Dear Sir/Madam,

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has the mandate to implement the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and other Rules and Regulations notified under the Act. Regular laboratory testing of food items is critical to ensure food safety. The safety of food has assumed paramount importance during present times when supply chains of food are rather fragmented. Further, many high risk category food business, as per the conditions of licence, are required to test their products periodically. Besides, in some industries like dairy- FSSAI has mandated a scheme of testing and inspection which requires testing by laboratories on regular basis at various stages of processing. These test are required to be conducted in NABL accredited /FSSAI notified labs only.

To enable faster food testing, FSSAI has recognised a large number of private laboratories (in addition to laboratories in public sector) to meet the requirement of the food industry. Needless to say that these laboratories need to function even during the lockdown period as they attend samples not only from the industry but also enforcement samples from Food Safety Officers of state governments.

It has been pointed out by some laboratories that they are finding it difficult to obtain necessary movement passes for their staff and as a result, their functioning is being adversely affected.

I would, therefore, like to request you to kindly instruct the local administration to issue necessary movement passes to the staff of FSSAI recognised private food laboratories in your state (list enclosed) as per their request so that these laboratories are allowed to function during the lockdown.

With best regards

Yours sincerely

(Dr. G S G Ayyangar)

Chief Secretaries of States
(As per list attached)

Copy forwarded to: Food safety Commissioners
## LIST OF ADDRESSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name and State</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1.      | Ms. Nilam Sawhney, IAS  
Chief Secretary,  
Andhra Pradesh  
cs@ap.gov.in |
| 2.      | Sh. Vijay Kumar Dev,  
Chief Secretary,  
Delhi  
csdelhi@nic.in |
| 3.      | Gopishankar Mukim, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Gujarat  
csguj@gujarat.gov.in |
Chief Secretary,  
Harayana  
Cs-haryana@nic.in |
| 5.      | Sh. Anil Kachi, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Himachal Pradesh  
cs-hp@nic.in |
| 6.      | Dr. D.K. Tiwari, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Jharkhand  
cs-jharkhand@nic.in |
| 7.      | Sh. TM Vijay Bhaskar, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Karnataka  
cs@karnataka.gov.in |
| 8.      | Sh. Tom Jose, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Kerala  
chiefsecy@kerala.gov.in |
| 9.      | Sh. S.R. Mohanty, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Madhya Pradesh  
cs@mp.nic.in |
| 10.     | Sh. Ajoy Mehta, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Maharashtra  
chiefsecy@maharashtra.gov.in |
| 11.     | Dr. Asit Tripathy, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Orissa  
csori@nic.in |
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</table>
| 12. | Dr. Karan A Singh, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Punjab  
cs@punjab.gov.in |
| 13. | Sh. Devendra Bhushan Gupta, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Rajasthan  
csraj@rajasthan.gov.in |
| 14. | Sh. K. Shanmugam, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Tamil Nadu  
cs@tn.gov.in |
| 15. | Sh. Somesh Kumar, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Telangana  
cs@telangana.gov.in |
| 16. | Sh. Utpal Kumar Singh, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Uttrakhand  
cs-uttaranchal@nic.in |
| 17. | Sh. Rajendra Kumar Tiwari, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Uttar Pradesh  
csup@nic.in |
| 18. | Sh. Rajiva Sinha, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
West Bengal  
Cs-westbengal@nic.in |