



Press Release

Saving food, feeding hungry, FSSAI launches the aggregation platform

New Delhi, 18.10.2017: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 26th March 2017 during his radio show *Mann Ki Baat* expressed his concerns about food wastage. He said *“Wastage of food is unfortunate. It is an injustice against the poor. Wasting food less leads to saving of resources. I know of several youngsters who are using technology and helping prevent wastage of food.”*

On the occasion of National Conclave on Nutrition Security Convergence and Partnership (16th, October) at FDA Bhavan, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India introduced its new initiative ‘Indian Food Recovery Alliance (IFRA)’ which is a coalition of food recovery partners in country to fight issue of hunger and also prevent food loss and food waste in India.

The food recovery partners showcased their existing models of food recovery and showcased an integrated web based platform that is being developed. This web based platform was released on a pilot level in which interested donors, individuals and volunteers can register to be a part of this initiative. After the pilot study, the main platform and mobile applications will be accessible for the registered people to donate food through online communication with food recovery agencies that will ensure proper distribution after reasonable due diligence. The donors will be able to track all the data, information and the status of the food they will donate through their personal logins. Also, volunteers from across cities will be able to register on this platform to be a part of this initiative. This platform will also provide guidance to citizens, food businesses and various food recovery agencies on prevention of food loss and food waste and safe recovery of surplus food.

In India, there are multiple food recovery agencies working in various cities on their own. No Food Waste, Feeding India, Indian Food Banking Network, Roti Bank, Annekshetra, Giveaway India, Robin Hood Army are few such names. Together, 12 such organisations feed on an average over a lakh people per day in more than 70 cities. Alliance of these food recovery models and implementation of a uniform operation plan will ensure pan India coverage.

During his remarks, Pawan Agarwal, CEO FSSAI highlighted that food waste and food loss is recognized as a global challenge, and also there is significant food loss and food waste in India. He underlined the need of an integrated approach of food recovery networks across India to combat food waste issues. He mentioned that this initiative is an effort to recover surplus food that is lost and wasted at various stages in India every year. Through this initiative several food recovery agencies will be able to work uniformly towards one common goal of saving food and distributing it to the needy so that India is able to eradicate hunger problems. In his address, he also

mentioned about the draft regulation on surplus food recovery and food distribution which was already formulated for safe recovery of surplus food.

Minister of State for Health and Family welfare Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey who was the Chief Guest of the day also appreciated the concerted efforts of FSSAI and food recovery networks to join hands for this noble cause. He also mentioned to inculcate the spirit of compassion in the society, so that each one of us considers it a social and moral responsibility to feed the needy and prevent food waste.

Through creating a network of networks from entities across sectors in India and leveraging the power of technology, FSSAI's aim is to create an ease of communication among all the stakeholders so that everybody can take a step closer towards reducing food wastage in a uniform direction.

For more details, contact:

Ruchika Sharma

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

E: sharmaruchika.21@gmail.com