

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AND MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2017

1. New Initiatives:

- a) FSSAI introduced an initiative '**Save Food, Share Food, Share Joy**' to promote food sharing among citizens and food businesses of the country, on the occasion of "Tasting India: Farm to Table Symposium" held on 13th December 2017 at New Delhi. The initiative also targets coalition of food collection partners in country to fight issue of hunger and also prevent food loss and food waste in India.

Under this initiative, a platform called Indian Food Sharing Alliance (IFSA) creates a network of food collection agencies and brings together citizens, food businesses, corporates, civil society organizations, volunteers and government and local bodies in a coordinated manner to prevent food being lost or wasted throughout the supply chain, from initial production down to final household consumption.

- b) FSSAI signed a MoU with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) on 12th December, 2017, for implementation of FSSAI's Food Safety Training and Certification (FOSTAC) programmes through IGNOU network. IGNOU would act as an important Training Partner in capacity building activities of the FSSAI.

Under the arrangement, IGNOU shall harness its wide network of IGNOU Regional Centres and Study Centres to conduct Food Safety Supervisor training programmes related to Street food vending, catering, Manufacturing, retail and distribution, Storage and Transport and specialized courses located throughout the country.

2. Ongoing efforts in focus Areas:

- a) Notifications issued regarding:

- Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Third Amendment Regulations, 2017 relating to fixing of limit for Aflatoxin in Arecanut.
- Food Safety and Standards (Organic Food) Regulation, 2017

- b) **Awareness Campaign through Radio:** To create awareness about FSSAI's two consumer oriented internet portals i.e. SNF portal (www.snfportal.in) and Food Smart Consumer portal(www.foodsmart.fssai.gov.in), a Radio Jingle campaign is being run in 4 metro cities (Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata) for a period of 30 days (21.12.2017-19.01.2018).

- c) FSSAI showcased its initiative "Indian Food Sharing Alliance (IFSA)" at the 50th SKOCH Summit held on 20th and 21st December 2017 at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. IFSA received the SKOCH Order of Merit as well as Platinum Award in Safe Food Practices.

3. Strengthening of Infrastructure and support systems:

Notification of Laboratories: 5 more laboratories have been recognized and notified under section 43(1) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 by FSSAI vide Gazette vide notification No. 4083(E), thus raising the total number of food laboratories from 142 to 147.

4. International initiative:

India attended the 39th Session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) held during 4-8 December 2017 in Berlin, Germany. There were three agenda items important for India-“Review of the Standards for Follow-up Formula; Proposed Draft Definition for Biofortification and Proposed Draft Guideline for Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF)”which were discussed and deliberated at the session. India’s country comments on certain sections of the agenda items were addressed. However as the agreement on the draft documents could not be reached, and also due to time constraint, the Committee decided to defer the discussions on these items for the next session.