

फ़ाइल संख्या RCD-01002/1/2021-Regulatory-FSSAI-Part(7) [E- 12168]
भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण
(खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत स्थापित एक वैधानिक प्राधिकरण)
नियामक अनुपालन प्रभाग
एफडीए भवन, कोटला रोड, नई दिल्ली-110002

दिनांक 20 मई 2025

(Notice for Inviting Stakeholder Comments)

Subject: Consultation Paper on 'Introduction of Fixed Renewal Cycles and Prolonged Validity for FSSAI Licenses' – reg.

The current provisions under sub-regulation 2.1.7 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, allow Food Business Operators (FBOs) to select the validity period of their licenses/registrations between 1 to 5 years. While the system provides flexibility, it has also resulted in non-uniform expiry dates and poses difficulty to FBOs in remembering the expiry dates particularly to those who are operating across multiple units and States/UTs.

2. FSSAI has received several representations to frame the policy for uniform expiry date and long-term validity period for FSSAI License and Registrations. Accordingly, proposals have been formulated as below:

- **Proposal 1: Introduce options for food businesses to choose renewal dates as per their convenience.**
- **Proposal 2: Explore long-term validity options (up to 10 years) for licenses under specific categories of food businesses under Trade/Retail head.**

3. Accordingly, detailed Consultation Paper on the above subject is enclosed at **Annexure-1**. Stakeholders may submit comments/suggestions, if any, through the Google Form (Link: <https://forms.gle/ZemTRFZq9MRGGsLd9>) along with proper justification/rationale within 30 days from the issuance of this notice.

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

Encl: As above



(राकेश कुमार)
निदेशक (नियामक अनुपालन प्रभाग)

To:

1. All Food Business Operators, Associations, Food Safety Mitra and other stakeholders.
2. Commissioners of Food Safety of all States/UTs.
3. Directors of all Regional Offices, FSSAI.
4. Principal Manager (SBCD) - for wider circulation through social media.
5. CTO, FSSAI - with a request for uploading on the FSSAI website.



**CONSULTATION PAPER ON INTRODUCTION OF FIXED
RENEWAL CYCLES AND PROLONGED VALIDITY FOR
FSSAI LICENSES**

Google form URL for providing comments/ suggestions within 30 days:
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCCKaAN47fIydUri4Ag260QVDy
OBFwz2OXaqVXXPQ493BwXg/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCCKaAN47fIydUri4Ag260QVDyOBFwz2OXaqVXXPQ493BwXg/viewform?usp=header)

Short URL: <https://forms.gle/ZemTRFZq9MRGGsLd9>

20th May, 2025
Regulatory Compliance Division
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

I. Background

Under the current provisions of sub-regulation **2.1.7 Validity and Renewal of Registration and License** of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, FSSAI licenses and registrations are granted for a validity period chosen by the Food Business Operator (FBO), ranging from **1 to 5 years**. FBOs are allowed to initiate renewal **as early as 180 days** prior to the date of expiry of license / registration.

Further, in 2023, FSSAI introduced instant renewals of License / Registration based on the self-declarations made by the food business. Consequently, the earlier provision for levying a late fee of Rs. 100 per day before the date of expiry [sub-clause 2.1.7 (4)] has also been discontinued.

II. Stakeholders' suggestions to further ease the system of renewal of FSSAI License

The existing framework leads to non-uniform expiry dates for licenses and registrations since **the validity of FSSAI License / Registration is calculated from the date of issuance** which makes it difficult for the food businesses in remembering the date of renewal and to further initiate action towards renewal of their licenses / registrations. This poses challenges particularly for Food Business operators:

- who have operations across multiple States and/or having multiple units within same state
- in tracking varied renewal timelines across different locations
- in terms of administrative burden for both FBOs and Licensing Authorities
- in terms of frequent requirement for renewing their licenses

III. Objectives and Expected Benefits:

Suggestions have been received from the FBO associations and Stakeholders regarding the provision for **uniform renewal date for FSSAI License / Registration**, highlighting its utility in standardizing internal compliance cycles.

The anticipated benefits include:

- Enabling FBOs to **plan renewals uniformly**, reducing the chance of missing deadlines
- Facilitating **bulk renewal** of linked licenses/registrations for FBOs having Head Office KoBs
- Enable the Authorities to initiate **nationwide awareness campaigns** around fixed renewal dates, similar to Income Tax Returns deadlines
- Organizing **dedicated Licensing/Registration Melas** by State authorities, particularly for small-scale vendors and hawkers, making them aware regarding the renewal of their license / registration

IV. Proposals to simplify renewal process:

Proposal 1 – Fixed Renewal Cycles for licenses/registrations

Food businesses would be provided with options to choose **standardised renewal date** for their FSSAI License /Registration as per their ease from amongst the following dates:

- 15th January
- 15th April
- 15th July
- 15th October

Implementation Approach:

- **For Existing FBOs:** At the time of renewal, the FBO would be able to choose any one of the above dates for the next renewal cycle. Rationalised Fee will be calculated based on the selection of date for next renewal.
- **For New Applicants:** FoSCoS would auto-assign the nearest upcoming renewal date as a one-time alignment measure. A One-time option to reset the date of renewal would also be provided with additional license fee for the differential period.

Proposal 2 – Prolonged Validity Option of License for FBOs applying under Trade/Retail head

FSSAI is exploring the provisions for issuing licenses with long-term validity options of **10 Years**, specifically for Kind of Business (KoB) under **Trade/Retail** head:

- i. Storage (Except Controlled Atmosphere and Cold)
- ii. Storage (Cold / Refrigerated)
- iii. Storage (Controlled Atmosphere + Cold)
- iv. Wholesaler
- v. Distributor
- vi. Transportation
- vii. Retailer
- viii. Direct Seller
- ix. Food Vending Agencies
- x. Importer
- xi. e-Commerce
- xii. Trader/Merchant - Exporter

Food Business operators who opted for long validity of license will be liable to pay differential fee in case Food Authority decides to increase in the License fee or if they modify their license from a State to Central license. Further, there will be no refund in case of modification from Central to State license.

Proposal 3: Fixing minimum validity of FSSAI Registration to 3 years.

In case of **Registrations**, a minimum three-years validity option is proposed to be introduced and option of 1 and 2 years be removed to avoid repeated reliance on consultants for applying / renewing FSSAI Registrations by small/petty FBOs. This means FSSAI registrations would be applied with the validity of **3, 4 or 5 years**.

V. Google Form for providing comments/ suggestions: Stakeholders are requested to submit their comments/suggestions, if any, on the proposal along with rationale through the Google Form Link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCCKaAN47fIydUri4Ag260QVDyOBFwz2OXaqVVXPQ493BwXg/viewform?usp=header>