

RARD-11/1/2024-Standard-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

Dated: 28th August , 2025

Order

Subject: Constitution of Food Safety Risk Assessment Committee (FSRAC) for providing scientific and technical support.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has developed framework of national Food Safety Emergency Response (FSER) system which outlines multi-sectorial coordination, their roles, responsibilities and management actions during food safety emergency situation as envisaged under Section 16(3)(v) & (vi) of FSS Act 2006 which specifically mandates the Food Authority to search, collect, collate, analyse and summaries relevant scientific and technical data particularly relating to identification of emerging risks; and to introduce of rapid alert system. The framework of FSER system helps to ensure cooperation and collaboration by all interested parties and facilitates the sharing of information among responsible agencies. Such a system also enables food authorities to focus on prevention and preparedness, rather than only reacting to individual events, and therefore, has a greater long-term sustainability. The detailed framework of FSER system is placed at **Annex 1**.

2. Under this framework, Food Safety Risk Assessment Committee (FSRAC) has been constituted as a risk assessment body and shall be responsible for providing technical and scientific support both in normal or emergency situations. The committee shall provide preliminary information of risk assessment to identify emergency situations and their levels of severity in order to support decision making by the Food Safety Coordination Committee (FSCC) and FSSAI. The FSRAC comprises of following members:

1. **Dr. D. Kanungo**, Human Health Risk Assessment Expert and Former Additional DG of Health Services, New Delhi.
2. **Prof. Iddy Karunasagar**, Research Advisor at Nitte University, Mangalore.
3. **Dr. AB Pant**, Senior Principal Scientist, IITR, Lucknow.
4. **Dr. Atul Juneja**, Former Scientist-F, National Institute of Medical Statistics-ICMR, New Delhi.
5. **Dr. Suchi Chawla**, Resource Person, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Anand Agricultural University, Gujarat.
6. **Dr. B. Sesikeran**, Former Director, National Institute of Nutrition, ICMR, Hyderabad.
7. **Dr. Poonam Yadav**, Scientist -D, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India New Delhi
8. **Dr. DB Anantha Narayana**, Expert Member (retd), Indian Pharmacopia Commission, MoHFW, Bangalore

Note: - The Committee shall choose a Chairperson from amongst their members and the committee shall remain valid for a period of three year,

3. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee are as follow:

- Establish a system for risk assessment and collecting data in the case of emergency.
- Analyse the gathered data/information in order to perform assessment of risk, its magnitude and range of the hazards as well as emergency events.
- Identify and characterize potential food safety hazards, including biological, chemical, and physical hazards.
- Conduct urgent risk assessments in response to emerging food safety issues, such as contamination or foodborne illness outbreaks.
- Assist in the development of action plans, including recalls, product withdrawals, or public advisories, based on risk assessments.
- Coordinate with international organizations, national authorities, and industry to share information and harmonize response efforts.
- Provide scientific input to support enforcement issues, including evaluation of compliance with food safety standards, food quality, and labelling requirements.
- Provide advice to Food Safety Coordination Committee (FSCC) and FSSAI based on the risk assessment of hazards identified during food safety incidents
- Carry post incident review and evaluation and give suggestions/advices to further improve FSER systems based on gaps identified, if any, to the FSSAI and FSCC.
- Provide Scientific input for the cases related to Import Tolerance.
- The committee may also invite relevant experts as and when required for the meeting.
- The TOR may be reviewed annually to ensure its relevance and alignment with the evolving food safety landscape and regulatory needs.

4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority

(Dr. Alka Rao)

Advisor (Science & Standards& Regulations)
Food Safety & Standards Authority of India

To

All concerned members.

Copy to: -

1. PPS to C.P., FSSAI
2. Senior PS to CEO, FSSAI
3. ED (CS)
4. Advisor (QA)