

Equinox Labs conducts FSSAI-mandated FoSTaC at Khau Galli in Ghatkopar

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E-paper

Equinox Labs brought its best team together and conducted a Food Safety and Hygiene training programme (commonly known as FoSTaC), which was made mandatory by FSSAI, at the Khau Galli of Ghatkopar, Mumbai, recently.

It was the company's contribution to the Eat Right India movement, launched by the country's apex food regulator recently in order to spread awareness about eating right and safe food. FSSAI launched the initiative, which will address three aspects (namely, Eat Safe, Eat Healthy and Eat Fortified), in the wake of the outbreaks of several non-communicable diseases amongst the youth and the elderly.

The Khau Galli opens in the early evening hours (at about 4.30pm), is open till midnight, and serves different kinds of food. About 30-35 food vendors participated in the training. More such programmes are expected to be conducted in the coming months.



“Popular food sites like the Khau Galli of Ghatkopar are visited by hundreds of people every day. The number skyrockets to even thousands on a festive occasion. At such crucial sites, even with a minor contamination, the scope of food-borne disease is immense,” said Ashwin Bhadri, chief executive officer, Equinox Labs.

“Equinox Labs has started with Khau Galli to create awareness amongst food hawkers that provide Indian cuisines to a large population. This way, we are targeting a large crowd, ensuring their safety and hygiene with a small

number of food hawkers. We are also planning to conduct more of such big and small training sessions in the coming time to create more such awareness,” he added.

Under the Eat Right India movement, FSSAI introduced two campaigns and expects every individual to join these and make a difference. The two campaigns are Swasth Bharat Yatra and Save Food, Share Food, Share Joy.

Swasth Bharat Yatra is a FSSAI-led initiative and supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. It is a pan-India cyclothon, which will cover all the major cities of India for over 100 days. It has been organised to create awareness on combating diseases like obesity, heart diseases and micronutrient deficiency. This campaign is assumed to influence the population and bring about changes in the lifestyles of people. Equinox Labs will participate in the three-day cyclothon in Mumbai.

Save Food Share Joy is an initiative working towards bridging the gaps between food recovery agencies, food donors, beneficiaries and volunteers.

The Indian Food Sharing Alliance (IFSA) is an alliance of food recovery agencies which increases their outreach in India. IFSA was launched by FSSAI to promote food donation and eliminate frequent food wastage and food loss in the country. This platform brings together people from different areas of work and helps them sync with each other to prevent the motive of food wastage and loss.

Equinox Labs, under its Donate A Meal initiative, arranged a total of 2,000 safe and nutritious meals over two days in Mumbai recently. The company collaborated with leading food business companies to sponsor the meal boxes for the event.

This campaign helped in providing meals to the needy and spread awareness about zero wastage and sharing food. The meal donors could either donate the food either for a day or become long-time donors.