



## **FSSAI to complete work related to standards and regulations in a year**

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**Ashwani Maindola, New Delhi**

The work related to standards and regulations will be completed within a year's time. This was claimed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), whose chairman, Ashish Bahuguna, stated at an event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) that the apex food regulator had expedited the processes for the formation of standards and regulations.

Adding that the basic structure, with regards to food safety standards and regulations, will be put in place soon, he assured the industry that the spate of regulations on food safety and standards will abate in the next six to 12 months, and added that the industry would be given ample time to align its products and processes seamlessly, so it can adhere to the revised standards.

"FSSAI has been coming up with new and harmonised regulations at a rapid pace over the past few years. And at this speed, the work on regulations is probably going to end in another six months to a year's time," Bahuguna said, adding that the regulator was working towards putting in place a basic structure with regards to the food safety ecosystem in the country.

Stating that the industry will be accorded sufficient time to comply with the regulations, the FSSAI chief said, "We also want the industry to have ample time to adhere to the standards and make itself ready to comply with the same. We will give the industry enough time to integrate itself with the standards."

Bahuguna added that FSSAI was ready for discussions on the regulations and standards with all the stakeholders, including the industry, consumers, experts, etc., and even for a review of the regulations that have been laid down, if required.

"We are open to discuss the regulations with the industry and other stakeholders and are even willing to revisit the regulations if required to do so," he said, adding that FSSAI assured the stakeholders that suggestions, ideas and issues, if any, would be addressed.