

**Minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Food Authority held on November 6, 2019  
at 10:30 hrs at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi**

The twenty ninth meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held on November 6, 2019 at 11.15 hrs at FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Smt Rita Teatota, Chairperson, FSSAI. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Executive Director (HR), FSSAI welcomed the members of the Authority and all special invitees from Industry to the meeting and requested Shri Pawan Agarwal, Chief Executive Officer, FSSAI to take over the proceedings.

CEO thanked the representatives from the Ministries for their participation in this meeting and introduced newly appointed employees of FSSAI. He further invited Chairperson, FSSAI for the opening remarks.

Chairperson while recalling the last meeting of the Authority held in May, 2019, highlighted the action taken and various developments since then. She emphasized on the importance of interaction with FBO in terms of licensing, testing and inspection which will be helpful to sharpen the regulatory regime and strengthen the capacity building activities.

**Item No. I:**

**Confirmation of the minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21.05.2019**

No comments had been received on the minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting circulated to all members. The minutes were confirmed and adopted.

The Authority noted the inadvertent placement of draft standards of formulated supplements for children under proposed final notification which was actually draft notification.

**Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 28<sup>th</sup> meeting**

The Action Taken Report was noted with the following deliberations:

- 1) Chairperson highlighted the pendency of a large number of notifications in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare due to various issues and suggested the Ministry to organize regular meeting with FSSAI officials to resolve such issues. CEO further suggested to segregate the standard(s) in question from the comprehensive notifications and proceed with the remaining part for publication.
- 2) With reference to item no. 28.1 A(I)(vi) related to packaged drinking water, Special Invitee enquired about the status of their concern on proposed requirements of calcium and magnesium in the Packaged Drinking Water which is used as an ingredient for several products. The authority was apprised that the same has been addressed by the Panel concerned and is under further proceedings. Further, on the issue of its immediate implementation, they requested to provide 6 months transition time which was agreed by the Authority.

**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**).

## **AGENDA FOR APPROVAL**

### **29.1 FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS**

#### **(A) NEW REGULATION FOR FINAL NOTIFICATION**

##### **(1) Draft Notification dated 01.05.2019 on Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2019**

Special invitees had certain observations which were also submitted at draft notification stage regarding narrow range of nutrient, tolerance limits for declared nutrients etc. It was clarified that Panel had considered all the comments and after due deliberations considering all aspects in Indian scenario recommended the proposed draft. However, they were suggested to submit their comments at the earliest. The secretariat was directed to review their comments vis-à-vis Panel recommendations and if required, they may be allowed to present before the Scientific Panel.

The Authority authorized the Chairperson to take a final view on behalf of the Authority.

#### **(B) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR FINAL NOTIFICATIONS**

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

##### **(a) Amendment to Regulation 2.1, Dairy Products and Analogues:**

- 1) Draft notification dated 01.05.2019 relating to new standards for low lactose/lactose free milk and dairy permeate powder and insertion of definition of mozzarella cheese**

The Authority revised the limits of lactose content in the products 'Lactose free milk' under milk and milk products regulation from 0.05% to 0.1% lactose as the products are not intended for infants. Further, the special invitees mentioned about

the technical apprehensions in packing of these products in the format like pouches and others apart from multi-layered packs. She mentioned that this matter may be simultaneously taken up by the SRG concerned for technicalities in packaging format.

With this revision, the Authority approved the final notification.

**(b) Amendment to Chapter 3, Substances added to food:**

**1) Draft Notification dated 04.02.2019 related to insertion of Appendix 'C' w.r.t Processing Aids**

1) Special invitees mentioned that besides the proposed final notification, there is another list of processing aids which is under draft notification and hence, requested to consolidate them as one regulation. On this issue, it was suggested that both the notifications may follow the due process separately and the date of coming into force for both the notifications may be harmonized.

2) In Clause 13 of sub-regulation 3.4.1, the statement "The following declaration shall be mentioned on the label of the food products containing processing aids: "Contains permitted processing aids"" was recommended to be deleted. It was also decided to add the footnote for column 2 of Table 11: Enzymes (for treatment or processing of raw materials, foods, or ingredients) as "\*All enzymes are from non-GM sources".

3) Regarding the use of Sodium acid pyrophosphate (SAPP) for Sl. No. 41 in Table 12, it was suggested that a separate comment with technical justification may be submitted within one week for consideration.

With these modifications, the Authority approved the final notification. The Authority authorized the Chairperson to take a final view on these concerns on behalf of Authority.

**2) Draft Notification dated 15.04.2019 relating to inclusion of sorbitan monostearate for use in various food categories including Yeast and like products**

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

**3) Draft Notification dated 15.04.2019 to amend regulations 3.1: Other substances for use in Food Products and Appendix 'A'**

1) Special invitees mentioned that similar note for the food category 1.6.4.1 as provided on page 69 of the agenda may also be inserted for the food category 1.6.5 Cheese analogues. To which it was apprised that this matter is under consideration of Panel concerned separately.

2) Special invitees further requested to change the recommended maximum level for food additive microcrystalline wax from 20,000 mg/kg to GMP in line with EFSA which was not agreed as the specified limit is in line with the Codex.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

**(II) FSS (Fortification of Foods) Regulations**

**1) Draft notification dated 04.02.2019 regarding standards on fortified processed food, fortified species identified milk and fortified multigrain atta**

1) Special invitees raised their concern on inconsistencies amongst claims specified in Advertising & Claims Regulation and the limits of fortificants under proposed draft. For instance, when the nutrients (vitamin and minerals) are added up to 15%

of RDA per 100 gms of solids, "source" claim and use of +F logo are permitted. However, when the nutrients are added up to 30% of RDA per 100 gms of solids, claim as "High" is permitted, but use +F logo is not allowed as the 30% RDA is exceeding maximum limit of fortification. It was clarified that the intent of both the Regulation is different and thus, complete alignment may not be possible. Chairperson directed the secretariat to issue a clarification in this regard.

2) In addition, the Authority agreed to the following deletion in the content of the final notification: -

a) the words "and shall be revised from time to time in line with the changes in the primary Labelling regulation" from Clause 7 of sub-regulation (4) on page 73 of agenda.

b) Note 1,2,3 and Table related thereto as given on page 75 and 76 of the agenda since the threshold for HFSS are yet not finalised.

With these modifications, the Authority approved the final notification.

### **(III) FSS (Advertising and Claims) Regulations**

#### **1) Draft notification dated 08.03.2019 regarding claims for edible vegetable oils**

Special invitees suggested that the functional claims as proposed are not required as they are already covered under Schedule-I and claims related to reduction of disease risk may go under Schedule III of Advertisement and Claims regulation. In this context, it was clarified that the suggested list of claims are particularly specific for oil only. Further, it was agreed to increase the scope of this amendment

regulation to blended edible vegetable oils where claim restricted to major oil in the blend may be permitted.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

**(C) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR DRAFT NOTIFICATIONS:**

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

**(a) Amendment to Regulation 2.1, Dairy Products and Analogues**

- 1) New standards for Dairy Analogues; 2) Revision of standards of Ghee**

With regard to item 2 above, Special invitee mentioned that RM value is used as key factor while procuring milk. It varies from state to state and a single value across the country may not be appropriate for local procurement and may lead to rejection or dilution. However, it was clarified that though the available data was considered while formulating the draft standards, industry association can submit the data or comments, if any, at draft notification stage.

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

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

- 1) Definition of Raw vegetable oil; 2) Revision of Refractive Index Value in standards of Coconut Oil**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(c) Amendment to Regulation 2.3, Fruit and Vegetable Products**

- 1) Inclusion of Beans-/Baked beans packed in sauces under existing standard of Thermally Processed Vegetables; 2) Inclusion of low sugar jam under existing standard of Jam, Fruit Jellies and Marmalades to include; 3) Revision of existing standards of Dehydrated Vegetables**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(d) Amendment to Regulation 2.4 Cereal and Cereal Products**

- 1) Revision of standard of Protein rich (paushtik) Atta; 2) Revision of standard of Protein rich (paushtik) Maida; 3) Multi grain Atta and Mixed Millet Flour**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (e) Amendment to Regulation 2.6, Fish & Fish Products**

- 1) Deletion of Regulation on Shark fins**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (f) Amendment to Regulation 2.9, Salt, Spices, Condiments and Related Products**

- 1) Dried Sweet Basil Leaves**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (g) Amendment to Regulation 2.10, Beverages, (Other than Dairy and Fruits and Vegetables Based)**

- 1) Draft amendment w.r.t sub-regulation 2.10.6 clause (1) sub-clause (1)**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (h) Addition of new Regulation 2.16**

- 1) Hemp Seeds**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (i) Amendment to Chapter 3: Substances added to Food**

- 1) Inclusion of sub-category for flavoured/marinated meat under food categories 8.1 "Fresh meat and poultry" and 8.2.3 "Frozen processed meat and poultry products in whole pieces or cuts"; 2) Amendment in the Food Category 4.2.2.4 for Canned or Bottled (Pasteurized) or Retort Pouch Vegetables w.r.t term "low acid"; 3) Instant Tea**

With regard to item 3 above, Special Invitee stated that as per Codex Iced Tea will fall under water based beverages, where tatzazine is allowed, the Authority suggested that comments may be submitted at draft notification stage.

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.



**(j) Amendment Relating to Chapter 3: Appendix-B**  
**1) Microbiological Standards of Food Grains and their Products**

The words 'and their' from the title as given on pages 107-108 of agenda were deleted as 'Microbiological Standards of Food Grains ~~and their~~ Products'.

With this modification, the Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(II) FSS (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations**  
**1) Fixation of MRLs of Pesticides**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(III) FSS (Alcoholic Beverages Regulations) Regulations**  
**1) Amendments in certain clauses**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(IV) FSS (Advertising and Claims) Regulations**  
**1) Draft Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claims) Second Amendment Regulations, 2019; 2) Ban on advertisements of the products containing Areca nut, Arecaline or its products**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(V) FSS (Packaging) Regulations**  
**1) Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) First Amendment Regulations, 2019 in respect of provisions for packaging of drinking water**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(VI) FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations**  
**1) Addition of provision w.r.t. use of physically Refined Rice Bran Oil in Vanaspati; 2) Revision of labelling of blended edible vegetable oils**

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

**(D) OTHER ISSUES:**

**1) Categorization of product "Pan Masala and related products" for Issuance of License**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

**2) Review of threshold values proposed in Draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2019**

The Authority endorsed the proposal of further working in Front of Pack Labelling part separately and to proceed with rest of the final notification of FSS (Labelling and Display) Regulation.

**3) Revision of parameter 'Pollen Count' and removal of parameters 'Trace Marker for Rice Syrup (TMR)', 'Specific Marker for Rice Syrup (SMR)' and 'Foreign oligosaccharides' from Honey Standards notified dated 31.07.2018**

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

**4) Draft Notification dated 12.03.2019 prescribing revised standards for synthetic syrup and sharbat**

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the withdrawal of the draft notification dated 12.03.2019.

**5) Method of analysis of various parameters of Honey**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

**6) Method of analysis for Royal Jelly, Bees Wax, Dry mixtures of cocoa & sugars**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

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

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken. Further, CEO directed to review all the directions issued under section 16(5) and 18(2)(d) of FSS Act for their sub-tuning in the existing regulations or formulation of new

regulation/standards. He also directed to present a complete status of all the directions before the Food Authority in its next meeting.

**(F) Notification of Authorised Officers under section 25 read with section 47(5) of FSS Act, 2006 and Regulation 13(1) of FSS (Import) Regulations, 2017- for ratification**

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

**29.2 FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE**

**1. Approval of-**

**(a) Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) Kit/Equipment/Method**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

**2. Ratification of-**

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

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

**29.3 FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE**

**(a) Amendments in the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011- Developments and the Road Map ahead- for approval**

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

**(b) Licensing and Registration of standardized food products- for consideration and approval**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed. It was further suggested to to implement the change when transiting from FLRS to FOSCOS and also consult stakeholders.

- (c) Operationalization of certain clauses of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2019 under Section 18 (2) of the FSS Act, 2006- for consideration and approval**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed. Chairperson was authorized to decide the time and manner of operationalization of each provision and also make further changes if required. CEO suggested to insert a sub-clause on hygiene rating, making clear distinction between hygiene rating and third party audit. The provision 2.1.19(3) regarding inspection and audit to be qualified “as per scheme/ orders of the Food Authority.

- (d) Methodology for centralized e-collection and transfer of fee relating to state licenses and registration in respect of the states not having online fee payment system- for consideration and approval**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

- (e) Introduction of Food Safety Mitra Scheme by FSSAI-for approval**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

- (f) Adoption of Minutes of meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC)- for adoption**

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

#### **29.4 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

- (a) Annual Report of FSSAI for the Financial Year 2018-19-for approval please**

The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the annual report for financial Year 2018-19, as proposed.

- (b) Opening of new offices/Laboratories of FSSAI under section 4(4) of the FSS Act, 2006- for approval please**

The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.

- (c) Introduction of Annual Performance Management System (PMS) for the employees of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India - for consideration.**

The Authority considered the agenda item. CEO further informed the Authority that the proposed guidelines will also be circulated to all employees of FSSAI for comments.

- (d) Annual Accounts, Budget, Financial Activities of FSSAI for FY-2018-19; other than GIA from M/o Health & Family Welfare and Internal Revenue Receipts.**

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

**ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR**

**Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (1)**

**Adoption of the Codes of Practice and Guidelines adopted by Codex Alimentarius Commission into Indian regulations**

The Authority approved the proposal for adoption of COPs and guidelines and authorized the Chairperson for approving the COPs on behalf of Food Authority as and when framed. Further, a Working Group may be formulated to prepare COPs with suitable modification considering Indian scenario after prioritization of the areas by FSSAI. In this context, members from other line ministries/departments working in this area may be co-opted in the working group.

**Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (2)**

## **Draft Guidelines on Working with the Private Sector**

On the proposed guidelines, comments were sought from the members/special invitees within seven days. After considering the comments, if any, the guidelines may be sent to ministry of health and family welfare with the approval of Chairperson.

### **Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (3)**

#### **Renaming of 'Blended Edible Vegetable Oil' and restricting the use of Mustard oil in Blended Edible Vegetable Oil**

The Authority approved the proposal to rename the 'Blended Edible Vegetable Oil' as 'Multi-sourced Edible Vegetable Oil'.

Further, with regard to proposal on stopping blending of mustard oil in Blended Edible Vegetable Oil, Authority was of the view that it will not serve the purpose of promoting the mustard oil in the country. However, to curb adulteration of mustard oil with rice bran oils, laboratory should test absence of oryzynol marker.

### **Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (4)**

#### **Policy to provide 60 days time period to invite Comments/Suggestions from stakeholders**

The Authority approved the policy to give 60 days' time to domestic stakeholders as well as WTO member countries for providing comments as draft regulations. However, in case of any public interest, this time may be reduced to 30 days for domestic stakeholders.

### **Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (5)**

#### **World Bank Funding for activities associated with Eat Right India Movement**

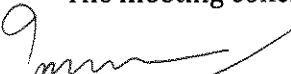
The Authority approved the proposal, as proposed.


**Supplementary Agenda Item No. 29.IV (6)**

**A proposal along with memo for Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for  
'Strengthening of Food Safety System in States/UTs'**

The Authority approved the proposal in-principle, as proposed.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants.

  
**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. Shri Ashish Gawai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;
4. Shri K B Subramanian, Director, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
5. Shri V Thirukumaran, assistant Industrial advisor, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
6. Ms. L Renthlei, Deputy Director, Ministry of Consumer Affairs;
7. Dr Brijesh Tripathi, Assistant Director, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare;
8. Dr Sarita Bhalla, Consultant (Pharma), CIB&RC, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare;

**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. Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
2. Dr N. Bhaskar, Advisor (QA)
3. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Head (Regulations/Codex)
4. Shri Rajeev Jain, ED (HR)



5. Dr Shobhit Jain, ED (RS)
6. Dr Rubeena Shaheen, Director (Standards)
7. Dr Amit Sharma, Director (Imports)
8. Ms Inoushi Sharma, Director (SBCD)
9. Dr Shalini Sehgal, Director (QA)
10. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA)
11. Shri AK Chanana, Head (IT)
12. Shri R. K. Mittal, Head (RCD)
13. Dr A.K. Sharma, Consultant
14. Dr S. C. Khurana, Consultant
15. Shri Parveen Jargar, Joint Director (Regulatory Compliance)
16. Dr A.C. Mishra, Joint Director (Standards)
17. Ms Varsha Gupta, Scientist IV (3) (Standards)
18. Shri P. Karthikeyan, Deputy Director (Codex/ Regulation)
19. Ms Kriti Chugh, AD (Standards)
20. Ms Ratna Shrivastava, Sci IV(I) (Regulations)
21. Dr Shelvi Agarwal, TO (Standards)

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## **29<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Food Authority (06.11.2019) 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 May 21, 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 third meeting of the Scientific Committee was held on 19.08.2019.

**1.2 Scientific Panel meetings (22):** Following Panels except Fish and Fish Products, Nutrition and Fortification, and Method of Sampling and Analysis met during the period:

- i) **Scientific Panel on Antibiotic Residues:** The third meeting of the Panel was held on 31.07.2019.
- ii) **Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards:** The twenty eighth meeting of the Panel was held on 23.08.2019.
- iii) **Scientific Panel on Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery):** The twenty first and twenty second meeting were held on 17.06.2019 and 20.09.2019 respectively.
- iv) **Scientific Panel on Contaminants in Food Chain:** The twenty second meeting was held on 12.07.2019.
- v) **Scientific Panel on Food additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food:** The forty first and forty second meeting of the Panel were held on 21.06.2019 and 13.09.2019 respectively.
- vi) **Scientific Panel on Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts):** The seventeenth meeting of the Panel was held on 01.07.2019.
- vii) **Scientific Panel on Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other Similar Products:** The forty third meeting of the Panel was held on 01-02.07.2019.

- viii) **Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms and Foods:** The eighteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 12.09.2019.
- ix) **Scientific Panel on Labelling and claims/Advertisements:** The twenty ninth and thirtieth meetings were held on 11-12.06.2019 and 20-21.09.2019 respectively.
- x) **Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products:** The twelfth meeting was held on 07.08.2019.
- xi) **Scientific Panel on Meat and Meat Products including Poultry:** The twelfth meeting was held on 27.09.2019.
- xii) **Scientific Panel on Oils and Fats:** The sixteenth and seventeenth meetings of the Panel were held on 19.06.2019 and 19.09.2019 respectively.
- xiii) **Scientific Panel on Pesticide Residues:** The fifty eighth meeting of the Panel was held on 20.08.2019. The fifty ninth meeting is scheduled to be held on 29.10.2019.
- xiv) **Scientific Panel on Water (including flavoured water) & Beverages (alcoholic non -alcoholic):** The sixteenth and seventeenth meetings of the Panel were held on 02.07.2019 and 16.10.2019, respectively.
- xv) **Scientific Panel on Spices and Culinary Herbs:** The fifth meeting of Panel was held on 26.08.2019.
- xvi) **Scientific Panel on Sweets, Confectionery, Sweeteners, Sugar & Honey:** The thirteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 05.07.2019.

**1.3** 6 Final notifications relating to amendment in the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards & Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 and FSS (Prohibition and Restriction on sales) Regulations, 2011 and one new principal regulation namely FSS (Recovery & distribution of surplus food) Regulations, 2019 have been notified in the Gazette of India.

**1.4** 12 final amendment notifications relating to articles of food have been finalized and are under the process of vetting and approval of Central Government.

**1.5** Further, draft of 1 new principal regulation namely Food Safety and Standards (Safe food and healthy diets for School Children) Regulations 2019 and 4 amendment draft notifications have been published in the Gazette of India to invite comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

## **2. FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE**

### **2.1 National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad**

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health and Family

Welfare inaugurated National Food Laboratory, Delhi-NCR and also laid the foundation stone of the FSSAI tower at Indirapuram, Ghaziabad on 23.08.2019.

## **2.2 National Food Laboratory (NFL), Kolkata**

Advance Microbiology testing facility has been set up in NFL, Kolkata. The facility has been inaugurated on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019 and is functional.

## **2.3 Inauguration of International Training Centre for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (ITC-FSAN)**

FSSAI in collaboration with Export Inspection Council (EIC) and GFSP has established an International Training Centre for Food Safety Analysis and Applied Nutrition (ITC-FSAN) at Export Inspection Agency's (EIA) Pilot Test House, Mumbai. The centre was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chairperson, FSSAI and CEO, FSSAI on 22.09.2019. This will become the hub for providing training programs to build capacity for the food testing laboratories in our country as well as in the neighbouring countries.

## **2.4 Release of Metastudy**

During the inauguration of National Food Laboratory on 23.08.2019, Dr. Harsh Vardhan Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare also released the report titled "Food Laboratories in India: A Metastudy".

## **2.5 National Reference Laboratories**

In the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Food Authority was informed that Agreement was shared with all provisionally approved 15 NRLs/ANRLs. Thereafter, all provisionally approved NRLs/ANRLs, except National Institute of Plant Health Management, Hyderabad (Provisional NRL), have submitted duly signed Agreements. Accordingly, 14 notified laboratories have been recognised as NRLs/ANRLs vide Order No.12013/02/2017-QA (Vol. 1) dated 23.08.2019. The list of these 14 NRLs/ANRLs is at **Annexure-I**.

For the year 2019-2020, first installment of Rs. 10 lakh (40% of 25 lakh) to each of 11 NRLs and Rs. 4 lakhs (40% of 10 lakh) to each of 2 ANRLs have been released in August, 2019. No fund has been released to one NRL namely, EIA, Kochi as GMO regulation is awaited.

## **2.6 Food Analyst Examination**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Food Analyst Examination and 3<sup>rd</sup> Junior Analyst Examination:**

The Theory Examination of 6<sup>th</sup> Food Analyst Examination (FAE) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Junior Analyst Examination (JAE), 2019 was conducted on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2019. A total of 85 candidates have been declared as qualified Junior Analysts and further 70 candidates were declared as qualified to appear for Paper II (Practical Examination) of 6<sup>th</sup> FAE. The Practical Examination was conducted

on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at three centres viz. CFTRI, Mysore, NIFTEM, Kundli and ICT, Mumbai. The total number of Food Analyst qualified in the 6<sup>th</sup> FAE are 61, taking overall total to 452 Food Analyst /Public Analyst.

## **2.7 Updates on Strengthening Food Safety Ecosystem**

### **Extension of the time period for implementation of the Central Sector Scheme**

Against the revised proposal for extension of the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for one year i.e. upto March, 2020, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has informed in June, 2019 that a third party evaluation of the scheme is required by the Department of Expenditure before extension of CSS. Now, MoHFW vide OM dated 11.10.2019 has informed that the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi is likely to be engaged for 3<sup>rd</sup> party evaluation of the CSS.

### **2.7.1 Strengthening of State Food Laboratories**

A grant of Rs.41.89 crore has been sanctioned/ released to different States/UTs for setting up / strengthening of State Food Testing Laboratories. With this, the total grant sanctioned/released towards upgradation has risen from 220.30 crore INR to 262.19crore INR covering 37 State Food Testing Laboratories across 29 States/UTs.

### **2.7.2 Food Safety on Wheels (FSW)**

8 more FSWs have been sanctioned/delivered raising the total number of FSWs sanctioned/delivered from 46 to 54 to 32 States/UTs.

### **2.7.3 Capacity Building Programs**

FSSAI organized various 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 May, 2019 to September, 2019. Details of these programs are at **Annexure-II**.

## **3. FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE**

### **3.1 Revision in the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011.**

In the course of last 8 years of the functioning of the licensing and registration system several gaps were felt in the Regulations and the IT

platform. FSSAI from time to time received various inputs from the regulatory staff as well as the food businesses about functional issues related to the implementation of the regulations.

Taking into account the feedbacks, it is proposed to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 so as to further simplify and rationalize it and ensure effective compliance. This includes perpetual license and registration, reduction in documents, categorization of various KoBs, special provision for new emerging models such as direct sellers etc.

### **3.2 Licensing and Registration of standardized food products.**

FSSAI has online Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS) for License/Registration. At present, FSSAI License/ Registration of Manufacturing/ processing food units captures different levels of food products category of the food product to be manufactured or processed on the basis of the information given in the application for license/registration. Now, it has been proposed that in FLRS only standardized food products under FSSRs are reflected for manufacturer.

### **3.3 RUCO (Re-Purpose Used Cooking Oil)**

Oil used for frying foods are heated to very high temperatures. This renders it harmful due to free radical production and increased levels of Mono unsaturated Fatty Acids (MUFA). Avoid reuse of cooking oil and use oil only once for frying. Contact Biodiesel associations and send used cooking oil (UCO) for use in petroleum industries. So far, FSSAI has enrolled 10 Biodiesel Manufacturers across the Country for collection of UCO through their authorized collection agency/aggregator.

### **3.4 Food Safety Mitra**

FSSAI has endeavoured to inculcate a culture of self-compliance amongst FBO's to ensure compliance to regulatory requirements. For this purpose, several IT platforms have been developed for online filing of applications for license/ registration, modifications, annual return, appeals etc. to bring transparency and accountability in the system. FSSAI has introduced Food Safety Mitra (FSM) Scheme which comprises of Digital Mitra to facilitate FBO's in using online platforms of FSSAI, Trainer Mitra to impart training to Food Supervisors, Hygiene Mitra for hygiene audit of restaurants and establishments. It's a voluntary scheme to strengthen the compliance by FBO's and facilitate ease of doing business. FSM's will be trained by FSSAI and all the details regarding eligibility, training content, code of conduct, fee structure etc. are available on website <https://fssai.gov.in/foodsafetymitra/>.

### **3.5 Clean and Safe Meat Shop**

"Clean and Safe Meat Shop" aims to uplift safety and hygiene conditions in processing and sale of fresh meat/fish. Under this initiative, FSSAI has set benchmarks on basic food safety and hygiene which is to be ensured by a participating meat shop to get recognized and rated. Meat shops will be given hygiene rating after conducting gap audits by food safety department or FSSAI empanelled audit agencies. This is a voluntary scheme. It will allow consumers to make informed choices about the shops from where they buy

meat and meat products. Additionally, this will also create a culture of competition among meat shops to have better ratings.



### **3.6 Clean and Safe Sweets(Halwai) shops**

“Clean and Safe Halwai/Mithai Shop” aims to uplift safety and hygiene conditions in manufacturing/processing and sale of sweets at halwai/mithai shops. Under this initiative, FSSAI has set benchmarks on basic food safety and hygiene which is to be ensured by a participating halwai/mithai shop to get rated on hygiene and safety standards. Halwai/mithai shops will be given hygiene rating after conducting gap audits by food safety department or FSSAI empaneled audit agencies. This is a voluntary scheme. It will allow consumers to make informed choices about the shops from where they buy sweets, namkeen, bakery products, savouries etc.

## **4. GLOBAL OUTREACH**

**4.1** Indian delegations attended five Codex Committee Meetings that were held since last meeting of Food authority. The delegates from Food Authority, concerned Ministries/ Departments and other stakeholders were part of the Indian delegations. In these Codex meetings, India’s concerns were largely addressed based on our written comments and interventions during the Committee sessions.

### **4.1.1 Status of the Proposal made in the Codex committees by India**

The “Draft Guidance on Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of foods” has been forwarded by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling and forwarded for adoption at Step 5 to the upcoming session of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC42, 2019). As recommended by the Committee, CAC42 has adopted the document at Step 5. India chaired the Electronic working group as well as Physical working group to compile and address the issues in this document.

The draft standard for dried or dehydrated garlic was adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) at step 8.

The “Proposed Draft Standards on Ware Potatoes” has been approved by the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and forwarded for adoption at Step 8 to the upcoming session of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43, 2020). This proposal was initially made by India and chaired the in-session working group on this document, held on first day of the plenary session.

### **4.1.2 Status of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025**

The CAC42 (2019) adopted the new Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 developed by the Sub-Committee of the Codex Executive Committee

(CCEXEC) and recommended for adoption by the CEXEC77 (2019). Being the Regional Coordinator for CCASIA, India as a member of the Sub-committee framing Strategic Plan 2020-2025 actively participated and rallied the member countries of the Asian region in the development process.

#### **4.2 Launch of a Joint India, Bhutan, Nepal Project under Codex Trust fund 2 Project in June, 2019.**

The Codex Trust Fund was developed by FAO/WHO, intended to enhance participation of countries in the Codex work. The Codex Trust Fund 2 (CTF2) which will run for the period of 2016-2027 is primarily focussed on building strong, solid and sustainable national capacities to engage in Codex. A group application of Bhutan, Nepal and India for Codex related capacity building under the CTF2 project was approved by the CTF secretariat. The project includes a mix of group and individual activities and will run for a period of three years. India being the lead country in this project initiated the implementation of the project with the following activities:

##### **4.2.1 Inception workshop for the Joint Codex Trust Fund 2 (CTF2)**

The 3 year Joint CTF2 project by Bhutan, India and Nepal was officially launched with an inception workshop, held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019, at New Delhi, India. The calendar for Year 1 activities with clear responsibilities for each country was chalked out in the workshop.

##### **4.2.2 Training on working of National Codex Structures for Bhutan and Nepal**

A Five days training programme for officials from Bhutan and Nepal on the Codex work and functioning of the Codex India was conducted at the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019. The objective of the training was to impart basic knowledge about codex and learning's from India's experiences in Codex work management. This will help Bhutan and Nepal develop a stronger national Codex structure within their respective countries

##### **4.2.3 Workshop on Chemical Risk Analysis Framework for Food Safety**

A Four days workshop on Chemical Risk Analysis Framework for Food Safety was organised by FSSAI from 21-24 October, 2019 at IITR Lucknow. The participants for this workshop were called from different premier government institutions of India, Nepal and Bhutan, with teaching resource faculties called from India, Canada, Germany and Hong-Kong (China).

Through this workshop, a pool of young food professionals from various premier research institutions/organization from India has been trained as future risk assessors, who could be very well utilized by FSSAI for facilitating

its risk management decisions on chemical contaminant found in food that pose health risk.

### **4.3 Hosting of Codex Committee meetings**

Being the Current Regional Coordinator for the Asian region, India successfully organised the Twenty-first Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA21) during 23-27 September 2019 at Goa, India. In the meeting, the following main decisions were taken:

- 4.3.1 The Committee identified several possible approaches that included - whole food chain approach; investing in training, education of smallholder farmers and improving accessibility and applicability to food safety standards and good practices; one-health approach; investing in data generation for identification, assessment and management of hazards; use of Codex standards and their adaptation to local contexts etc.
- 4.3.2 Discussions in the plenary also focussed on several other areas that included identification of critical and emerging issues and their prioritization for initiating further work; need to raise awareness on food safety in order to gain high-level political support and investment in food safety; assessment of the use of Codex standards in the region and need for harmonization with Codex standards to improve national food control systems; a mechanism (standard operating procedure) to strengthen regional cooperation (as prepared by India); identification of Codex work that is of high priority for the region; developing a 2-year activity plan for implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 in the Region;
- 4.3.3 The Committee also noted the proposal from India for development of a regional standard for traditional milk based sweets, and agreed that India could present a revised discussion paper in the next session of the Committee.

## **5. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

- 5.1.1 Due to the continuous growing demand for office and lab space etc. efforts have been made to create additional space for office, labs, training facilities, in house accommodation for trainers & faculty members. A multistory building at FRSL, Ghaziabad (now National Food Laboratory) is being constructed creating space of approx.. 7000-8000 sq.feet. In this regard, NBCC India Limited has been entrusted the job of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for carrying this project.

A temporary structure admeasuring approx. 800 sq. mtr. is being raised on the terrace of NFL, Ghaziabad which will be used to house Northern Regional Office, presently on rent.

- 5.1.2 After prolonged efforts, a land at JNPT, Mumbai has been allocated to FSSAI on long term lease basis. An import office for single window clearance and well equipped laboratory is proposed to be created for speedy clearances of imported food products at the premises which will also be constructed under PMC of NBCC.
- 5.1.3 To upgrade the infrastructures & in continuance of commitment to improve and create in-house modern laboratory testing facilities, the premises of NFL, Kolkata are being renovated and microbiology lab has been created. Creation of fully equipped laboratory is under process.
- 5.1.4 Efforts are on to create FSSAI sub-offices for the convenience of stakeholders and food business at different places which include Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kutch/Kandla, Vizag and Krishnapatnam.

## 6. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

So far 17 (05 basic, 04 advance & 08 special) courses have been developed. Total 195 Training Partners have been empanelled. 1667 Trainers Pool has been created. 2,11,000 Food handlers trained (Food Safety Supervisors). Manual course content for all courses have been developed. Manual for basic courses have been translated in 11 major languages. Audio & Visual, for Training and awareness programme, created for **Catering Sector**. To increase outreach, MoU with different agencies such as IGNOU, National Productivity Council, FICSI have been signed. Corporates are being encouraged to come forward for funding and support for FoSTaC. Some corporates such as HUL, Jubliant Foods, Nirmal Industries, BHEL etc. are supporting in form of Finance and mobilisation.

## Annexure-I

### List of FSSAI recognised NRLs and ANRL

S. N.	Name of the Laboratory/ Institution/Organization	Address	Specific area for which declared as NRL/ANRL
<b>Government Laboratories as NRL</b>			
1.	CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute	FS & AQCL Department, CFTRI, Mysore - 570020	Nutritional information and labelling
2.	Export Inspection Agency	27/1767 A, Shipyard Quarters Road, Panampilly Nagar (South), Kochi, Kerala 682036	GMO testing*
3.	Punjab Biotechnology Incubator	SCO 7-8, Phase-V, SAS Nagar, Mohali - 160059, Punjab	Sweets & Confectionary including Honey
4.	ICAR-National Research Centre For Grapes	P.O. Manjiri Farm, Solapur Road, Pune - 412307	Pesticides Residues and Mycotoxins
5.	ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	CIFT Junction, Willingdon Island Matsyapuri P.O., Kochi - 682029	Fish & Fish Products
6.	Centre for Analysis and Learning in Livestock and Food - National Dairy Development Board	Opposite IRMA Main Gate, Near Anandalaya School, Anand - 388001	Dairy & Dairy Products
7.	CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research	Vishvigyan Bhawan, 31, Mahatama Gandhi Marg, Lucknow - 226001, Uttar Pradesh	Toxicological evaluation/risk assessment of nutraceuticals, functional foods and novel/emerging foods/ food ingredients
<i>(*subject to implementation of GMO regulations)</i>			
<b>Private Laboratories as NRL</b>			
8.	Trilogy Analytical Laboratory Pvt. Ltd.	Plot No. 7, C.F. Area, Phase-II, IDA Cherlapally, Hyderabad - 500051	Mycotoxins in cereals & pulses, spices & condiments and related PT activities
9.	Edward Food Research & Analysis Centre Limited	Subhas Nagar, Barasat P.O., Nilgunj Bazar, Kolkata - 700121	Veterinary drug residues, antibiotics & hormones
10.	Vimta Labs Limited	Life Sciences Campus, 5, MN Park, Genome Valley, Shameerpet, Hyderabad - 500101	Water, Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages
11.	Fare Labs Pvt. Ltd.	L-17/3, DLF, Ph - II,	Oils and Fats

		IFFCO Chowk, M.G. Road, Gurugram - 122002	
12.	Neogen Food & Animal Security (India) Private Limited	Uchikkal Lane, Poonithura P.O., Kochi - 682038	Food Allergens
<b>Ancillary facility of NRLs (ANRLs)</b>			
13.	Export Inspection Agency EIA, Chennai	6 <sup>th</sup> Floor, CMIDA Tower- II, 1, Gandhi Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600008	Support facility as PTP in microbiological testing
14.	Export Inspection Agency EIA, Kolkata	101, Southend Conclave, 1582, Rajdanga Main Road, Kolkata - 700107	Support facility as PTP in the area of heavy metals in all food categories

## Details of Capacity Building programs organised

S. No.	Participating States/UTs	Venue	Date of Training	No. of Candidates
<b>A. Awareness program for accreditation of Laboratories</b>				
a	Maharashtra, Goa and Gujarat	Indian Rubber Manufacturers Association (IRMRA), Thane, Maharashtra	7 May, 2019	27
b.	Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura West Bengal	Administrative Training Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal	22 May, 2019	25
<b>Total A</b>				<b>52</b>
<b>B. SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMS</b>				
<b>I. Training program to support the development of Risk Assessment Procedure and practice in India focusing on Microbial Risk Assessment on Fish and Fish Products</b>				
a	All States/UTs	ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Kochi, Kerala	27-31 May, 2019	32
<b>II. Training program on Method of Analysis for Fortificants in Wheat Flour, Maida and Rice</b>				
a	All States/UTs	CSIR- Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore, Karnataka	19- 21June, 2019	15
<b>III. Training Program on Analysis on Mycotoxin</b>				
a	All States/UTs	ICAR- National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune, Maharashtra	27-30 August, 2019	14
<b>IV. Training Program on Basic Techniques in Microbiological Analysis</b>				
a.	All States/UTs	CMAT, National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	18-20 September, 2019	11
<b>Total B</b>				<b>72</b>



<b>C. GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMS - Good Food Laboratory Practices</b>				
a.	Kerala and Puducherry	Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI), Kochi, Kerala	11-13 June, 2019	31
b.	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha, Maharashtra (Nagpur, Solapur and Amravati)	ICAR- National Research Centre on Meat (NRCM), Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	25-27 June, 2019	30
c.	Gujarat and Maharashtra	Food and Drugs laboratory , Vadodara, Gujarat	16-18 July, 2019	15
d.	Rajasthan	National Test House , Jaipur, Rajasthan	29-31 July, 2019	29
e.	Maharashtra and Gujarat	National Collateral Management System (NCML), Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	17-19 September, 2019	20
f.	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand	CSIR-Indian Institute for Toxicology Research, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	25-27 September, 2019	18
<b>Total C</b>				<b>143</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B+C)</b>				<b>267</b>

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