

**Minutes of the 28th meeting of the Food Authority held on May 21, 2019 at
10:30 hrs at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi**

The twenty eighth meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held on May 21, 2019 at 10.30 hrs at FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Smt Rita Teotia, Chairperson, FSSAI. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), FSSAI welcomed the members of the Authority and all special invitees from Industry to the meeting. He further introduced newly appointed employees of FSSAI.

Item No. I:

Confirmation of the minutes of 27th meeting held on 04.02.2019

No comments had been received on the minutes of the 27th meeting circulated to all members. The minutes were confirmed and adopted.

Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 27th meeting

The Action Taken Report was noted with the following deliberations:

- a) The Food Authority requested Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to expedite approval of pending notifications.
- b) With reference to item no. 27.1 A(I)(iii) on cereal and cereal products Special Invitee stated whether the industry needs to submit data on correlation between moisture and aflatoxin study. CEO suggested to submit the data by the first week of June.

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c) under item 27.1 (F), Special invitee raised their concern on practical implications regarding implementation of labelling requirements with respect to font size and requested the authority to extend the time of implementation of these requirements as the matter is still under consideration of the Scientific Panel on Labelling and Claims/ Advertisements. It was clarified that meeting of the said panel has been scheduled on 11th June 2019 and further action, based on the outcome, would be taken in this regard.

Item No. III: Chief Executive Officer's Report

Authority took note of the Chief Executive Officer's Report which was tabled during the meeting (Annexure-2).

Further, new integrated website was launched by Chairperson, FSSAI.

AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

28.1 FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS

(A) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR FINAL NOTIFICATIONS

(I) FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations;

(i) Amendment to Regulation 2.2 Fats, Oils and Fat Emulsions:

- (a) Deletion of Bellier Test, (b) Refined vegetable oil, (c) Sunflower Seed Oil and Sunflower Seed Oil -High Oleic Acid (d) blended edible vegetable oil (e) Reduction in trans-fat.**

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(ii) Amendment to Regulation 2.3 Fruits & Vegetables Products:

- (a) Frozen Beans, (b) Frozen Cauliflower, (c) Frozen Peas (d) Frozen Spinach, (e) Cherries with stem, (f) Processed fruit juice, (g) Processed**

vegetable juice, (h) Cashew Kernel, (i) Water chestnut flour (Singhare ka Atta), (j) Colouring Foods

a) With regard to item (a) on frozen beans, Special Invitee mentioned about the practical difficulties in complying point system proposed for each defect and requested to remove the Column 3 of the Table given on page 11 of the agenda, it was clarified that same is proposed in line with Codex and also taking into consideration of the Indian scenario and hence, the provision cannot be removed in the interest of consumer. After detailed discussion, it was decided to obtain view of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (M/o FPI) on items (a) to (d) above. The representative from M/o FPI was requested to follow up this matter on priority. The Authority authorized the Chairperson to take a final view and approve the items (a) to (d) above on behalf of Authority.

b) With regard to item (f) on Processed fruit juice, following changes were approved:

- (i) Deletion of words "or Fresh" from clause (b) of sub-regulation 2.3.6 given on page 17 of the agenda;
- (ii) Changing the Acidity given in column (5) of table on page 18 of the agenda against the fruit "Lime" from "6.0 (Min)" to "3.5 (Min.)";
- (iii) Inserting the word "/Orange" after "Mandarine/Tangerine" in column (2) of table given on page 18 of the agenda.

c) With regard to item (h) on Cashew Kernel, Special Invitee mentioned that the limit as prescribed against the parameter 'Free Fatty Acid' for cut/pieces is not practically achievable and suggested to raise the limit. It was clarified that the limit of 2% has been fixed on the basis of risk assessment by the Scientific Panel although

the UNECE prescribes a limit of 1% max. Further, Chairperson mentioned that since more than 60% of Cashew Kernels are being imported from other countries, it would be important to retain this parameter to avoid import of poor quality cashew kernel. The Authority therefore did not agree to modify the limit.

With these observations and the modifications at para b) above, the Authority approved the final notification.

(iii) Amendment to Regulation 2.4 Cereal and Cereal Products


(a) Wheat bran and non-fermented soybean products, (b) Formulated Supplements for Children

With regard to item wheat bran and non-fermented soybean products, Secretariat informed the Authority that in the proposed final notification the description of "Tofu" has been missed inadvertently, which is same as given in draft notification. Further, special invitee requested to increase the limit of Acid value as 24 instead of proposed 6 as per the current availability of wheat bran in market. It was clarified that the product would not be edible at such a high acid value. Further, it was suggested that QA Division would generate data by testing wheat bran market samples.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(iv) Amendment to Regulation 2.5, Meat and Meat Products

(a) Definitions in 2.5.1, (b) Animal casings, (c) Frozen Egg Products, (d) Egg Powder, (e) Liquid Egg Products, (f) Pickled eggs, (g) Canned/Retort Pouch Meat Products, (h) Comminuted/Restructured Meat Products, (i) Cured/Picked Meat and/or Smoked Meat Products, (j) Dried/Dehydrated Meat Products, (k) Cooked/Semi-cooked meat products, (l) Fresh/Chilled/Frozen Rabbit Meat

 The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(v) Amendment to Regulation 2.6, Fish and Fish Products
(a) Pasteurized Fish Sausage, (b) Crab Meat, (c) Fish Processing Waste

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(vi) Amendment to Regulation 2.10 Beverages, (Other than Dairy and Fruits and Vegetables based)
(a) Decaffeinated Coffee, (ii) Packaged Drinking Water

With regard to packaged drinking water, Special Invitee raised concern on proposed requirements on calcium and magnesium that water used in the products like carbonated, caffeinated and other beverages should comply with standards of packaged drinking water, where the salt like calcium and magnesium may affect the palatability of the final product. To which it was suggested to submit a separate proposal in this regard for consideration.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(vii) Amendment to Chapter 3, Substances added to food
(a) Baking Powder

Special Invitee mentioned to remove the entire clause 6 which specifies Baking powder shall be labeled for best before declaration as "use within one year of the date of manufacture" due to the fact that the shelf-life study is already conducted by the company and differ from company to company. The same was agreed by the Authority.

With this modification, the Authority approved the final notification.

(viii) Amendment to Chapter 3, Appendix B Microbiological Requirements

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(II) FSS (Contaminants, Toxins, and Residues) Regulations
(a) Limit of Metal Contaminant, Aflatoxin and Mycotoxin

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On suggestion from Special Invitee, the Authority agreed to insert word “/Spice mix” after the word “Spices” in the table at both places given on page 61 of the agenda.

With this modification, the Authority approved the final notification.

(III) FSS (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations

(a) Sale of beverages containing artificial sweeteners through vending machines

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(IV) FSS (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional food and Novel food) Regulations

(a) Sports supplement products

Secretariat informed the Authority that aforesaid agenda item is for draft notification.

The Authority approved draft notification, as proposed.

(B) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR DRAFT NOTIFICATION:

(I) FSS (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations

(i) Amendment to Regulation 2.2, Fats, Oils and Fat Emulsions

- (a) Exemption of imported expelled oils from refining, (b) Grapeseed Oil, (c) Addition of Sesame oil in Interesterified Vegetable Fat and Table Margarine and revising the Baudouin test to minimum 1.0 red unit in 1 cm cell in case of Vanaspati, Interesterified vegetable oil/fat, Bakery shortening, Bakery and Industrial Margarine, Table Margarine and fat spread, (d) Limit of Unsaponifiable Matter in Vanaspati in which physically refined rice bran oil is an ingredient, (e) Limit of trans-fats in Food Products**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(ii) Amendment to Regulation 2.3, Fruit and Vegetable Products

- (a) Soyabean sauce, (b) Walnut Kernels**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(iii) Amendment to Regulation 2.4 Cereal and Cereal Products

- (a) Oat Products, (b) Soy Dahi and Soy yoghurt, (c) Yellow Pea Powder, (d) Besan, (e) Cornflour (Maize starch)**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(iv) Amendment to Regulation 2.7, Sweets and Confectionery

- (a) Ice Lollies or Edible Ices**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(v) Amendment to Regulation 2.8 Sweetening agents including Honey

- (a) Honey**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(vi) Amendment to Regulation 2.9 Salt, Spices, Condiments and Related Products

- (a) Black pepper, (b) Dried Sage**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(vii) Amendment to Regulation 2.10, Beverages, (Other than Dairy and Fruits and Vegetables Based)

- (a) Instant Tea in Solid Form, (b) Caffeinated Beverages, (c) Non-carbonated water based beverages (Non-Alcoholic) and Packaged Drinking water, (d) Pesticide Residues in Natural Mineral water, (e) Natural Mineral Water**

Item (e) on Natural Mineral Water was withdrawn.

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(viii) Amendment to Chapter 3: Substances added to Food & Appendix A

- (a) Omission of sulphur dioxide (INS 220) limit from food category 5.3 "Chewing Gum", (b) Review of sweeteners permitted as food additives in Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011**

With regard to item(b) Review of sweeteners permitted as food additives, Special Invitee requested the Authority for time to submit their comments. It was suggested that comments may be submitted at draft notification stage.

The Authority approved the draft notification and proposal, as proposed.

(II) FSS (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations

(a) Limits of Mycotoxins, (b) Fixation of MRLs of Pesticides, (c) Tolerance Limits Antibiotic Residues Standards in Honey, (d) Review of FSSAI Regulations related to Antibiotics and Veterinary drugs

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(III) FSS (Fortification of Foods) Regulations

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(IV) FSS (Alcoholic Beverages Regulations) Regulations

(a) Amendments in certain clauses

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(V) FSS (Advertising and Claims) Regulations

(a) Regarding sub- regulation 4 (7) prescribed in the Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claims) Regulations, 2018 related to compliances on font size

Special Invitee raised their concern regarding implementation of principal regulation on Advertising and Claims which will be come into force from 01.07.2019. It was suggested that the industry association may present their case before the forthcoming meeting Labelling Panel.

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

(C) Miscellaneous:

(1) Reconstitution of Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels,

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed and authorized the Chairperson to take final decision on behalf of Authority.

(2) FSSAI Manual of Methods of Analysis of Foods - Alcoholic Beverages

The Authority approved the Manual, as proposed.

(3) Directions issued under Section 16 (5) of FSS Act, 2006- for ratification,

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

(4) Review of draft standards of Borneo tallow and Shea Butter and their use in Chocolate

The Authority reviewed its decision taken earlier on approval of use of shea butter and borneo tallow up to 5% in chocolate and their quality standards. It was noted that the government did not approve both the proposals. Since there was no safety concern with respect to these two oils, the Authority reiterated its earlier decision and decided to refer the matter to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to review their decision.

(D) FSS (Import) Amendment Regulations

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(E) Proposed Final regulation on Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and distribution of surplus food) Regulations, 2019

Special invitee raised their concern on liabilities of an FBO who donates the food. It was clarified that this concern has already been debated in detail. Moreover, liabilities of FBOs are clearly specified under section 27 of the FSS Act, 2006.

Further, it was also informed that a guideline in this regard would be issued.

With these observations, The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(F) Operationalization of standards/ regulations and directions issued by FSSAI

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

(G) Approval of Draft of final notification for 'Revision of standards for Goat/Sheep Milk, Total sodium content in milk and milk powders and standards of some new milk products viz. Medium fat Channa/paneer, Whey cheese and Cheeses in brine'

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(H) Approval of Draft Standards for Milk and Milk Products regarding uniform standards of buffalo milk

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(I) Approval of the decision on the issue of Revision of Nomenclature of 'Frozen Desserts' under FSSR

Authority noted the opinion of the Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products as endorsed by the Scientific Committee that nomenclature for frozen dessert shall not include the term 'ice-cream' and that Frozen dessert, being a product in which milk fat and milk protein are replaced with vegetable fat and protein, respectively, shall be classified under the category of 'Dairy Analogue' standards which are in process of formulation. It also noted the further explanation of the Panel that the issue is not related to food safety and rather it is related to the consumers' information, and the Food Authority may like to take a suitable decision in this regard. After detailed deliberations, Authority decided to setup a multi-stakeholders group comprising of members of related Scientific Panels, representatives from Consumer Organisations and Industry Associations to examine the issue and submit recommendation to the

Authority.

(J)Ratification of Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2018 relating to revision in mandatory certification of AgMARK and Bureau of Indian standards (BIS); and

Ratification of Draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Amendment Regulations, 2018 relating to AGMARK seal on Light Black Pepper

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

Chairperson further clarified that the proposal regarding dispensing with the requirements of certification for imported food product is not a blanket kind of approval, and the Authority would take decisions on a case-to-case basis subject to any bilateral agreements and/or the principle of 'Equivalence' as envisaged in the WTO-SPS/TBT agreement.

28.2 FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

Ratification of-

- (a) notifications of food laboratories by FSSAI**
 - **the list of Food Laboratories under section 43(1)**
 - **the list of Referral Laboratories under section 43(2)**

- (b) MoU signed With**
 - **M/s Merck Life Science Private Ltd.**
 - **United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), USA**

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

28.3 FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

(a)Amendment in the FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011

Special Invitees were requested to submit their comments within 7 days from the date of Authority meeting. The Food Authority that while send the proposal to

MOH&FW for approval, immediate operationalization of these regulations in a phased manner may be proposed, so as to synchronise it with IT-platform and to ensure full transition happens within 31st March, 2020. It was highlighted that simultaneous operationalization of both IT-platform and proposed regulations would facilitate the Authority to get feedback from FBOs for improvement before being finalised.

With reference to a query that no clear Kind of Business (KOB) category has been prescribed for "irradiation facilities", it was clarified that it will fall under Others KOB and a separate sub-category may be created and accordingly Schedule-IV may be amended.

The Authority approved the draft notification in-principle and authorized the Chairperson to take final decision in this context on behalf of Authority.

(b) Nomination of CAC Members-for approval;

Authority considered the agenda item and approved the proposal.

(c) Recognition of Auditing agencies under FSS (Food Safety Auditing) Regulation, 2018

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

(d) Adoption of Minutes of 24th meeting of Central Advisory Committee

Authority took note of the agenda items as circulated for information.

(e) Registration of FBOs using the platform of Common Service Centre- Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC-SPV)

Authority took note of the agenda items as circulated for information.

(f) Direction issued Section 16(5) of Food safety and Standards Act, 2006

Authority considered the agenda items as above and ratified the actions taken.

28.4 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Status of Recruitment in FSSAI

Authority took note of the agenda items as circulated for information and ratified the actions taken.

28.5 FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

Making FoSTaC mandatory for the food businesses

Authority approved the proposal.

ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 28.IV (1)

Draft Regulation on Food Safety and Standards (Safe Food and Healthy Diets for School Children) Regulation, 2019

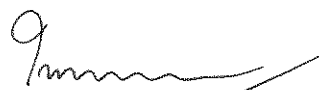
Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 27.IV (2)

Provisional Annual Accounts of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the Financial Year 2018-19

Authority considered the agenda item and approved provisional annual accounts financial Year 2018-19, as proposed and authorised the Chairperson to approve the accounts once finalised and before being forwarded to CAG for audit.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants and CEO invited the board to the inauguration of Gymnasium by Chairperson, FSSAI.



Chief Executive Officer



Chairperson

List of Participants

A. Members of the Authority:

1. Ms. Rita Teaotia, Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. Shri Pawan Agarwal, Member Secretary;
3. Ms Reeta Vashishtha, Additional Secretary Legislative, Ministry of Law and Justice;
4. Shri Ashish Gawai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;
5. Shri Santosh Sarangi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce;
6. Dr Brijesh Tripathi, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare;
7. Shri Jitendra Kumar, Director, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;

B. Special invitees:

1. Ms. Parna Dasgupta, FICCI;
2. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
3. Ms. Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors Association (AIFPA);

C. Officers of the FSSAI

1. Ms. Madhavi Das, ED
2. Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
3. Shri N. Bhaskar, Advisor (QA)
4. Ms. Suniti Toteja, Director (Imports/FFRC)
5. Shri Amit Sharma, Director

6. Ms Inoushi Sharma, Director
7. Shri R. K. Mittal, Head (RCD)
8. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA)
9. Shri AK Chanana, Head (IT)
10. Dr. A.K. Sharma, Consultant
11. Dr. S. C. Khurana, Consultant
12. Dr. A.C. Mishra, Joint Director (Standards)
13. Shri P. Karthikeyan, Deputy Director (Codex/ Regulation)
14. Ms. Varsha Gupta, Scientist IV (3) (Standards)
15. Dr Kavita Ramasamy, Scientist IV (3) (Standards)
16. Ms. Kriti Chugh, AD (Standards)
17. Ms. Ratna Shrivastava, Sci IV(I) (Regulations)
18. Dr Shelvi Agarwal, TO (Standards)

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**28th Meeting of Food Authority (21.05.2019)
CEO's Detailed Report- (As Tabled)**

1. FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATION

Scientific Committee, Scientific Panel and the Work on Standard Setting after the last Authority meeting held on February 4, 2019.

The Scientific Panels met a number of times during the period and made significant contributions in arriving at draft standards and suggestions on issues of safety in food. Various recommendations so made were deliberated in the Scientific Committee of the FSSAI which has representation from all Scientific Panels as well as eminent scientists and the same have been placed in the Agenda for the approval of the Food Authority.

1.1 Scientific Committee meetings (1): The thirty second meeting of the Scientific Committee was held on 28.03.2019.

1.2 Scientific Panel meetings (21): Following Panels except Antibiotics Residues and Contaminants in Food Chain met during the period:

- i) **Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards:** The twenty sixth and twenty seventh meeting of the Panel were held on 15.02.2019 and 25.04.2019 respectively.
- ii) **Scientific Panel on Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery):** The twentieth meeting was held on 05.04.2019.
- iii) **Scientific Panel on Fish and Fisheries Product:** The seventeenth meeting was held on 26.04.2019.
- iv) **Scientific Panel on Food additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food:** The thirty ninth and fortieth meeting of the Panel were held on 14.02.2019 and 26.04.2019 respectively.
- v) **Scientific Panel on Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts):** The sixteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 11.03.2019.

- vi) **Scientific Panel on Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other Similar Products:** The forty second meeting of the Panel was held on 18-19.03.2019.
- vii) **Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms and Foods:** The seventeenth meeting of the Panel was held on 06.05.2019.
- viii) **Scientific Panel on Labelling and claims/Advertisements:** The twenty eighth meeting was held on 30.04.2019.
- ix) **Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products:** The eleventh meeting was held on 16.04.2019.
- x) **Scientific Panel on Meat and Meat Products including Poultry:** The eleventh meeting was held on 15.03.2019.
- xi) **Scientific Panel on Method of Sampling and Analysis:** The twenty fifth meeting of the Panel was held on 21.05.2019.
- xii) **Scientific Panel on Oils and Fats:** The fifteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 08.03.2019.
- xiii) **Scientific Panel on Pesticide Residues:** The fifty fifth and fifty sixth meeting of the Panel were held on 27-28.2019 and 2-3.05.2019 respectively.
- xiv) **Scientific Panel on Water (including flavoured water) & Beverages (alcoholic non -alcoholic):** The fifteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 18.03.2019.
- xv) **Scientific Panel on Nutrition and Fortification:** The tenth and eleventh meetings were held on 22.02.2019 and 10.05.2019 respectively.
- xvi) **Scientific Panel on Spices and Culinary Herbs:** The third meeting of Panel was held on 11.02.2019.
- xvii) **Scientific Panel on Sweets, Confectionery, Sweeteners, Sugar & Honey:** The twelfth meeting of the Panel was held on 15.04.2019.

1.3 Total 5 final amendment notifications relating to articles of food have been finalized and are under the process of vetting and approval of Central Government and Draft of 1 new Principal regulations namely FSS (Recovery & distribution of surplus food) Regulations, 2019 and 12 amendment draft notifications relating to Infant Food Regulation, microbiological standards for spice, processing aids regulations etc. have been published in the Gazette of India to invite comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

2. FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

2.1 Capacity Building Initiatives at National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad

2.1.1 Handing over and opening of the Centre for Microbiological Analysis Training (C-MAT) by M/s Merck

Centre for Microbiological Analysis Training(C-MAT) was handed over my M/s Merck to the FSSAI and made operational on 30th April 2019. This was in pursuance of the MoU signed with M/s Merck on 12.7.2018 which was ratified by the Authority in its 27th Meeting.

2.1.2 Opening of Food Safety Solution Centre by M/s Thermofisher Scientific India Ltd

The Food Safety Solution Centre established by M/s Thermofisher was operationalized on 2nd April 2019. This was in pursuance of the MoU signed with M/s Thermofisher on 3.5.2018 which was ratified by the Authority in its 26th Meeting.

2.2. National Reference Laboratories

In its 27th meeting, the Food Authority had approved recognition of 13 FSSAI notified laboratories as National Reference Laboratory (NRL) and 2 FSSAI notified laboratories as Ancillary Facility of National Reference Laboratory (ANRL). Accordingly, FSSAI vide Order No. 12013/02/2017-QA dated 19.03.2019 approved 13 notified food testing laboratories as National Reference Laboratories and vide letter No. 12013/02/2017-QA dated 27.03.2019 informed the Director, Export inspection Council, New Delhi regarding approval of their 2 laboratories viz Export Inspection Agency, Chennai and Export Inspection Agency, Kolkata as the Ancillary Facility of National Reference Laboratory (ANRL). The Agreements, after getting duly vetted by the Legal Division, have been shared will all 15 NRLs/ANRLs vide email dated 03.05.2019.

For the year 2019-2020, an annual grant of 25 lakh INR to each of NRLs and an annual grant of 10 lakh INR to each of ANRLs are approved by the Competent Authority. Separate Handbook for both NRL & ANRL has been created which contains various details of the scheme including obligations and financial prudence to be exercised by participating laboratories. The first installment will be released to these laboratories on receipt of duly signed agreement and half-years/annual plan from them.

2.3 Food Analyst Examination

2.3.1 Result of 5th Food Analyst Examination (FAE):

Total 92 candidates appeared in Practical Examination (Paper III) of 5th Food Analyst Examination (FAE) held at 3 centres viz. NIFTEM-Kundli, CFTRI-Mysore and ICT-Mumbai on 22nd and 23rd December, 2018. The Food Analyst Examination Board in its meeting held on 09.01.2019, declared 83 candidates as qualified food analyst.

2.3.2 Announcement of 6th Food Analyst Examination and 3rd Junior Analyst Examination:

The Food Analyst Examination Board in its meeting held on 12.04.2019 approved the revised syllabus for FAE & JAE as proposed by the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Lalitha R. Gowda. The Board also approved time schedule for conducting the 6th FAE and 3rd JAE. Accordingly, FSSAI has issued a notice on 30.04.2019 for inviting online applications from eligible candidates. The last date of receipt of online applications is 31st May, 2019.

2.4 Unified Assessment System for accreditation of food laboratories

The food authority in its 27th meeting, in principle, approved the proposal of integrated assessment of food testing laboratories before their accreditation through a common platform in association with other Government bodies i.e. NABL, EIC etc. Integrated assessment of food testing laboratories has since been started.

2.5 Fixing of testing charges for protein and Calories under ICDS and MDM Schemes

Protein and calories have been specified as nutritional standards in Schedule II of the National Food Security Act, 2013. As per Guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for School Level kitchens under Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development, the State/UTs must consider engaging CSIR institutes/NABL accredited laboratories and FSSAI accredited laboratories for testing of samples of MDM.

Accordingly, FSSAI vide its Order No. F. 15022/01/2019-QA dated 8th April, 2019 has fixed the rate of Rs. 1200/- (excluding taxes) per sample for testing of protein and calories in meals under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) Schemes by FSSAI notified laboratories.

2.6 Updates on Strengthening Food Safety Ecosystem

2.6.1 Extension of the time period for implementation of the Central Sector Scheme.

As informed in the 27th Meeting of the Authority, a proposal was sent to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for extension of the Centre Sector Scheme for "Strengthening of Food Testing System in the country including provision of Mobile Food Labs" for two years i.e. upto March, 2021. However, MoHFW suggested slight revision in the proposal and also for

seeking its approval only for the continuation of scheme for one year i.e. up to March, 2020 (co-terminus with the period covered by 14th Financial Commission). Accordingly, revised proposal has been sent to the MoHFW for consideration and approval.

2.6.2 Strengthening of State Food Laboratories (as on 31.10.2018)

A grant of Rs.91.85 crore has been sanctioned/ released to different States/UTs for upgradation purposes. With this, the total grant released towards upgradation has risen from 128.45 crore INR to 220.30 crore INR covering 37 State Food Testing Laboratories across 29 States/UTs.

2.6.3 Strengthening of Referral Laboratories

Proposal for release of grant-in-aid has been approved for upgradation of 3 more referral laboratories viz. CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR), Lucknow, National Referral Centre for Meat (NRC-M), Hyderabad and Punjab Biotechnology Incubator (PBTI), Mohali. With this, the total number of referral laboratories covered increased from 7 to 10 and the grant released towards their upgradation with high end equipment risen from 13.09 crore INR to 23.891 crore INR

2.7 Food Safety on Wheels (FSW)

5 more FSWs have been sanctioned/delivered raising the total number of FSWs sanctioned/delivered from 41 to 46 to 32 States/UTs.

2.8 Capacity Building Programs

FSSAI organized Training Programs in Specialized Areas and General Training Program namely Good Food Laboratory Practices (GFLP), at various locations in India in collaboration with National and International organizations/institutions/ agencies for the food analysts & other scientific/technical personnel of State Food Testing Laboratories, FSSAI notified laboratories and other food testing laboratories during December, 2018- April, 2019. Details of these programs are given below-

S. No.	State	Venue	Date of Training	No. of Candidates
A. Awareness program for accreditation of Laboratories				
1.	Delhi	FSSAI (HQ), New Delhi	12 March, 2019	29
2.	Tamil Nadu	Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture (CIBA), Chennai	24 April, 2019	40
Total A				69
B. SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMS				
I. Food Safety Training Workshop on Mycotoxin in Singapore				
a	---	Singapore	8-10 January,	10

			2019	
II. Hands on Training on Advanced Analytical Techniques for Non-Alcoholic Beverages				
a	Haryana	Agilent Technology, Manesar	26 February, 2019	57
III. Training Program on Estimation of Formaldehyde in Fish and Fisheries Product				
c	Kerala	Central Institute of Fisheries Product (CIFT), Kochi	22-25 April, 2019	10
Total B				77
C. GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMS - Good Food Laboratory Practices				
1.	Karnataka	Indian Institute for Horticultural Research, Bengaluru	26-28 December, 2018	18
2.	Maharashtra	Quality Evaluation laboratory, Spices Board, Mumbai	15-17 January, 2019	31
3.	Rajasthan	CEG Test House & Research Centre Pvt Ltd, Jaipur Rajasthan	28-30 January, 2019	33
4.	Kolkata	Oil Laboratory, Department of Technology, University of Kolkata	6-8 February, 2019	40
Total C				122
Grand Total (A+B+C)				268

3. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Status of Recruitments

3.1.1 The process of filling up vacant posts on Direct Recruitment and Deputation basis has been initiated. Of the 824 posts sanctioned, 415 posts have been advertised in the first phase - 301 on Direct Recruitment (DR) and 114 on deputation basis. Almost 1.6 lakh applications have been received in response to the advertisement, with the majority of applications being for the post of Technical Officer, Central Food Safety Officer, Assistant and Junior Assistant levels.

3.1.2 Currently, the process of selection of Executive Director on deputation (2 posts) Advisor on deputation (1 post) and Director (7 on deputation and 4

on Direct Recruitment) has been completed. The rest of the selection process is underway for various posts.

4. FOOD IMPORT

4.1 Direction regarding Import of Specialty foods for IEM and hypoallergenic conditions - Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 dated 2nd May, 2019 regarding Import of Specialty foods for IEM and hypoallergenic conditions was issued in continuation to the earlier direction dated 01.11.2018, to further allow the import of Food for Special Medical Purposes (i.e. Food for 15 Inborn errors of metabolism and two hypoallergenic conditions) for a further period of one year from 02.05.2019 or till their standards are notified, whichever is earlier. Further for better control, the import was still permitted through Delhi and Mumbai ports only.

5. SOCIAL BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

IEC Activities

5.1 Network of Professionals of Food and Nutrition in India (NetProFaN)

NetProFaN is envisioned as a collective of professional bodies and experts in the areas of food, nutrition and public health coming together to contribute to national efforts to improve the status of food safety and nutrition. Netpro.Fan has been enthusiastically adopted by a network of several professional associations (Nutrition Society of India (NSI), Indian Dietetic Association (IDA), Association of Food Technologists and Scientists (AFSTI), Indian Medical Association (IMA), The Indian Federation of Culinary Associations (IFCA), Association of Analytical Communities (AoAC) – Food Analysis) to promote the “Eat Right India” movement. This Network is envisaged as a self-sustaining model, functional at national, state and city levels, to adopt and implement activities to address local needs and issues in a phased manner. NetPro.FaN was launched in a two days workshop on 22nd and 23rd March, 2019 at New Delhi.

Current Status.

- National Committee formed with representatives from all 6 associations
- 17 states have been identified for roll-out.
- 10 State Chapters formed- 5 launched formally (Karnata, Kerala, Mumbai, Gujrat and Uttar Pradesh).
- On-ground activities initiated across states (e.g. webinars, launch of state chapters, lectures, articles in media).
- Exemplary performing state chapters and individual professionals to be recognized by FSSAI every year.
- Dedicated webpage has been developed.

5.2 Clean Street Food Hubs

Street food vending, extremely scattered and unorganized, forms one of the large sector of the whole food ecosystem in India. To upgrade existing and upcoming food streets across the country and provide safe and hygienic local eating experience, FSSAI with support of state government bodies has framed benchmarks for upgrading the existing infrastructures of food streets across the country. FSSAI will duly recognize and certify those Food Hubs that comply with these standards and benchmarks, and such branding and certification would help to create consumer trust in street food. A guidance document and brochure has been prepared to assist partners in implementation.

Till date, eight streets have been awarded as Clean Street Food Hub across the country; five from Gujarat, one from Madhya Pradesh and two from Maharashtra. Also, seventy-five locations have been recommended from thirteen states for this award.

5.3 Swasth Bharat Yatra

The "Swasth Bharat Yatra" was flagged off on 16th October, 2018 (World Food Day) on six tracks from six different locations and covered almost all States/UTs, culminating at New Delhi on 29th January, 2019. During this mega event, Corporates donated funds to support the Swasth Bharat Yatra. The sponsored money received from Corporates for Swasth Bharat Yatra, in a dedicated bank account, is being used to pay the expenses related to Swasth Bharat Yatra.

6. GLOBAL OUTREACH

6.1 Participation in Codex meeting:

Since the last meeting of Food Authority held in February, 2019 India has participated in Six Codex Committees related to Fats and Oils, General Principles, Food Additives, Pesticide Residues, Contaminants in Foods and Food Labelling. One of the major achievements in the above said meetings which are agreed by the Committee is as follows:-

(i) The Codex Committee on Food Labelling noted that there had been a lot of progress on the work of Non Retail Containers, led by India and agreed to forward the proposed draft revision to CAC42 for adoption at Step 5

6.2 Capacity building Workshop on Codex:

(i) **Workshop on Draft Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 for CCASIA Region**

The Codex Secretariat, in collaboration with the China National Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA) and FSSAI, organized a workshop during 1-2 November 2018 in Beijing, China for Codex member countries of the CCASIA region to discuss the Draft Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. The workshop was chaired by India as the Regional Coordinator.

(ii) Training of the Sri Lanka stakeholders involved in food safety and codex contact point Sri Lanka(25th to 28th February, 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka)

A workshop and a training program were conducted for the stakeholders involved in food safety in Sri Lanka and the codex contact point of Sri Lanka. The main objective was to sensitise the participants, particularly the Government officials, on complete understanding of the Codex procedures, SPS agreement and food Regulations. The training was imparted by officers from the codex contact point of India (FSSAI), along with Senior International consultant to WHO.

6.3 MoU signed

A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FSSAI, Export Inspection Council (EIC) and Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) was signed in India/Netherlands in March, 2019 for cooperation in areas of food safety.

6.4 Visit of Indian delegation abroad

6.4.1 Chairperson, FSSAI represented FSSAI in the inaugural meeting of the Global Action Network on Nutritional Labelling from 6-7 February, 2019 in Paris, France. The Action Network is a follow up of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025. The goal of the action network is to establish a coalition of countries interested to accelerate efforts around nutrition labelling and promote the implementation of the same.

6.4.2 A delegation including representative from MoHFW led by CEO, FSSAI participated in the WHO/FAO 1st Global Conference on Food Safety in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 11-14 Feb., 2019. The Conference helped in connecting with many Food Regulators around the world, especially the African countries of Gambia, Zambia and Ethiopia were impressed with FSSAI's model of food safety, recent capacity building & awareness initiatives and showed interest in learning more about the same.

6.4.3 In this regard, a proposal for FSSAI's partnering with the African countries in capacity building in area of food safety along with a concept note on 'Food Safety in Africa' has been taken up with MEA through MoHFW for concurrence and support.

6.5 Afghan and Nepal Delegation Visits to India

6.5.1 A delegation from Department of Food Technology and Quality Control (DFTQC), Nepal visited FSSAI, New Delhi for consultation meeting program cum exposure visit from 25th-29th March, 2019. The delegation was led by Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Karn, Director General, DFTQC. The focus of the visit was to help the delegation to understand the functions and structural arrangement of FSSAI, implementation of the FSS Act and the food safety and quality control system in States through field visits.

6.5.2 At the request of Govt. of Afghanistan, a 2 week training program for food safety officials from Afghanistan was conducted in India from 28th Jan. - 8th Feb., 2019. The visit was coordinated by the International Trade Centre (ITC), Geneva and funded by the European Union. The training program included visits to the State Food Safety Office in Chandigarh, field visit to ports of import in Cochin, laboratories in Delhi and food processing unit in Nashik which helped in enhancing understanding of the delegation on various aspects of food safety.

6.6. Others

6.6.1 The issue of ban on import of milk and milk products from China which was due to expire on 23rd April, 2019 was reviewed in a meeting held at FSSAI on 5th April, 2019 with the concerned Departments/Ministries of the Government of India. Based on the discussions held, it has been recommended that the ban on import of milk and milk products, including chocolates and chocolate products and candies/confectionary/food preparations from milk and milk solids as ingredients from China may be extended until the capacity of all laboratories at ports of entry across India have been suitably upgraded for testing melamine.

7. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

7.1 FOSTAC progress:

FoSTaC is an organically growing large scale training ecosystem for food business operators where as on date, over 1.3 lakh Food Safety Supervisors were trained. 160 training partners conducted 5000 training programme and total 19 courses are in place. A FoSTaC Plus programme for senior/mid management is also in place for Food Start-Ups and Organic Food businesses.

Ongoing special drives under FoSTaC are as follows:

1. State FDA of Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi has started drive for 100 percent completion of training of all food businesses.

2. Training of all university and corporate canteens has taken up as a special project. Till date 12 corporate and 35 college canteens have been covered.

3. Under Clean and Safe Meat initiative, 12 trainings for Poultry and poultry meat and 4 training for Animal meat have been conducted and under Clean and Safe Milk initiative, 209 trainings have been completed.

7.2 Training of Regulatory Staff

Induction Training programmes for Food Safety Officers were conducted in 2 different States viz. West Bengal and Chhattisgarh wherein 93 officers successfully completed the training from February 2019 onwards.

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