



# Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

NEWSLETTER Issue-6  
February, 2016



Building **healthy** INDIA with **safe** food

सुरक्षित आहार, स्वास्थ्य का आधार

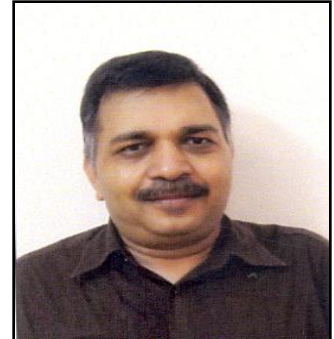


## Message from the CEO

Dear Friends,

I am happy to inform you that the FSSAI has recently taken several measures to step up outreach, including, significantly to a section which had hitherto remained largely untapped in our messaging approach.

Given the popularity of our many street foods, the FSSAI has begun the process of training street vendors in aspects of safe food and hygiene so that they may improve the quality of their offerings.



Being conducted in partnership with the Tourism & Hospitality Sector Skill Council, an affiliate of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), this skill development exercise of the FSSAI is currently on in Delhi. It will soon be replicated in other centers.

It is our belief that this endeavor will not just raise the safety and health standards of foods sold on streets across India but also contribute in a big way to the social and economic uplift of roadside vendors. With the street-sellers being provided training under the *Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana* (PMKVY) scheme of the Government, these people may use this new learning and skills to improve their stations in life.

You would, moreover, be happy to know that as part of our awareness drive, the FSSAI is now planning to proactively engage with schools and colleges to make students aware of food safety and standards. Efforts are also on to work closely with industry bodies and international organizations to introduce best-in-class food safety practices in India.

In keeping with our objective of striking a perfect balance between facilitating businesses and watching out for the interests of consumers, the FSSAI has been strengthening its operational methods so that it may do equal justice to both roles. Our Chairperson Shri Ashish Bahuguna and other respected Members of the Food Authority are advising us on this aspect.

Capacity building within FSSAI has been stepped up to keep pace with the requirements of a constantly evolving business landscape. As a result, training programs have now not just become more frequent, but also more focused. A culture that embraces learning is gradually taking roots among all levels within the FSSAI hierarchy.

At the FSSAI, we are deeply conscious of the fact that although we have made a lot of progress in recent times, much work still remains to be done. On behalf of the entire team at the FSSAI, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that we will not rest till our goal of making every Indian gain access to safe and healthy food is realized. For us at the FSSAI, the work goes on.

**Pawan Agarwal**  
Chief Executive Officer



### STANDARDS

#### 1. The following standards/regulations have been approved by the Food Authority:

- Finalization of Manuals of Methods of Analysis of Foods-
  - (i) Spices and Condiments;
  - (ii) Milk & Milk Products;
  - (iii) Oils and Fats;
  - (iv) Mycotoxins;
  - (v) Cereal & Cereal Products;
  - (vi) Food Additives;
  - (vii) Fruits and Vegetable Products;
  - (viii) Metals; and
  - (ix) General Guidelines on Sampling.
- Final (Draft) Notification on Gluten Free and Low Gluten Foods.
- Final (Draft) Notification: Limits of Heavy Metals in Food.
- Final (Draft) Notification on DHA & ARA in Infant Formula and Follow-up Formula, Isomaltulose, and High Fiber Dextrin.
- Final (Draft) notification- Use of Plant Sterols (Phytosterols) as food ingredient.
- Final (Draft) Notification - Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Packaging & Labelling) Amendment Regulations, 2015 w.r.to declaration of class titles w.r.to edible oils, edible fats & trans fats in various foods.
- List of Histamine Forming Fish Species and Limits of Histamine Level for Fish and Fishery Products.
- Guidelines for the scheme of Research & Development/ Surveys for food quality and safety.
- Inclusion of use of Ethylene gas for ripening of fruits.
- Revision of Standards for Silver Leaf (Varakh).
- Revision of Standards for Chocolate.
- Inclusion of Enzymatic degumming in refining process.
- Expelled/ Pressed Coconut oil imported in India to be exempted from refining.
- Redefinition of Interesterified vegetable Fat as Interesterified vegetable fat/oil.

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- Maximum permitted pack size for Blended Edible Vegetable Oils to be 15 kg including 15 litres.
- Standards for Fish and Fishery Products-
  - (i) Frozen Cephalopods;
  - (ii) Frozen Finfish;
  - (iii) Frozen Shrimp;
  - (iv) Fish Fillets;
  - (v) Smoked- Fishery Products;
  - (vi) Ready-to-eat finfish/shell fish curry in retortable pouches.;
  - (vii) Canned Fishery Products;
  - (viii) Sardine Oil;
  - (ix) Edible Fish Powder;
  - (x) Fish Pickles;
  - (xi) Frozen Minced Fish Meat;
  - (xii) Freeze Dried Prawns (Shrimps); and
  - (xiii) Clam Meat-Frozen.
- Fortified Milk.
- Fortified Edible Vegetable Oil.
- Standard for Edible Lactose.
- Inclusion of rabbit family, i.e. *Leporidae* under species of animal” in sub –regulation 2.5.1 (a) of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.
- Fixation of MRLs of 7 Pesticides on different crops-
  - (i) Tebuconazole;
  - (ii) Trifloxystrobin and its mertabolites (CGA321113);
  - (iii) Copper oxychloride as elemental copper;
  - (iv) Thiocyclam Hydrogen Oxalate;
  - (v) Flubendiamide and its metabolites;
  - (vi) Emmamectin Benzoate; and
  - (vii) Fipronil and its metabolites (MB-46513, MB-45950, MB-46136).
- Microbiological Standards for Fruits and Vegetables and their Products.
- Standard of Table Olives.
- Standard for Seedless Tamarind.
- Standards for Pasta Products.
- Standard for Oats.

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## 2. Meetings of Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels:

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE/PANEL	SR. NO. OF MEETING	DATE
Scientific Committee	20 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016
Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards	16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup> December, 2015 11-12 January, 2016
Scientific Panel on Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery)	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Contaminants in Food Chain	11 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Fish and Fisheries Products	8 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Food additives, Flavourings, Processing aids and Materials in contact with food	24 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup>	9-10 December, 2015 17-18 December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts, Salt, Spices and Condiments)	1 <sup>st</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic products and Other similar products	30 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Labelling and claims/Advertisements	19 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Meat and Meat Products including Poultry	1 <sup>st</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Method of Sampling & Analysis	14 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products	1 <sup>st</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015
Scientific Panel on Oils & Fats	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016
Scientific Panel on Pesticides and Antibiotic Residues	41 <sup>st</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016
Scientific Panel on Sweets, Confectionery, Sweeteners, Sugar & Honey	3 <sup>rd</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016
Scientific Panel on Water (including flavoured water) & Beverages (alcoholic non-alcoholic)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016

# REGULATION

<b>1. Final Notification published in the Gazette of India</b>		
a)	Fourteen Referral Laboratories.	Notified on 07.12.2015
b)	Maximum limit of bio toxin, poly cyclic aromatic hydro carbons and polychlorinated biphenyls in fish and fishery products.	Notified on 04.01.2016
c)	Standards for melamine in powdered infant formula, liquid infant formula and Other Foods.	Notified on 05.01.2016
d)	Standards for dried/ salted fishery products.	Notified on 11.01.2016
e)	Standards for proprietary foods (Urgency).	Notified on 12.01.2016

<b>2. Draft Notification published in the Gazette of India</b>		
a)	Draft Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration on food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2015.	Uploaded on 14.12.2015. Last date for public comments is 14.02.2016.
b)	Microbiological Standards for Fish and Fish Products.	Draft notified on 15.01.2016

<b>3. Draft standards uploaded on FSSAI website for WTO-SPS</b>		
a)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 and Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on sale) Amendment Regulation, 2015 (English Version) relating to standards of Milk and Milk Products	Uploaded on: 01.12.2015
b)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages Standards) Regulations, 2015 (English Version) relating to standards for Alcoholic Beverages	

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<b>4. Draft standards uploaded on FSSAI website for WTO-SPS</b>		
c)	Draft notification of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 prescribing Standards for Malt Extract, Expeller Pressed Flour, Lactic Acid, Baker's Yeast, Ascorbic Acid, Calcium Propionate, Sodium Metabisulphite and Potassium Metabisulphite	Uploaded on: 03.12.2015
d)	Draft notification of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 related to maximum limit of Iron fillings in Tea.	Uploaded on: 08.12.2015
e)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 related to standards for Packaged Drinking Water	Uploaded on: 19.01.2016
f)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 related to maximum limit of extraneous matter in Raw Pulses	
g)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standard and Food Additives) (Amendment) Regulations, 2016 relating to amendment in regulation 2.3 relating to Fruits and Vegetables.	
h)	Proposed Draft Food safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 relating to Cotton Seed Oil.	
i)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 (English Version) relating to standards for Proprietary Food	Uploaded on: 20.01.2016
j)	Draft notification of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 related to Microbiological Standards of Fish and Fishery Products	Uploaded on: 09.02.2016

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**5. Draft standards uploaded on FSSAI website for WTO-TBT**

a)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Imports) Regulations, 2016 (English Version) relating to standards for Food Imports for inviting comments/suggestions from WTO-TBT Member Countries. (Uploaded on: 29.01.2016)	Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Imports) Regulations, 2016 (English Version) relating to standards for Food Imports for inviting comments/suggestions from WTO-TBT Member Countries. (Uploaded on: 29.01.2016)
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**6. Notice calling for claims, suggestions, views, comments etc from stakeholders**

a)	Draft notification related to maximum limit of Iron fillings in Tea.	Uploaded on: 04.12.2015
b)	Draft notification related Standards for Packaged Drinking Water.	Uploaded on: 19.01.2016
c)	Draft notification related to maximum limit of extraneous matter in Raw Pulses.	
d)	Draft notification related to amendment in regulation 2.3 relating to Fruits and Vegetables.	
e)	Draft notification related to Cotton Seed Oil.	



# ENFORCEMENT

1. As on 09.02.2016, FSSAI has granted 24,091 central licenses while the States/UTs have granted 6, 67, 950 licenses and registered 27,16,522 Food Business Operators (FBOs) under the FSS Act, 2006.
2. Unit Run Canteen (URC) has been exempted from the purview of FSSAI licensing vide Office Order dated 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.
3. The 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016 at India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. CEO, FSSAI presided over the meeting.





4. Time line for the Food Business Operators for conversion of licenses / registration in terms of regulation 2.1.2 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Business) Regulations, 2011 has been extended upto 04<sup>th</sup>May, 2016 vide Order dated 05<sup>th</sup>February, 2016.
5. Notification of FSSAI's Designated Officer for Central Licensing under Section 36 of FSS Act, 2006 has been done vide Office Order dated 09<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. The provisions of the Order would come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 and consequently, Sub-regional offices of Lucknow & Chandigarh shall cease to exist for the purpose of processing of fresh application for grant of license.

## IMPORT

1. Notice for operationalization of Food Safety and Standards (Food Import) Regulations has been issued.
2. During the period (i.e. December, 2015 - January, 2016), a total of 9803 consignments weighing 16943.92MTS were cleared by FSSAI.
3. The top categories of food Imports in terms of quantity are Pulses, Oil, Fresh Fruits, Dry Fruits and Beverages in descending order.
4. The top countries in descending order from where India imported food in terms of value are Poland, Canada, Australia, Indonesia and Ukraine
5. As of now, for Ease of Doing Business,
  - i) Single Window Clearance System is operational at the following ports:
    - a) Delhi (IGI Airport, Tughlakabad, Patparganj) and
    - b) Mumbai (JNPT Nhava Sheva, Sahar Air Cargo)
  - ii) Pre-Arrival Document Scrutiny (PADS) scheme has been implemented from 02.02.2016 at all non-single window locations. The Standard Operating Procedure for PADS has been issued.



## QUALITY ASSURANCE

A “Training Programme for Food Analysts and other Laboratory personnel of State Food testing Laboratories under capacity building” was conducted from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 by FSSAI in the premises of TUV SUD South Asia Private Ltd Gurgaon. Food Analyst and other laboratory personnel of 5 State Laboratories participated in this programme. Total participants in the training were 21 including 4 Technical Officers of FSSAI. It is proposed to conduct such training programmes in various locations in the country in future.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Food Authority was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at the FSSAI HQ, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI. The meeting was attended by the Members of the Authority appointed as per the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.





# TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

1. **Designated Officers Training-** A 3-day training for Designated Officers was conducted from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2016 at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, APHO Office, Administrative Office, Near Radisson Hotel, Mahipalpur, New Delhi.



2. **Training under Capacity Building Initiative for Trade Development in India –** A 4-day Training of Trainers (ToT) on the subject of *Audit of FSMS Systems* was conducted from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 at National Agricultural Research Complex (NASC), ICAR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi.

## CODEX

1. First Shadow Committee meeting for the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of Codex Committee on Food Additives was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2015. The meeting was chaired by Advisor (Codex). Agenda Items were discussed during the meeting and it was decided that Core group of CCFA will meet and formulate country comments.
2. De-briefing meeting for the 2CCSCH, 19CCFFV, 34CCFFP, 47CCFH & 37CCNFSDU was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2015. The Indian delegates who attending these sessions gave brief presentations on the deliberations made during the meeting. Following follow up activities for these Committees were also discussed:
  - 2CCSCH: India to chair the EWG on preparing the revised draft of the proposed Codex Standard on BWG Pepper. India to chair the EWG on preparing the Discussion Paper on Grouping of Spices and Culinary Herbs.
  - 19CCFFV: India to prepare the draft standard for fresh date palm. India to submit new work proposal on Fresh Curry Leaves for discussion in the next session of the CCFFV. India to help Indonesia as a CCASIA Coordinator for preparing work proposal on Shallots. India to chair the EWG on preparing the revised draft of the proposed Codex Standard on ware potato.
  - 34CCFFP: India to participate in the EWG on preparing the discussion paper on Histamine.
  - 47CCFH: India to participate in the EWG on Revision of the General Principles of Food Hygiene and its HACCP annexure. India to participate in the EWG on Revision of the Code of Hygienic Practise for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
  - 37CCNFSDU: India to participate in the eWG/ PWG on the Review of the Standard on Follow-up Formula (FUF). India to participate in the Draft definition on Biofortification and Indian to also participate in the eWG on Guidelines for Ready to use therapeutic Foods (RUTF), once the Ewg is established.
3. Two Core Group meetings on CCFA was held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016, to discuss and formulate country comments on the Agenda item: Food additive provisions in Table 1 and 2 in food categories 01.2 through 08.4, with the exclusion of food categories 04.1.2.4, 04.2.2.4, 04.2.2.5, 04.2.2.6, 05.1.1, 05.1.3, and 05.1.4 (outstanding from CCFA47).

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4. Shadow Committee meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of CCFICS was held during 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri. Santosh Sarangi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce to discuss various agenda items. FSSAI participated in the meeting and comments on Agenda items: Draft Principles and Guidelines for the Exchange Of Information (Including Questionnaires) Between Importing And Exporting Countries to Support The Trade In Food, Proposed Draft Guidance For Monitoring the Performance Of National Food Control Systems and Revision Of the Principles And Guidelines for the Exchange Of Information In Food Safety Emergency Situations were prepared and forwarded to the Ministry of Commerce.
5. First Shadow Committee meeting of the 37<sup>th</sup> CCMAS was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 under the Chairmanship of C.E.O, FSSAI. Representatives from FICCI, EIC, IARI attended the meeting. Agenda wise discussions were held and preliminary comments on certain agenda items were discussed during the meeting.

## INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION (IC)

1. During the state visit to India of French President to India, an MoU has been signed between ANSES (French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety), France and FSSAI for cooperation in food safety on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at FSSAI. The MoU's were exchanged between the officials of the two countries the same day in an official ceremony held in Hyderabad House, New Delhi.

The objective of this MoU is to promote improved scientific and technical cooperation between the Parties and they wish to collaborate in the area of food safety, in particular, in risk assessment methodologies, food risk analysis, laboratories practices, methodology of total diet study.



2. A meeting with the officials from International Enterprise (IE) Singapore and Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) was held at 01.00 P.M. on 08<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 under the Chairmanship of CEO, FSSAI. The officials from IE Singapore attended the meeting at FSSAI, New Delhi whereas the officials from AVA Singapore joined in via telecon. The discussions gave preliminary insights on the issues related to import and product approval regulations of Singapore.

## राजभाषा

1. राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की तिमाही बैठक 21 दिसम्बर, 2015 को अपराह्न 3 बजे तृतीय तल के सम्मेलन कक्ष में श्री आर. सी. शर्मा, निदेशक (प्रवर्तन) की अध्यक्षता में संपन्न हुई। सदस्यों ने सर्वप्रथम पिछली बैठक में लिए गए निर्णयों पर हुई कार्रवाई पर संतोष व्यक्त किया एवं विशेष हिंदी कार्यशाला के आयोजन के प्रस्ताव पर अपनी सहमति जताई। समिति ने हिंदी समन्वयकर्ताओं के लिए पुनश्चर्या प्रशिक्षण दिलाने का निर्णय लिया।
2. 21 जनवरी, 2016 को विशेष हिंदी कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई जिसका उदघाटन मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी द्वारा किया गया। अपने उदघाटन वक्तव्य में मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी महोदय ने हिंदी प्रयोग को बढ़ाने तथा आम बोलचाल वाले हिंदी शब्दों के प्रयोग पर बल दिया। इस कार्यशाला को संचालित करने के लिए विशिष्ट प्रवक्ता के तौर पर श्री पी.के. शर्मा, उप निदेशक (कार्यान्वयन), राजभाषा विभाग, भारत सरकार तथा श्री राजेश श्रीवास्तव, सहायक निदेशक (हिंदी), स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय आमंत्रित थे। इस कार्यशाला में सहायक निदेशक तथा तकनीकी अधिकारीगण प्रतिभागी थे।



- मुख्यालय की वेबसाइट को द्विभाषी बनाने की दिशा में प्रयास किए गए हैं। इसकी झलक वेबसाइट के होम पेज पर देख सकते हैं।

## INFORMATION, EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION

### 1. Meeting of the Expert Committee: -

- 1.1 The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Expert Committee constituted in connection with assessing the proposals received under the “Scheme for associating Central / State Government agencies, consumers’ Organization, Non-governmental Organization and other Institutions including Government Universities / colleges working in the area of food safety for undertaking Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities on behalf of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)” was held on 28.01.2016 at 3.30 PM onwards in the Committee Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi.
- 1.2 The Committee recommended that the State level proposals received under the Scheme may be sent to the concerned State Food Safety Commissioner’s (FSC’s) for his/her recommendation. The proposals so recommended by them may be placed before the Expert Committee for further examination and recommendation. The proposals with national scope may be placed before the Committee for its examination and recommendation.

### 2. Mass Contact Activation Programme:

A Mass Contact Activation Programme in 08 Districts of Uttar Pradesh is being conducted by the Din Dayal Upadhyay State Institute of Rural Development (DDU SIRD), Govt. of Uttar Pradesh on behalf of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The aim of the Programme is to educate the stakeholders about FSSAI on aspects relating to FSS Act, Rules and Regulations, objectives, roles and functions of FSSAI, food safety and standards, common methods for detection of adulteration in food and how to report a problem in food etc. Till now, the programme has been saturated in Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar, Agra, Bareilly, Gorakhpur & Varanasi districts.







## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### **Films showing smoking scenes should be rated to protect children from tobacco addiction**

News release

1 FEBRUARY 2016 | GENEVA - WHO is calling on governments to rate movies that portray tobacco use in a bid to prevent children and adolescents from starting to smoke cigarettes and use other forms of tobacco.

Movies showing use of tobacco products have enticed millions of young people worldwide to start smoking, according to the new WHO "Smoke-free movies: from evidence to action", the third edition since its launch in 2009.

- Smoke-free movies: from evidence to action

"With ever tighter restrictions on tobacco advertising, film remains one of the last channels exposing millions of adolescents to smoking imagery without restrictions," says Dr Douglas Bettcher, WHO's Director for the Department of Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases.

Taking concrete steps, including rating films with tobacco scenes and displaying tobacco warnings before films with tobacco, can stop children around the world from being introduced to tobacco products and subsequent tobacco-related addiction, disability and death.

"Smoking in films can be a strong form of promotion for tobacco products," adds Dr Bettcher. "The 180 Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) are obliged by international law to ban tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship."

### **Movies hook millions of young people on tobacco**

Studies in the United States of America have shown that on-screen smoking accounts for 37% of all new adolescent smokers. In 2014, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that in the United States alone, exposure to on-screen smoking would recruit more than 6 million new, young smokers from among American children in 2014, of which 2 million would ultimately die from tobacco-induced diseases.

“With ever tighter restrictions on tobacco advertising, film remains one of the last channels exposing millions of adolescents to smoking imagery without restrictions.”

**Dr Douglas Bettcher, WHO’s Director for the Department of Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases**

In 2014, smoking was found in 44% of all Hollywood films, and 36% of films rated for young people. Almost two thirds (59%) of top-grossing films featured tobacco imagery between 2002 and 2014. That same year, the US Surgeon General reported that adult ratings of future films with smoking would reduce smoking rates among young people in the USA by nearly one-fifth and avert 1 million tobacco-related deaths among today’s children and adolescents. Many films produced outside of the United States also contain smoking scenes. Surveys have shown that tobacco imagery was found in top-grossing films produced in six European countries (Germany, Iceland, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom), and two Latin American countries (Argentina and Mexico). Nine in 10 movies from Iceland and Argentina contain smoking, including films rated for young people, the report states. The WHO Smoke-Free Movie report, in line with the guidelines of article 13 of the WHO FCTC, recommends policy measures including:

- requiring age classification ratings for films with tobacco imagery to reduce overall exposure of youth to tobacco imagery in films;
- certifying in movie credits that film producers receive nothing of value from anyone in exchange for using or displaying tobacco products in a film;
- ending display of tobacco brands in films; and
- requiring strong anti-smoking advertisements to be shown before films containing tobacco imagery in all distribution channels (cinemas, televisions, online, etc).

In addition, the report also recommends making media productions that promote smoking ineligible for public subsidies.

Dr Armando Peruga, programme manager of WHO’s Tobacco-Free Initiative, says countries around the world have taken steps to limit tobacco imagery in films. “China has ordered that ‘excessive’ smoking scenes should not be shown in films. India has implemented new rules on tobacco imagery and brand display in domestic and imported films and TV programmes. But more can and must be done,” Dr Peruga adds.

Link:<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2016/protect-children-from-tobacco/en/>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

S.N.	Event	Venue	Organizer	Date	Link
1	37th Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling	Budapest, Hungary	CODEX	22-26 February, 2016	<a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&amp;session=37">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&amp;session=37</a>
2	48th Session of CCFA and the Working Group on the General Standard on Food Additives (Working Group on GSFA)	China	CODEX	14-18 March, 2016	<a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&amp;session=48">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCFA&amp;session=48</a>
3	31st AAHAR International Food & Hospitality Fair	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi	ITPO	15-19 March, 2016	<a href="http://www.aahar.itpointia.biz/index.aspx">http://www.aahar.itpointia.biz/index.aspx</a>
4	10th Meeting of Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods	Rotterdam, Netherlands	CODEX	4 - 8 April, 2016	<a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&amp;session=10">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&amp;session=10</a>
5	30th Session of Codex Committee on General Principles	Paris, France	CODEX	11-15 April, 2016	<a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCGP&amp;session=30">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCGP&amp;session=30</a>
6	48th Session of Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues	Chongqing, China		25-30 April, 2016	<a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&amp;session=48">http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/detail/en/?meeting=CCPR&amp;session=48</a>





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*Training Programme of Food Analysts and other Laboratory personnel of State Food testing Laboratories*



*Training of Designated Officers*



*Meeting with Foreign Delegation*



*Mass Contact Activation Programme*



*20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Food Authority*



*16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC)*



सुरक्षित आहार, स्वास्थ्य का आधार

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**FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

**(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)**

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