

File No. 12015/02/2018-QA
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Quality Assurance Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

Dated: 21st June, 2018

ORDER

Subject: Time limit for testing of samples by Referral laboratories notified by FSSAI-reg.

Rule 2.4.6 of the Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011, *inter alia* prescribes that the Designated Officer, on appeal preferred by the Food Business Operator, shall, if he so decides, forward one part of the sample to the referral laboratory and the report of the referral laboratory shall be final in this regard. However, no time limit is prescribed in the *ibid* rules for submission of the report by the concerned referral laboratory to the Designated Officer.

2. In view of the above, referral laboratories are **hereby directed to send their analysis report within 5 working days after the receipt of samples(s) in case of chemical as well as microbiological testing and not more than 10 working days in case of sample(s) involving extended microbiological testing (e.g. clostridium spores in case of canned foods), with immediate effect** and until further order or appropriate amendment in the *ibid* Rules, whichever is earlier.

3. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(N. Bhaskar)
Advisor (QA)

To:

1. All FSSAI notified Referral Laboratories

Copy to:

1. Commissioner of Food Safety (All states and UTs)
2. All Regional Offices of FSSAI
3. All Authorised Officer of FSSAI

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Chairperson, FSSAI, New Delhi
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI, New Delhi
3. Advisor (Standards), FSSAI, New Delhi
4. Advisor (Regulation), FSSAI, New Delhi
5. Director (RCD), FSSAI, New Delhi
6. Director (Import), FSSAI, New Delhi