Minutes of the 24th meeting of Central Advisory Committee held on 14th December, 2018

The 24th meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India was held on 14th December, 2018 at Conference Hall, Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), Rajpath Area, New Delhi. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at Annexure-1

The CEO, FSSAI extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Central Advisory Committee and Nodal Officers of Swastha Bharat Yatra. He also welcomed the New Chairperson, FSSAI, Ms. Rita Teotia and introduced her with members of the Central Advisory Committee. Chairperson, FSSAI showed her gratitude for being a part of this committee and thanked all the committee members for their support. The meeting began with the opening remarks of CEO, FSSAI and a brief round of introduction. The proceedings commenced as per the agenda.

Agenda No. i: Disclosure of Interest

The members filled-in and submitted the Disclosure of Interest forms.

Agenda ii: Confirmation of Minutes of the 23rd CAC Meeting

The minutes of the 23rd CAC meeting were approved and adopted.

Agenda iii: Action Taken Report

The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 23rd CAC meeting held on 07.09.2018 was duly noted.

Agenda No. 1: Food Safety Compliance

The agenda items regarding Food Safety Compliance were duly noted by the CAC members.

(a) Conduct of Food Safety Audit of 40 municipal slaughter houses all over India

In addition to the information given in the Agenda, it was informed that FSSAI is in the process of finalizing the audit agency and the States/UTs were requested to identify the slaughter house to be audited, so that the exercise is completed at the earliest.

Action Decided-

The States/UTs - to co-operate with the selected audit agency for conducting these audits successfully. The States/UTs may share the details of the slaughter houses with the agency under intimation to FSSAI.
(b) Identification of FBOs doing business without License and Special Drives for Licensing/Registration

In July 2018, FSSAI had requested States/UTs to carry out Enforcement Drive targeting non-Licensed Food Business Operators however information about the actions taken not received from States/UTs.

Action Decided-

States/UTs may direct Designated Officers and Registering Authorities to identify the areas to conduct Special camps for increasing the number of License/Registration. States/UTs are requested to act towards ease of doing business and conduct special drives for awarding Licenses/Registration in the camps on the basis of the documents scrutiny and inspections thereafter.

(c) Auto Rejection of License/Registration applications in FLRS in case FBOs fail to reply within stipulated time frame

FSSAI has received requests from States of Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu for auto-rejection of Licensing/Registration applications in FLRS in case FBOs do not respond to the query within the stipulated time of 30 days. The agenda was laid down for consideration of CAC members to implement the same uniformly throughout the country.

Action Decided-

States/UTs are requested to provide comments on the proposal for auto-rejection of License/Registration applications in FLRS pending with FBOs for more than 30 days. It was also decided that non receipt of comments within 15 days of issuance of these minutes may be considered as approval of the proposal.

Agenda No. 2: Food Testing and Surveillance

(a) Outcome of National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018

The survey was initiated in May 2018 through M/s VIMTA Labs with a huge sample size i.e. approx. 6000 samples for qualitative analysis and 1800 samples for quantitative analysis. The interim report of National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018 has been released on 13th November, 2018 and is available on FSSAI website. Broadly, the interim report suggested that about 39% of milk in the country is sub-standard but not unsafe and only 9.9% is unsafe. Thus, National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018 suggested that largely milk in our country is safe.

Action Decided-

States/UTs to go through the interim report and take appropriate measures to reduce the Non-compliance and to ensure availability of safe milk to the consumers.
(b) Strengthening of State Food Laboratories:

FSSAI is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for "Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country Including Provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs" (SOFTeL) with a total outlay of Rs. 481.95 Cr. The time frame for implementation of the Scheme is 2016-17 to 2018-19.

So far 30 State Food Safety Laboratories of 25 States/UTs have been taken up for upgradation including setting up 11 microbiology laboratories in 10 States/UTs. Proposals for setting up of 12 microbiology laboratories in 12 States/UTs are under consideration. A total Grant in aid of Rs.127.95 crore has been sanctioned/released for upgradation of these laboratories. States of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand to start renovation work at the earliest.

Action Decided-

States/UTs - to submit an undertaking within one month that they shall initiate the process of obtaining NABL accreditation for their laboratories within 3 months and obtain the accreditation within 2 years, failing which concerned State Food Laboratories shall not be allowed to continue as per provision of section 98 of FSS Act, 2006.

(c) Performance of Food Safety on Wheels

Advisor, QA briefed CAC members about the status of strengthening of State Food Laboratories as well as Mobile Food Testing Lab (Food Safety on Wheels) in the country.

Action Decided-

States/UTs - to provide MPR every month latest by 7th of the following month. States/UTs are also requested to engage requisite manpower and use FSW fully for testing, training & awareness.

(d) INFOLNET-Current Status

INFOLNET is an IT solution for Indian food laboratory network. As on 14th December, 2018, 117 Laboratories have been approved on INFOLNET out of which only 12 are State Food Laboratories. FSSAI has conducted 5 training programmes where 22 State Food Laboratories were trained on the system.

Action Decided-

State/UTs to ensure that their Food Laboratories are registered on INFOLNET.

(f) Training and Capacity Building of Food Testing Laboratory personnel:

States/UTs to nominate their laboratory personnel for the trainings organised by FSSAI

(g) Food Safety Magic Box.

The details were noted by the members.
Agenda No. 3: Social and Behavioural Change

The members noted the information given in the agenda and following actions were decided:

a) States/UTs to organize events to acknowledge the role and contribution of various participants who contributed immensely during Swasth Bharat Yatra.

b) States/UTs to disseminate the information about Eat Right Awards and Eat Right Start-up Awards among FBOs/Chefs/Professionals etc. and encourage them to participate.

c) States/UTs to encourage the Schools to participate in the Eat Right Creativity Challenge.

d) States/UTs to organise Eat Right Melas in all districts of their States/UTs periodically to encourage and make people aware about the ‘Eat Right’.

Agenda No. 4: Food Safety Practices

The information given in the agenda regarding verification of hygiene rating and responsible places to eat scheme by FSSAI recognised audit agencies was noted by the CAC members.

Any other Agenda with the permission of the Chair

NIL

The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all the Members present.

(R. K. Mittal)  
Head (Regulatory Compliance)

(Pawan Agarwal)  
CEO, FSSAI
The following members were present during the 23rd CAC Meeting held on 7th September, 2018 at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi:

A. Members of CAC:

1. Ms. Rita Teotia, Chairperson, FSSAI
2. Sh. Pawan Agarwal, CEO, FSSAI- Chairman, CAC

Commissioners of Food Safety from States/UTs:

3. Sh. L.R. Garg, Commissioner of Food Safety, Delhi
4. Dr. H. G. Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat
5. Smt. Pallavi Darade, Commissioner of Food Safety, Maharashtra
6. Smt. P. Amudha, Commissioner of Food Safety, Tamil Nadu
7. Dr. Abdul Kabir, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir
8. Ms. Archanaa Patnaik, Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha

Members from various fields (Private Members):

1. Dr. Sushil Kumar, Chairperson, Scientific Committee
2. Ms. Nirupama Sharma, Secretary General, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Council of India,
3. Sh. D V. Malhan, Executive Secretary, All India Food Processors Association
4. Sh. S.S. Marwaha, Coordinatorm Centre for Applied Agriculture
5. Ms. Deepa Bhajekar, Research Bodies and Food Laboratories
6. Smt. H.K. Sanhotra Joint Director (Health) Indian Railways
7. Sh. Prashant Tiwari, HEO, Indian Railways
8. Dr. T. P. Rajendran, Former ADG (PP), ICAR

Representatives from States/UTs:

9. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Designated Officer, Chandigarh
10. Sh. A. K. Singh, Designated Officer, Delhi
11. Sh. Ranjeet Singh, Designated Officer, Delhi
12. Sh. D. R. Chauh, Gujarat
13. Dr. D. K. Sharma, Joint Commissioner (Food), Haryana
14. Sh. Prithvi Singh, Food Safety Officer, Haryana
15. Sh. L. D. Thakur, Designated Officer, Himachal Pradesh
16. Dr. Vijaya, Designated Officer, Himachal Pradesh
17. Sh. Tasneem, Jammu and Kashmir
18. Sh. Chaturbhuj Meena, Food Analyst and Coordinator, Jharkhand
19. Sh. Arvind Pathrol, Sr. Food Inspector, Madhya Pradesh
20. Sh. Parag S. Nafarode, State Nodel Officer and Assistant Commissioner, Maharashtra
21. Sh. T. Brojendro, Designated Officer, Manipur
22. Sh. Khaba Meifi, Designated Officer, Manipur
23. Sh. Satyareet Singh, Designated Officer, Manipur
24. Sh. O.D. Sangma, Assistant Commissioner, Meghalaya
25. Sh. Tapeshwari Singh, Designated Officer, Patna
26. Sh. Sukhrao Singh, Designated Officer, Punjab
27. Dr. Dankaj Midha, Chief Food Analyst, Rajasthan
28. Dr. K. Shankar, Director, Telangana
29. Sh. Nitesh Kumar, Designated Officer, Uttarakhand
30. Sh. Ashok Kumar, Assistant Commissioner (Food) - Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
31. Sh. V.K. Verma, Uttar Pradesh
32. Mr. Rahul Singh, Uttar Pradesh

B. Invitees from Ministries/Departments:—
33. Dr. B. G. Pandian, Ministry of Food Processing Industry
34. Sh. Mahabir, Ministry of Panchayati Raj
35. Dr. Sutap S. Mukherjee, DTA, Ministry of Woman and Child Development
36. Ms. Deepika Mahalwal, ATA, FNB, Ministry of Woman and Child Development

C. FSSAI Officials:—
37. Sh. Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
38. Sh. Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (Codex)
39. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (QA)
40. Mr. Pitam Singh, Head, (Consumer Grievances)
41. Mr. R. K. Mittal, Head, (Regulatory Compliance)
42. Ms Suneeiti Toteja, Director (Imports/FFRC)
43. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (FSMS)
44. Sh. Raj Singh, Head (PC&GA)
45. Sh. Rajesh Singh, Director, Eastern Region
46. Sh. A K Chanana, Head (IT), CITO
47. Sh. Parveen Jargar, Joint Director, (Regulatory Compliance)
48. Sh. Daya Shankar, Joint Director, (Regulatory Compliance)
49. Dr. A.C. Mishra, Joint Director, (Standards)
50. Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, DD (Regulatory Compliance)
51. Ms. Pritha Ghosh, Deputy Director (Training)
52. Sh. P Karthikeyan, DD (Regulations/CODEX)
53. Sh. A. Rastogi, DD (Surveillance)
54. Sh. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
55. Sh. Madan Mohan Khantwal, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
56. Smt. Remya S Kumar, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
57. Sh. Akhilesh Gupta, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
58. Sh. Virender Kumar, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
59. Ms. Monika Puniya, Consultant, Assistant Director (Technical)
60. Sh. Ravindra Kumar, AD (PC&GA)
61. Ms. Archna Tiwari, Sc-IV(QA)

*Mistakes in the spelling of any name are unintentional and are regretted.