

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Statutory Regulatory Body under the MOHFW)



NEWSLETTER

Chairperson's Desk (joined on 27.01.2012)

I am happy to lead a budding organization, FSSAI

Food Safety is a national priority and contribution from each of us is imperative. FSSAI has achieved a lot in a short period but synergizing a system into an absolutely new regulatory framework is a challenge to be handled with responsibility and commitment by everyone.

I thank the members of authority, panels, previous CEO, CP and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for their support, FSSAI shall strive very hard to achieve its goal during 2012 – 13.

K. Chandramouli
Chairperson



Highlights (Update Since Previous Newsletter)



- The Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Rules and Regulations notified. Act and Orders on subject also repealed simultaneously.
- 1st Chairperson Dr. P.I Suvrathan, left the office in September, 2011
- Shri. K. Chandramouli has joined the authority as Chairperson, FSSAI Jan, 2012.
- Shri. V.N. Gaur, CEO, FSSAI left for parent cadre on 23rd Feb, 2012.
- Linkages established with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for developing a training module on Food Safety for housewives and the young girls. Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad developed curriculum for Regulator and Food Handlers.
- Authority meeting held in month of March, 2011 and June, 2011.
- Central Advisory Committee (CAC) conducted as per prescribed framework on 24th May, 2011, 27th September, 2011 and 18th January, 2012.
- National Toll free Food Safety Helpline No. (1800 11 2100) become functional along with website.



ONLINE LICENSING

Licensing: Central Licensing / Registration and Food Import clearance System launched by CEO, FSSAI in presence of stakeholders viz. Export Inspection Council, Consumer Council, Food Processing Association, State Bank of India (SBI), National Institute of

Smart Governance (NISG), Logicsoft Team in December, 2012 simultaneously.

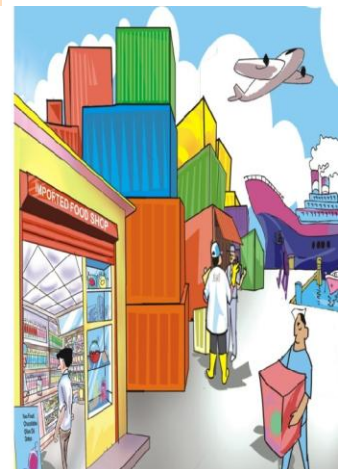
Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS) has also been launched in Maharashtra & Gujarat on 12.01.2012 & 13.01.2012 respectively. Delhi, Goa & Andhra Pradesh

volunteered for pilot implementation of Food Licensing / Registration System.



IMPORT FOOD SAFETY

- Director (Surveillance) joined FSSAI on Feb, 2012.
- FSSAI authorized officers stationed at selected International Airports/ Seaports for testing Imported Food Products in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, JNPT, Haldra, Kolkata, ICD, Dadri Tuglagabad, Parparganj.
- Guidelines have been issued to the authorized officers at the ports for speedier clearances.
- Draft Import Regulations are finalized for notification.
- Online Payment for samples of imported food articles operationalized. IT enabled Imported Food Monitoring System Payment be accepted through gateway and bank instrument and Real Time Gross Settlement) etc.
- Draft of "Reward Scheme for Information on Adulterated and Unsafe Food" prepared. The scheme will be operationalised after finalization within the scope of Section 95 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and it is being perused with the State Governments.
- An Expression of Interest (EOI) floated for preparation of Food Safety Surveillance Framework, and a draft request for proposal issued to the



SUMMARY OF FOOD IMPORTS AT VARIOUS PORTS

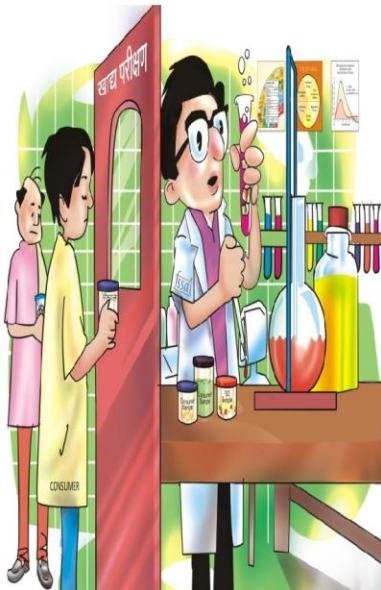
S. No	Item	Since April, 2011
1	Number of Samples Drawn	42979
2	Number of NOCs issued	42525
3	Value of Imports (INR- Crores)	26217
4	Quantity of Imports (MTs)	5738748

FOOD SAFETY COMMISSIONER REPORTING SYSTEM

Provides a facility for Commissioners of Food Safety to report the status of implementation of Food Safety & Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 to FSSAI.

The Online system facilitates the following-

- States report the status to FSSAI in a uniform and structured format and MIS report can be generated for decision making.
- A database on implementation status of FSS Act of states.



LABORATORY

- 32 NABL Accredited Labs are for Regulatory food testing in addition to 72 Districts and Municipal and 4 Central Food Laboratories (CFL).
- New Curriculum developed for Food Analyst Examination based on FSS Regulations. Examination was held on 8-12 Feb, 2012.
- FRSL, Ghaziabad under taking the analysis of different food product from the local areas of NCR such as Iodized Salt, Tea, Bis-cuits, Butter, Jam, Pulses , Fruits and Vegetable Products, Milk, Water, Turmeric Powder and Chilly Power.



REGULATIONS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

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- Flavoured Drinking Water
- Trans fatty Acids in partially Hydrogenated Vanaspati Oil
- Caffeinated Drinks
- Antibiotics in Honey
- Labelling and Claims
- Nutraceuticals Nutritional, Functional Food and Health Food Supplements,
- Alcoholic Drinks



PRODUCT APPROVAL

- Director, Product Approval has joined the Food Authority.
- The application format for the approval of New Product designed.
- New Product approval screening committee is constituted.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- FSSAI regularly participated in the meeting of CODEX Alimentarius Commission and its Committees. Shri Sanjay Dave elected as a Chairperson, CODEX Alimentarius Commission.
- "**Codex India**" the National Codex Contact Point (NCCP) for India, is located at Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare), FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi, India, and coordinates/promotes Codex activities in India in association with the National Codex Committee and facilitates India's input to the work of Codex through an established consultation process.
- Shadow Committees are working on subject matters corresponding to the Codex Committees to assist the NCCP in the study and which are for consideration of technical matters.
- Delegation from foreign like Ethiopia, Bhutan, Maldives, Belgium and Bangladesh etc. made visit to FSSAI and have shown interest in developing permanent linkages about Food Safety related issues.
- EU delegates met FSSAI officials and issues related to rennet in Cheese. It has shown interest in extending cooperation for capacity building and layer coordination in Food Safety Management System.

CAPACITY BUILDING

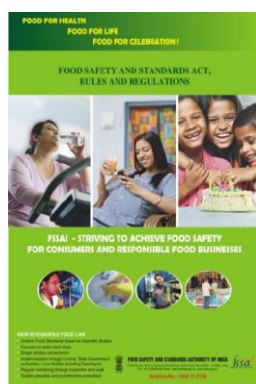
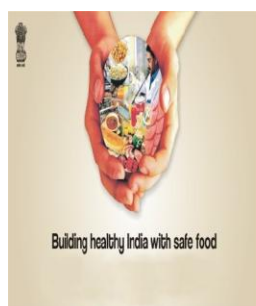
- Training Programme for the State/UT's Food Regulators (District Level Designated Officers) for 14 States and covered about 130 officials and also for States/UT's Food Safety Commissioners.
- National workshop with IGNOU to discuss HR perspectives. Action in hand to develop competency based system.
- Syllabi for Food Handler, Analyst was finalized in consultation with Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad.



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND PANELS

- **Scientific Committee and Panels** are in place for discussion and finalization of issues related to standards, product approval, novel/new foods, proprietary food, Nutraceuticals and labelling and claims.
- Meeting of the Scientific Committee discussed the issues and a few recommendations were finalized as under:
- Standards for Trans Fatty Acids
- Addition of Oligofructose, Trehalose, phytosterols esters and Sodium Iron (III) Ethylene Diamine tetra Acetate, Trihydrate (Sodium Ferredetate-Na Fe EDTA) in various food products.
- Amendment to Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 with regard to Maximum Residues Limits of Pesticides.
- Ban on use of Potassium Bromate as Food Additive.
- Use of Carboxymethyl Cellulose as an Emulsifying and Stabilizing Agent in Chocolates, Dressing and Sauces.
- Labelling Requirement of Monosodium Glutamate with regard to warning in respect of use by infant below 12 months. .
- Use of Polydextrose (INS 1200) in Carbonated and non carbonated beverages.
- Recommendation of **Scientific Panels** on Functional Foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other Similar Products regulation for Nutraceuticals, nutritionals, functional foods, Novel Foods and health food Supplements
- Blue tinted plastic containers used for bulk packaging of mineral water and packaged drinking water

INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION



- National Survey/Surveillance carried out on milk and honey. Survey on Iodised Salt is in Progress.
- FSSAI with West Bengal Government has organized a national level consultation on developing a mechanism for safety on Food and Water sold in Public places.
- FSSAI portal (fssai.gov.in) is under revamp, incorporating modern practices.
- IEC and other creative material developed in association with advertisement agencies and different media for awareness for various Stakeholders and the general public. The media awareness programme on Food Safety in print (newspapers/periodicals) electronic media (AIR, Doordarshan and other entertainment TV channels), NGO's i.e. All India Women Conferences at Delhi, , Bangalore and Hyderabad.
- Radio jingles released PAN India in FM Radio (AIR and Private Channels) in multi languages through DAVP.
- Video footage of FSSAI advertisement in TV channels and in Digital Cinema PAN India through DAVP .
- FSSAI participated in the International Food Fair and Hospitality Event-**AHAAR**, 2012 at New Delhi.
- MOU with Consumer Association of India (CAI) for outreach programme on Food safety . Communication Research Project under Finalization.

LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE

- FSSAI Library and Resource Centre (LRC) inaugurated by Shri. P.I. Suvrathan, Chairperson on 19th July, 2011 “Total Library Software System” was made functional.
- FSSAI Library and Resource Centre holds institutional membership of American Centre Library, Delhi and British Council Library, Delhi and also a member of DELNET.
- Library is subscribing the Online Legal Database namely “Manupatra”.

POLICY INITIATIVES IN PIPELINE

- Draft paper on surveillance of Food and Food borne Diseases.
- Laboratory Up gradation policy.
- Pilot project on Traceability and Recall.
- Framework for Food Safety Management System.
- Training Policy.
- Communication Strategy.
- National Surveillance Risk Assessment Centre.

PHOTO GALLERY



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