

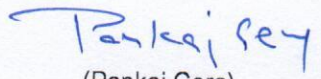
File No.15-06/GA/2020-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(GA Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated the 01st April, 2021

Subject:- Minutes of the 32nd virtual Food Authority Meeting held on 22nd December, 2020.

The Authority confirmed and adopted the minutes of the 32nd virtual Authority Meeting held on 22nd December, 2020 in its 33rd virtual Meeting held on 23rd March, 2021 with correction to substitute "Representative of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (M/o A & FW)" in place of "Dr. K K Sharma, Principal Scientist, on behalf of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare" under the agenda item 32.1(A) (2) (ii) and "Dr. K K Sharma" under the agenda item 32.1(A) (2)(iv).

2. Accordingly, the minutes of the 32nd virtual Meeting of Food Authority are being uploaded on the website of FSSAI.


(Pankaj Gera)
Assistant Director (GA)

Encl. Minutes of the 32nd virtual Meeting of the Food Authority.

**Minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Food Authority held on December 22, 2020
at 10:30 hrs through virtual medium**

The thirty second meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held at 1030 hrs on 22nd December, 2020 under the chairmanship of Ms. Rita Teaotia, Chairperson, FSSAI. The meeting was conducted through online virtual forum due to covid-19 pandemic. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Item No. I: Confirmation of the minutes of 31st meeting held on 20.10.2020

The minutes of the 31st meeting held on 20th October, 2020 were confirmed and adopted with correction to insert the word "amended" before the word "proposal" under the agenda item 31.5 (b).

Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 31st meeting

The Action Taken Report was noted by the Food Authority. However, special invitees had comments with reference to the draft notification on prohibition of use of mustard oil in blended edible vegetable oil and use of Rapeseed or mustard low erucic acid oil for Business to Business (B2B) use. It was suggested to submit the comments on the draft notification which has already been published for public comments.

Item No. III: Chief Executive Officer's Report

CEO, FSSAI in his report, simultaneously tabled during the meeting, highlighted the action taken and developments since the last meeting of Food Authority with respect to rolling out of FoSCoS; MoU with States; recruitment process in FSSAI; induction training programs for new employees; progress in notification of various regulations; and investigation on adulteration in Honey conducted by CSE.

Authority took note of the CEO's Report. The detailed report is placed at **Annexure-2**.

AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

32.1 FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS

(A) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR FINAL NOTIFICATIONS-

(1) Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011;

A. Relating to 2.2: Fats, Oils and Fat Emulsions-Standards of Shea butter and Borneo tallow

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

B. Regulations with respect to Soya sauce, walnut kernel, grape seed oil, exemption of imported expelled oil from refining, black pepper, dried sage, fermented soya products, oat products etc.

i) With respect to standards for Soyabean sauce, special invitees suggested to align the limits of TSS with Codex Standard. Advisor (S&S) informed that the Scientific Panel brought down the limit of TSS from 25% to 15% and the panel is of the view that there is no technical reason for further lowering the limit of TSS. However, special invitees were asked to submit their rationale, if any, which may then be considered as a subsequent amendment to the regulations.

ii) With respect to standards for Maize Starch, special invitees submitted that this product is being purchased as Corn Flour by the consumers, hence it may be considered to allow putting in parenthesis a statement "Commonly known as Corn flour" on the label. Chairperson informed that it is at the discretion of the manufacturer to give any additional information/description of their product to the consumers in addition to mandatory regulatory requirements.

iii) The standards for Oat products and Soy Dahi/Soy Yoghurt were deliberated in detail. It was decided to drop these standards from the proposed final regulation due to following concerns;

- a. the proposal of special invitees to merge oat product standards with existing standards for rolled oats which would cover all oat products; and there are gaps in the parameters viz., fibre, nitrogen content and acid insoluble ash which need to be discussed again.
- b. issue of nomenclature in case of Soy Dahi/ Soy Yoghurt, in the context of use of dairy terms, which is to be resolved by two scientific panels jointly.

With these deliberations, the Authority approved the final notification except the standards for Oat Products and Soy Dahi/Soy Yoghurt which will be referred back to the relevant Scientific Panels for reconsideration. Instead of making the amendments effective from the date of publication, it was decided to provide at least 180 days time as per the current practice before they become effective.

Further, CEO sought inputs of the members on the current practice followed for implementation of the regulations/ notifications i.e. 1st January or 1st July subject to a minimum of 180 days from the date of their final publication in the official Gazette. CEO suggested that an alternative formulation could be to implement the regulations/ notifications on 1st of every month followed by completion of 180 days. After deliberation, Chairperson recommended to place this as an agenda item in the next Food Authority meeting and to continue with the current practice till final decision is made in this regard.

(2) Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2020 related to MRL of pesticide, Tolerance Limit of Antibiotic and Toxins

The draft notification was deliberated in detail as below;

(i) Special invitees raised their concern that there is a gap in data as it does not cover the user industry and not in alignment with international practices which may lead to enforcement issues.

(ii) Dr. KK Sharma, Principal Scientist on behalf of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare highlighted the concern relating to the establishment of MRLs including the default level of 0.01 mg/kg; reverting the decision of adopting codex MRLs and the protocol followed by FSSAI for risk assessment and MRL fixation as was raised in their communication to FSSAI vide letter no. 17-6/2018-PP.II dated 10.11.2020.

(iii) Advisor (S&S) informed that point-wise responses to these concerns have already been provided to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare vide letter no. Std/SP-02/A-1.64 dated 21.12.2020. Further, Chairperson mentioned that letter of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare and FSSAI's response will be made available to the stakeholders, as per request.

(iv) CEO asked Dr. KK Sharma to revert to FSSAI in case of any further concern. Chairperson stated that FSSAI has responded to the procedural issues and risk assessment principle. However, if better data emerges in future, then it may be considered by FSSAI to modify the notification.

With these deliberations, the Food Authority approved the final notification, as proposed while noting the reservations of The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare on this notification.

(3) Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on sales) Regulations, 2011 related to incidental occurring of *Khesari dal* in grams/pulses

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

(4) Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 related to Basmati Rice (w.r.t to Moisture Content)

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(5) Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 with respect to new standards of Dairy analogues, and revision of standards of Butter oil, Anhydrous milk fat or Anhydrous butter oil and Ghee

While introducing the agenda item, as proposed, the secretariat proposed to revise the logo on the milk and milk product, including composite milk product as a white 'drop' of milk against dark background instead of the milk can as proposed in the notification (Pg. 81 of Agenda Vol. II). Thereafter the agenda was discussed as below;

(i) Special invitees, in general, pointed out that the final amendment regulations have undergone substantial changes vis-à-vis the draft notification and suggested to re-notify these regulations as draft for the stakeholders to review and provide comments on the changes incorporated. The Chairperson, however, highlighted that the required changes have been carried out on the basis of stakeholder comments itself and hence re-notification as draft is not warranted. On a special invitee's apprehensions about all dairy products containing non-dairy ingredients as well getting covered under the definition of dairy analogues, it was clarified that composite dairy products (as defined in our regulations) will not be covered under the definition of dairy analogues since non-dairy ingredients in the former (composite dairy products) do not replace any milk component in the product while in case of the latter (dairy analogues) a non-dairy component is used specifically as a partial or full replacement of a milk component in the product.

(ii) In the context of revisions to the standards for *ghee*, special invitees mentioned that various quality parameters, such as Polenske Value, specified in the amendment regulations would require costly equipment and increase the cost of compliance for FBOs; and that lowering of Reichert Meissl (RM) Value for *ghee* from 26 to 24 would further lead to adulteration. In response, the Secretariat clarified that test methods for the specified quality parameters used do not involve any

costly equipment; and the facilities to carry out such tests were generally available with the recognized laboratories and FBOs as well. In case of Butyro refractometer (BR) & RM value, the extant regulations specify different values for each State and the same cannot be enforced due to the large scale transport of feed, animal and milk from State to State and hence, uniform standards/ values across pan-India have been proposed now. Secretariat further informed that the adulteration issue was discussed in detail by the Scientific Panel and accordingly it suggested a combination of quality parameters, including the Polenske Value in the revised standards since RM Value and BR Reading alone were not adequate to address the menace of adulteration.

(iii) Chairperson concluded the discussions by stating that the changes in the values of specified quality parameters are primarily aimed at encompassing the quality characteristics of milk fat in its natural form; and since the regulations would be enforced from 1st January 2022, industry has got sufficient time to create necessary facilities at their level too and enhance preparedness to be in compliance with the revised standards.

With these deliberations, the Food Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(B) ITEMS PROPOSED FOR (DRAFT) NOTIFICATION

(1) Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011

(i) Relating to 2.6 Fish and Fish Products

A. Replacement of Parameter 'Protein Efficiency Ratio (PER)' with 'PDCAAS' in 'Edible Fish Powder' Standard

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

B. Deletion of Parameter 'Total Volatile Base (Nitrogen)' TVBN from Fish and Fishery Products

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(ii) Relating to 2.9 Salt, Spices, Condiments and Related Products- Dried Sweet Marjoram

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(iii) Relating to Chapter 3: Appendix A, B & C

A. Removal of the existing note “for channa and paneer” for the food additives “SORBATES, Nisin and Propionic acid & its salts (calcium propionate, sodium propionate and potassium propionate)” in the food category 1.6.1 unripened cheese

B. Inclusion of BENEZOATES in the Food Category 12.9.2 Soybean sauce

C. Inclusion of “POLYOLS” in food category 14.1.5-Coffee, coffee substitutes, tea, herbal infusions and other hot cereal and grain beverages, excluding cocoa

D. Inclusion of TARTRATES in FC 14.1.4 Water based flavoured drinks

E. Inclusion of processing aid (Diatomaceous earth) as a filter aid for Honey under processing aids regulations

F. Inclusion of Calcium oxide as processing aid in dried Ginger

G. Inclusion of enzymes derived from genetically modified sources under processing aids regulations

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed. However, special Invitees had some comments with respect of the use of processing aid not currently listed in this proposed regulations but otherwise generally used in the processing of food products to which they were informed to submit their comments at the draft notification stage.

(2) Food Safety and Standards (Advertising & Claims) Amendment Regulations, 2020

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed. However, special Invitees pointed out that the extant regulations do not require FBOs to obtain any prior approval for 'function claims' and, therefore, listing of some 'function claims' for oils in the amendment regulations is uncalled for and raises a doubt whether any such claim for other products can be used by FBOs in the absence of listing of such claims in the regulations. . The special invitees were informed to submit their comments at the draft notification stage.

(3) Food Safety and Standards (Ayurveda Aahar) Regulations, 2020

The Authority approved in-principle the draft notification, as proposed. The secretariat's suggestion to follow a system akin to non-specified foods for registration/ licensing/ certification/ laboratory accreditation/ testing/ quality issues by setting up of an Empowered Committee by the AYUSH Ministry was also approved and may be suitably incorporated in the draft regulation before sending it to MoHFW for approval.

(4) Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages Regulations) Regulations, 2018

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(C) OTHER ISSUES

(1) Clarifications on the safety aspects of use of magnesium carbonate in pan masala and areca nut based mouth fresheners

Special invitees raised concern on the approach followed for evaluation of safety aspect of use of magnesium carbonate in pan masala and areca nut based mouth fresheners. To this, Chairperson directed to schedule a meeting of the concerned Scientific Panel and invite the representatives from industry associations to present their technical concerns/ justification before the Scientific Panel.

(2) Interim recommendations of the Working Group on Sajji Khar

The Authority approved the interim recommendation, as proposed.

(D) Ratification of final notification to amend FSSAI (Laboratory and Sample Analysis) Regulations, 2011 related to removal of inconsistency regarding two sets of laboratories mentioned in the regulation and those notified from time to time and the clause regarding the analysis fees for the food samples

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

(E) Ratification of final notification to amend FSSAI (Transaction of Business and Procedures for the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels) Regulations, 2016

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

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

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

32.2 FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

(A) Approval to the procedure followed for approval of RAFT Kit/Equipment/Method

The Authority approved the procedure followed for approval of RAFT Kit/Equipment/Method, as proposed.

(B) Ratification of RAFT Kit/Equipment/Method

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the approval for 54 RAFT Applications (33 final approvals, 1 provisional approval and 20 not approved). The

Authority also took note of withdrawal of provisional approval of 1 RAFT Application that was approved during 29th Food Authority meeting.

(C) Information on Surveillance of milk products

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

(D) Information on online Capacity Building Programs

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

32.3 FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

(A) Closure of offline Payment options – Cash, Demand Drafts and Treasury Challan for Licensing/Registration

The Authority took note of agenda item and approved, as proposed.

(B) MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for Strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the Country- latest status

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

(C) Status of FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2020

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

(D) Food Safety Compliance System – present status and way ahead

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

(E) Mapping of new standardised food products with Food Category System in FoSCoS for Licensing and Registration

The following concerns were raised by the special invitees;

(i) anomalies in mapping of some products like flavoured yoghurt.

To this, they were requested to submit specific discrepancies in the mapping of food products in FoSCoS.

(ii) need for obtaining license for every blend (formulations) of food additives and pendency to issue licenses.

ED (CS) informed that these are operative issues which are being deliberated in the meetings of Central Advisory Committee and to address the issue of pendency, a system of auto-generation of license/ registration for the complete applications except manufacturer has been put in place.

(iii) re-categorization of food products which leads to changes on label along with the modification in issued license which may require time for implementation.

ED (CS) informed that a generalized relaxation for the same may not be possible, however, any specific concern may be brought to the notice of the food authority.

The Authority took note of agenda item and approved, as proposed.

32.4 FOOD IMPORT

(A) Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding import of specialty foods for IEM and hypoallergenic conditions

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

(B) Requirement of Sanitary / Health Certificate for import of food products

The Authority took note of the agenda and approved, as proposed. However, special invitees raised their concern on the duplication of certificate and testing requirement of multiple agencies. Director (Imports) clarified that there will not be any duplication of the certificates and testing will continue as per the risk management system.

32.5 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate for the F.Y 2020-21

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

32.6 SAFE FOOD PRACTICES

Constitution of Food Safety Emergency Cell in FSSAI

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

ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR

1. Amendments to Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006

The Food Authority was apprised of the background in respect of the amendment to FSS Act, 2006. Chairperson mentioned that FSSAI response on the stakeholder's comments received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will be furnished to the Ministry. She also highlighted that as MoHFW is the legislative agency for the amendment in Act so if members have any comments, the same may be forwarded to MoHFW directly.


2. Concerns raised by Special invitees as any other business

- a) In the FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulation, 2020, the concern on 'Height of letters and numerals on Principal Display Panel' and 'Tolerance limit for declared nutrient' are still under consideration of concerned Scientific Panel and without finalizing these, the regulations cannot be implemented. Advisor (S&S) informed that the concerned Scientific Panels were not convinced with the labels furnished by the industries and may like to see few more labels for further examination. Thereafter, CEO mentioned that special invitees may submit more physical designs of labels available with them within a week for consideration of panel and then the decision of the panel may be taken up as an amendment to the principle regulations, if required.
- b) Special invitees requested to expedite the notification of revised level of vitamin B₁₂ which is under consideration of the concerned Scientific Panel. Advisor (S&S) informed that based on the recommendation of the concerned

Scientific Panel, inputs on the revision of limits have been sought from technical experts in the field of food technology and nutrition. If any revision is suggested by the panel based on comments of technical experts, it would come as an amendment. The decision on limit of Vitamin B₁₂ could be finalized by end of January, 2021.

- c) Special invitees requested to fast track the finalization of the notification w.r.t. exemption from conformance to minimum limit of calcium and magnesium for water used in foods and required to conform to the standards of the Packaged Drinking Water. Advisor (S&S) clarified that the direction will be re-issued for exemption and draft notification in this regard would also be processed in January, 2021.
- d) The omission of colour 'Tartrazine' from the food category of water based beverages in draft notification dated 26th October, 2020 is a matter of concern. In this context, the special invitees were informed that the draft is still open for public comments and they can submit their comments/suggestions.
- e) Prohibition of mustard oil in blended edible vegetable oil: It was requested to allow the addition of Rapeseed or mustard low erucic acid oil in blended edible vegetable oil as it serves the nutrition purpose. They were asked to submit the comments on the draft notification which is already open for public comments.

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 Teatota, Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. Shri Arun Singhal, Member Secretary;
3. Shri Mandeep Bhandari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;
4. Shri Ashish Gawai, Director, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;
5. Shri Atish Chandra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare
6. Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
7. Dr. KK Sharma, Principal Scientist, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare
8. Dr. Hemant Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat
9. Smt. Manjushree Narasimhaiah, Commissioner of Food Safety, Karnataka
10. Shakeel-Ul-Rehman Rather, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

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. Dr. Shobhit Jain, ED (CS)
2. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (S&S/QA)
3. Dr. Amit Sharma, Director (Imports)
4. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, Director (SBCD)
5. Dr. Sanu Jacob, Director (Quality Assurance)

6. Shri Sharad Agrawal, Director (Training)
7. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA)
8. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Head (Regulations)
9. Shri AK Chanana, Head (IT)
10. Shri R. K. Mittal, Head (RCD)
11. Dr. A.C. Mishra, Joint Director (S&S)
12. Dr. Vijay Pal Singh, Joint Director (SBCD)
13. Shri PushpVanam, Joint Director (S&S)
14. Dr. Inderjeet Singh Hura, Joint Director (S&S)
15. Shri P. Karthikeyan, Deputy Director (Codex/ Regulation)
16. Dr S. C. Khurana, Lead expert
17. Smt. Veenu Taneja, Assistant Director, (S&S)
18. Ms. Ritu Saxena, Assistant Director, (SBCD)
19. Shri Akhilesh Gupta, Assistant Director, (RCD)
20. Ms. Ratna Shrivastava, Sci. IV(I) (Regulations)
21. Ms. Kanika Aggarwal, Technical Officer (QA)
22. Ms Aiman Zaidi, Technical Officer (S&S)
23. Ms. Navneet Kaur, Technical Officer (S&S)
24. Mohd. Amir Parray, Technical Officer (S&S)
25. Ms. Hiya Pandey, Technical Officer (RCD)
26. Ms. Ashwathi, Technical Officer (IC)

32nd Meeting of Food Authority to be held on 22.12.2020 CEO's Detailed Report- (As Tabled)

1. FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS

1. Scientific Committee, Scientific Panel and the Work on Standard Setting after the 31st Food Authority meeting held on 20th October, 2020.

Certain Scientific Panels met during the period and made significant contributions in arriving at draft and final standards and suggestions on issues of food safety. Various recommendations made by these panels were deliberated in the meeting of Scientific Committee and are placed in the Agenda for the approval of the Food Authority.

1.1 Scientific Committee meetings (1): The thirty sixth (36th) meeting of the Scientific Committee was held on 25.11.2020.

1.2 Scientific Panel meetings: Following Panels met during the period:

- i) **Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings , Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food:** 47th meeting of the Panel held on 13.11.2020
- ii) **Scientific Panel on Pesticides Residues:** 63rd meeting of the Panel held on 11.11.2020 and the 64th held on 04.12.2020
- iii) **Scientific Panel on Antibiotic residues:** 05th meeting of the Panel held on 13.11.2020
- iv) **Scientific Panel on Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other Similar Products:** 48th meeting held on 10.12.2020
- v) **Scientific Panel on Labelling and Claims/Advertising:** 33rd meeting of the panel held on 10.11.2020
- vi) **Scientific Panel on Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery):** 26th meeting of Panel held on 10.11.2020
- vii) **Scientific Panel on Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts):** 21st meeting of panel held on 09.11.2020
- viii) **Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products:** 14th meeting of Panel held on 06.11.2020 and the concluding session held on 25.11.2020.

ix) **Scientific Panel on Spices and Culinary Herbs:** 09th meeting of Panel held on 18.11.2020.

2. Five final notifications relating to amendment in the FSS (Prohibition and Restrictions on sales) Regulations, 2011 and FSS (Import) Regulations, including two new principal regulations namely FSS (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 and FSS (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020 have been notified in the Gazette of India. Nine final amendment notifications relating to articles of food have been finalized and are under the process of vetting and approval of Central Government. Eight draft amendment notifications have been published in the Gazette of India to invite comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

2. FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Strengthening Food Safety Ecosystem

2.1.1. Strengthening of Referral Laboratories

A grant of approx Rs. 3.50 crore has been sanctioned/ released to Central Food Laboratory, Pune towards procurement of two high-end equipment (GC-MS/MS & LC-MS/MS) under CSS.

2.2 Capacity Building Programs

In present scenario of COVID-19, online training programs including live training session (practical session) have been organized by FSSAI, and ITC-FSAN., Mumbai to utilize the period for all the laboratory personnel of State/UTs, FSSAI Notified laboratories, other laboratories, Food Safety Officers, FBO's, Export Industry, Students and Consumers. Total 35 online trainings have been conducted during month of October and November 2020. Total 6687 participants attended the training programs.

2.2 Milk Product Survey, 2020

A Pan-India Sampling of Milk Products (Khoa, Paneer, Channa, Khoa based & Paneer based sweets) was conducted by FSSAI on 12 & 13 November, 2020 during the festival period of Diwali to identify hotspots of adulteration. During this exercise 50 samples from each metro city and 5 samples each from other cities and districts were drawn and approx 3100 samples have been collected. The test results of samples will be available in due course.

2.3 Manuals on Methods of Sampling and Analysis

Based on the recommendations of the Scientific Panel on Methods of Sampling & Analysis and Scientific Committee, following manual & methods of analysis were approved by the Food Authority and have been placed in public domain:

- (i) Revised Manual of Method of Analysis of Foods – Mycotoxins
- (ii) Method for Determination of Total Count of Pollens and Plant Elements in Honey

2.4 Scheme for Approval of Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) Kit/ Equipment/Method

RAFT Applications received so far	113		
RAFT Applications ratified till last Food Authority meeting	Final Approval	Provisional Approval	Not Approved
	20	11	24
RAFT Applications placed before the Food Authority for ratification during this meeting	54		
	Final Approval	Provisional Approval	Not Approved
	33	1	20
RAFT Applications under review	4		
TOTAL	Final Approval	Provisional Approval	Not Approved
	53	11 (Approval for 1 application has been withdrawn)	44

3. FOOD IMPORT

3.1 Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding import of specialty foods for IEM and hypoallergenic conditions:

FSSAI vide direction 28.10.2020, has extended the earlier directions dated 20.04.2020 to allow the import through Delhi and Mumbai ports only of Food for Special Medical Purposes (i.e. Food for inborn error of metabolism and hypoallergenic conditions) as listed in the Annexure-A for a further period of six months from 02.11.2020 , i.e. till 01.05.2021 or till their standards are notified, whichever is earlier.

3.2 Vide order dated 09.11.2020, in view of reference from Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, FSSAI had informed that importer of pulses may carry out advance filing of Bills of Entry in Food Import Clearance System of FSSAI and the Authorised Officers were directed to facilitate and carry out food import clearance process on priority without delay for the consignments of imported pulses.

3.3 Vide order dated 03.12.2020, FSSAI had extended the date of implementation of Order dated 21.08.2020 regarding requirement of Non GM cum GM free certificate to accompany imported food consignments to be effective from 01.03.2021.

4. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

4.1 Number of FSS & FSS + COVID Training and Number of People Trained (20.10.2020 to 16.12.2020)

As per the mandate of Section 16(3) (h) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, FSSAI has started Food Safety Training & Certification (FoSTaC) for food business operators in May 2017. It was proposed to make a mandatory provision for having at least one trained and certified Food Safety Supervisor for every 25 food handlers or part thereof at all of their premises in a phased manner. Due to the outbreak of COVID pandemic, physical training gets a halt. However, the FoSTaC ecosystem promptly switched over towards the online trainings. In addition, special two hour training on COVID preventive guidelines was also initiated. Not only food business operators' training but the online training of food safety officers also have been initiated. Following table shows the number of training programmes for the given period.

S. No.	Sector wise	No. of FSS& FSS + COVID Training	No. of FSS Trained
1	Bakery (Level 1) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	12	280
2	Bakery (Level 2) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	4	62
3	Catering & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	219	7065
4	Catering(Level 2) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	88	3088
5	Edible Oil & Fat - Food Safety Supervisor	3	92
6	Edible Oil & Fat & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	3	133
7	Fish & Fishery Products & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	1	31
8	Health Supplements &Neutraceuticals Special & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	3	132
9	Manufacturing (Level 1) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	63	1506
10	Manufacturing (Level 2) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	134	3532
111	Milk & Milk Product & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	26	464
12	Poultry Meat & Poultry Products Special & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	4	152
13	Retail and Distribution (Level 1) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	74	3837
14	Retail and Distribution (Level 2) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	34	1525
15	Storage and Transport (Level 1) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	1	15
16	Storage and Transport (Level 2) & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	3	100
17	Street Food Vending & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	20	675
18	Water & Water Based Beverages & COVID- Food Safety Supervisor	16	479

	Total	708	23168

**Data on Number of COVID Training and Number of People Trained
(20.10.2020 to 16.12.2020)**

S. No.	State Name	Sector wise	No. of COVID Training	No. of People Trained
1	Bihar	COVID-19 Guidelines	1	10
2	Delhi	COVID-19 Guidelines	26	690
3	Gujarat	COVID-19 Guidelines	41	336
4	Haryana	COVID-19 Guidelines	3	17
5	Himachal Pradesh	COVID-19 Guidelines	5	39
6	Karnataka	COVID-19 Guidelines	7	218
7	Kerala	COVID-19 Guidelines	3	100
8	Madhya Pradesh	COVID-19 Guidelines	4	54
9	Maharashtra	COVID-19 Guidelines	20	636
10	Orissa	COVID-19 Guidelines	1	73
11	Punjab	COVID-19 Guidelines	7	51
12	Uttar Pradesh	COVID-19 Guidelines	7	323
	Total		125	2547

5. FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

5.1 Launch of FoSCoS

The Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) has been launched pan-India w.e.f. 1st November 2020, replacing the erstwhile and outdated Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS). FoSCoS functions on cloud based server with upgraded software and hardware and has resolved the often reported issue of slowness of existing FLRS portal. FoSCoS is envisaged to be the one-stop 'Compliance Portal' for food safety and in future will be escalated to have more modules for functional needs such as advanced MIS, linkage with InFolNet, hygiene rating etc. Module for filing of Annual Return, audit module, compliance module and search module has been incorporated in FoSCoS. Mandatory documents have been rationalised and many paper based declarations have been replaced with online declaration. The central theme is to enhance the ease of doing business for the food business operators without compromising. Only modules left to be migrated from FLRS is Railways and legacy data. New FoSCoRIS app has been launched. The aim is to position FoSCoS to enable pan-India integrated response system to any food fraud and ensure an advanced risk based, data driven regulatory approach.

5.2 Status of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FSSAI and States / UTs.

Under MoU framework, so far 25 States/UTs have submitted Work Plan proposals for 2020-21 highlighting the critical areas where both technical and financial support is required from FSSAI. Out of the proposals received, work plans in respect of 19 States/UTs have been finalized for release of financial assistance and the remaining proposals are under process. Funds for approved work plans are being released.

5.3 Mandatory online submission of Annual Return by Food Businesses wef FY 2020-21

Clause 2.1.13 (1) of Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 mandates filing of returns by FBOs (manufacturers & importers). In the absence of any online provision hitherto Food Business Operators are submitting it manually. Now, functionality of filing Annual Return online has been made in FoSCoS and FBOs are required to mandatorily file their Annual Return online w.e.f. FY 2020-21.

6. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

6.1 FSSAI is in a process of occupying 2425 sq.ft. space at Port User Building near Customs House, Mundra Port, Gujarat allotted by the Mundra Port, Gujarat on hiring basis for three years. Leave and License Agreement is being executed.

6.2 Recruitments in FSSAI: After the notification of Recruitment Regulations for various posts in FSSAI, FSSAI had advertised 307 posts under various categories through direct recruitment in 2019 vide advertisements - No.DR-01/2019, No.02/2019 & No.03/2019. The recruitment process of advertisement No.01/2019 and 03/2019 has since been concluded. Under DR 01/2019, four Directors have been selected out of which three have joined. Under DR 03/2019, six Food Analysts have been selected out of which five have joined. Under recruitment process DR-02/2019, a total of 275 posts under 13 categories of posts were advertised. The Computer Based Tests, written examination and Interview (applicable for four categories of post) has been completed. These posts are mainly Technical Officers, Central Food Safety Officers, Assistants, Assistant Directors (Technical & others). The document verification for eight categories of posts and skill test for one category of post is underway. The candidates are likely to join by the month of January, 2021.

Further, FSSAI had also advertised four posts (2 posts of Director, 1 post each for Principal Manager and Chief Technology Officer) in the year 2020 under direct recruitment through advertisement No. DR-01/2020. No candidate for the post of Principal Manager was found suitable. The recruitment process for Director and Chief Technology Officer has been concluded and joining formalities for eligible candidates are in process. Further, FSSAI is at advanced stage for recruitment of 37 posts at Pay Level 11 and 12. One post of Advisor (pay level 14) is being filled up on deputation basis for which offer of appointment has been issued.

7. SOCIAL BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

To scale up and sustain the Eat Right India (ERI) movement across the country, generation consumer awareness and social and behavioural change activities in collaboration and through convergence with government programmes in vogue are essential. With that in view a Steering Committee for monitoring, evaluation and to extend necessary guidance for effective implementation of various programs to be undertaken under the Eat Right India initiative have been constituted. An Executive Committee to undertake day-to-day task concerning ERI initiative and to coordinate with line Ministries/ Departments has also been constituted in this regard. The details of the Steering committee and Executive committee are annexed at **Annexure A**.

8. GLOBAL OUTREACH

8.1 Participation in Codex meeting:

India participated in the 43rd session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43) held virtually from 24 – 26 September, 2020, 12-19 October, 2020 and 5-6 November 2020. The commission adopted the following draft standards (proposed and prepared by India) at final step (5/8 and 8):

- i) Proposed draft standard on Chilli Sauce
- ii) Proposed Draft Standard on Mango Chutney
- iii) Proposed Draft Standard on Ware Potatoes

8.2 Other important texts finally adopted by CAC43 are:

- i) Revision of General Principles of Food Hygiene and its HACCP annex (CXC 1-1969) (work co-chaired by India)
- ii) Code of Practice on food allergen management for food business operators (CXC 80-2020)

Steering Committee for Eat Right India

Objective

The objective of the Steering Committee is to provide oversight and guidance to the Eat Right India (ERI) Program, ensuring that it achieves its objectives through implementation effectively and efficiently.

Functions

The Steering Committee is empowered to take decisions relating to the design and implementation of the ERI Program.

The Steering Committee may:

- Consider the ERI annual work plan and provide guidance to the Executive Committee to implement the annual work plan ;
- Monitor the implementation and results of the ERI and take appropriate action to ensure its progress;
- Provide guidance to ensure coordination between different Ministries for successful implementation of the ERI, including providing guidance and directives to relevant State Government Departments;
- Monitor the financial position and financial flows of the ERI;
- Do generally all such acts and things as may be necessary or incidental to carrying out ERI initiatives and achieving its objectives.

Proceedings

The meetings of the ERI Steering Committee shall be held at least once in every six months and at such time and place as the Chairperson shall decide.

Membership

The **Steering Committee** consists of the following members:

1. Chairperson, FSSAI as Chairman,
2. CEO, FSSAI as Member and Vice-Chairperson,
3. Director, Eat Right India as Convener,
4. Food Safety Commissioners (6 from big states and 3 from small states) for one year by rotation.
5. Representatives not below the rank of Joint Secretary from the following Ministries:-
 - i. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare,
 - ii. Ministry of Food Processing Industries,
 - iii. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,
 - iv. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries ,Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
 - v. Department of Food &Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & public Distribution,
 - vi. Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer affairs, Food & Public Distribution,
 - vii. Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises,
 - viii. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
 - ix. Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
 - x. Ministry of Women & Child Development,
 - xi. Ministry of Education
 - xii. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

6. One Representative each from Training partners, Hygiene Rating Agencies /Auditors,
7. Three Representatives from Industry Association like FICCI, CII, PHD chambers, ASSOCHAM, AIFPA etc.

8. Three Representatives from Development Partners like PATH, WFP, GAIN, TATA TRUSTS etc.

ERI Executive committee

The Executive committee will be constituted within FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Under the guidance of steering committee EC shall facilitate and provide necessary authorizations on a routine basis for effective and efficient implementation of the project. This committee shall be chaired by CEO, FSSAI.

Functions:

- Approve staffing of the Project Management Unit (PMU) ;
- Guiding the PMU in planning and implementing the program
- Approving innovative/new approaches and initiatives under the program
- Monitor the project on quarterly regular basis.
- Appoint working groups for technical discussions
- Drawing from existing human resource- Staff appointments as per delegation of power
- Hiring of consultants
- Providing financial approval as per the delegation of authority

Proceedings

The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least once in a month and at such time and place as the Chairperson shall decide.

Membership

The members of the **Steering Committee** are as follows:

1. CEO, FSSAI, as Chairperson
2. Director, Eat Right India, Convener

Members:-

- Executive Director(Finance)
- Executive Director(Compliance Strategy)
- Head (Regulatory Compliance Division)
- Advisor (Quality Assurance Division)
- Director (Training)

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