Sh. Chinnusamy C, Retd. Professor, Agriculture
2. Ms. Gunjan Jha, Subject Matter Specialist, Agriculture

3. Sh. George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS, Consumers
4. Ms. S. Saroja, Executive Director, Citizen Consumer and Civic action group (CAG), Consumers
5. Dr. S. P. Vasireddi, Chairman, Vimta Labs, Food laboratories
6. Dr. Balwinder Bajwa, Director & CEO, EFRAC Lab, Food laboratories

Representatives from States/UTs:

1. Dr. K. Jagdeeswari, M.D Director (Full Additional Charge), Andhra Pradesh
2. Sh. N. Poornachandra Rao, Assistant Food Controller & DO, Andhra Pradesh
3. Sh. Raveendra, Food Safety Officer, Andhra Pradesh
4. Sh. T.P Singh, Food Safety Officer, Bihar
5. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Designated Officer, Chandigarh
6. Sh. Ashish Kumar Yadav, Food Safety Officer, Chhattisgarh
7. Sh. Domendra Dhruw, Food Safety Officer, Chhattisgarh
8. Sh. Neeraj Kumar, IAS, Joint Commissioner, Himachal Pradesh
9. Sh. Chandan Kumar, IAS, Joint Secretary, Jharkhand
10. Sh. Subburaj.M, Deputy Government Analyst, Kerala
11. Dr. M.P Basheer, Director(DO), Food Safety, Lakshadweep
12. Sh. Mangesh Mane, Assistant Commissioner, Maharashtra
13. Dr. Sonia Oinam, Deputy Secretary (Health & FW), Manipur
14. Dr. S. Rajen Singh, Joint Director (Food Safety)/Joint Commissioner, Manipur
15. Dr. S.D. Balakrishnan, Designated Officer, Puducherry
16. Dr. Sivaleela.C, Director IPM, Telangana
17. Sh. G. Laxmi Narayana Reddy, Chief Public Analyst, Telangana
18. Sh. Dyvanidhi R, Food Safety Officer, Telangana
19. Sh. H.S Singh, DCF, Uttar Pradesh
20. Sh. Vineet Kumar, ACF, Uttar Pradesh

Special Invitee: -

1. Sh. Amit Lohani, Founder & Director, Forum of Indian Food Importers(FIFI), New Delhi

FSSAI Officials: -

1. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, ED(CS)
2. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Advisor, QA
3. Sh. R.K. Mittal, Head, RCD
4. Cdr. Sharad Aggarwal, Director, Finance and Accounts
5. Sh. Raj Singh, Head, GA
6. Ms. Lily Prasad, CTO
7. Sh. Rakesh Yadav, Director, QA
8. Dr. Sanu Jacob, Director, Director- Southern region
9. Ms. Pritee Chaudhary, Director -Western region
10. Lt. Col. LJ John, Director-North region
11. Sh. B.S. Acharya, Director-Easter region

12. Sh. Parveen Jargar, Joint Director, RCD
13. Sh. Shubhashish Mallick, Senior Manager
14. Sh. Umesh Jain, Joint Director
15. Sh. Vikas Talwar, Deputy Director
16. Ms. Ruchika Sharma, Lead-Media & PR
17. Dr. Rahul Warahpande, Assistant Director
18. Ms. Kriti Chugh, Assistant Director
19. Ms. Sreela Bandopadhyay, Assistant Director
20. Ms. Srishti Sharma, Central Food Safety Officer
21. Ms. Priya Singh, Technical Officer
22. Sh. Udit Kumar Saini, Assistant
23. Sh. Sachin Yadav, Assistant

Members, Representatives and Officials joined through Video Conferencing: -

1. Sh. Parimal Singh, Commissioner of Food Safety, FDA, Maharashtra
2. Sh. Manoj Pareek, Head R&D, Food Industry
3. Dr. Devinder Dhingra, Principal Scientist, Research Bodies
4. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Sharma, Senior Scientist, CSIR-IITR, Research Bodies
5. Dr. Mandeep K. Bhandari, Joint Secretary, MoHFW
6. Sh. Bhaskar N., Advisor S&S, FSSAI HQ
7. Sh. Lokam Mangha, Deputy Commissioner, Arunachal Pradesh
8. Sh. Sarvesh Yadav, FSO, Chhattisgarh
9. Sh. Richard Noronha, Designated Officer, Goa
10. Sh. Chandrakant Kambli, Food Analyst, Goa
11. Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, JC Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir
12. Sh. Tamchos Gurmet, Designated Officer, Ladakh
13. Sh. Nayeem Ahmad, FSO, Ladakh
14. Sh. Shashikant Kekare, JC Food, FDA, Maharashtra
15. Sh. Shailesh Adhao, JC, FDA, Maharashtra
16. Sh. Nilesh Masare, FDA, Maharashtra
17. Ms. Sangeeta Thakur, AD, Maharashtra
18. Sh. O.D. Sangma, Deputy Commissioner, Meghalaya
19. Dr. Wadamika Lyngdoh, Assistant Food Analyst, Meghalaya
20. Sh. Sendongkaba Jamir, ACF, Nagaland
21. Sh. S.M. Bhardwaj, Food Analyst, NCT of Delhi
22. Ms. Pratikshya Das Mahapatra, FSO, Odisha
23. Sh. Hemant Kulkarni, Director, RFL Pune
24. Sh. T Vijaya Kumar, Deputy Food Controller, Telangana
25. Sh. Arunender Singh Chauhan, Additional Commissioner, Uttarakhand
26. Sh. Ganesh Kandwal, Deputy Commissioner, Uttarakhand
27. Sh. Nishant Tyagi, Public Analyst, Uttarakhand
28. Sh. Ashwin Rodrigues, Owner & Wine maker, Good Drop Wine Cellars
29. Sh. I.S. Hura, JD, FSSAI HQ

30. Sh. Ambuj Dubey, Sr. Manager, FSSAI HQ

Regrets:

1. Ms. Indrani Kar, Principal Advisor, Food Industry (Member)
2. Commissioner of Food Safety, Andaman & Nicobar Islands
3. Commissioner of Food Safety, Mizoram
4. Commissioner of Food Safety, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
5. Commissioner of Food Safety, Tripura
6. Representative from 15 States/UTs (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh) were present physically/virtually in place of respective Commissioners of Food Safety.

* Mistakes in the spelling of any name or missing names are unintentional and are regretted.

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