

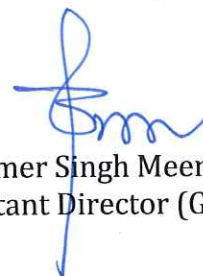
File No. 15-02/GA/2016-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(General Administration Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

The 17th January, 2017

SUBJECT:- Minutes of the 21st Meeting of Food Authority held on 26th May, 2016.

The Authority adopted the minutes of the 21st Meeting of Food Authority held on 26th May, 2016 at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi in its 22nd Meeting held on 20th December, 2016.

2. Accordingly, the minutes of the 21st Meeting of Food Authority are being uploaded on the website of FSSAI.



(Sumer Singh Meena)
Assistant Director (GA)

Enclosure:

Minutes of the 21st Meeting of Food Authority (fifteen pages).

**Minutes of the 21st meeting of the Food Authority held on May 26,
2016 at 1030 hrs at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi**

The twenty first meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held on May 26, 2016 at 1030 hrs at FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI. The list of participants is at **Annexure I**. Leave of absence was granted to the Members who could not attend.

2. Chairperson, FSSAI welcomed the Members of the Authority to the meeting which was followed by a brief round of introduction of Members of the Authority attending their first meeting and officers who recently joined the Authority. Thereafter, he requested the CEO, FSSAI to initiate and conduct the proceedings of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. I: Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting (20th) held on 27.01.2016

CEO informed that the minutes of the 20th meeting had been circulated to all Members. No comments had been received except for some observations raised by Shri Salim Veljee and Shri Thangalura which had been duly incorporated in the minutes. The minutes of the 20th meeting of the Authority were accordingly approved and adopted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. II: Action Taken Report of 20th Meeting of Food Authority

The Action Taken Report of 20th Authority meeting was noted by the Members. With respect to Agenda Item no. 20.33, Shri Salim Veljee, Member, mentioned that the procedure and protocols regarding the use of Ethylene gas at a concentration up to 100ppm needs to be prescribed in order to prevent its misuse /incorrect use. It was agreed to address this concern in the final notification.

AGENDA ITEM NO. III: Chief Executive Officer's Report

- (i) CEO highlighted the action taken and various developments after the last meeting of the Authority.
- (ii) CEO apprised the Members of the Authority about the efforts for

strengthening of FSSAI and informed that several senior level officers and technical and non-technical officers at middle management level have joined the Authority. Some more officers are likely to join shortly. Consultants have also been engaged to strengthen the areas of capacity building, consumer awareness and skill development where in-house expertise is lacking.

- (i) Further, CEO gave a brief overview of the work done in Standards setting, consumer advocacy, Project – Clean Street Food, launching of Mobile App, participation of FSSAI in AAHAR, training and capacity building including orientation of FSOs and DOs of Railways, Import activities, Codex activities and regulation of e-commerce activities.
- (iv) Referring to the issue of usage of Potassium Bromate in bread, CEO informed the Members that the last Authority meeting had already approved the recommendation of the Scientific Committee regarding the deletion of Potassium Bromate from the list of food additives. It was pointed out that this matter is now under consideration of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- (v) Sh. Thangalura, Member appreciated the steps taken by the Authority and suggested that awareness programmes be conducted across the country, especially in State capitals particularly from the North East. Chairperson agreed with the suggestion and stated that the budgetary allocation for these initiatives would have to be sourced from funds allocated under the Project - Skill India, an initiative of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. It was also pointed out that States would have to play a proactive role for availing such financial assistance, for which FSSAI would extend all possible help.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.1

(1) Development and Review of Standards-

Approval of Food Standards for final notification

- (i) Microbiological Standards for Meat and Meat Products;**
- (ii) Microbiological Standards for Milk and Milk Products; and**
- (iii) Caffeinated Beverage**

During discussions on the above agenda, some Members made the following observations:

- (i) Ms. Meetu Kapur, Member, raised issue of process hygiene criteria in respect of fresh, chilled and frozen meat and proposed that the microbiological standards for chilled meat be aligned with the microbiological standards for fresh meat. After detailed discussions, the Authority agreed to align the microbiological standards for chilled and fresh meat.
- (ii) Ms Meetu Kapur, Member, appreciated the efforts of the Authority towards framing of Microbiological Standards for Milk and Milk Products. However, she and Ms Shreya Pandey, Member, raised their concern on process hygiene criteria in respect of Paneer and Ice cream categories and suggested that the maximum permissible coliform count for both these products may be reduced since Industry may find it difficult to comply with proposed standards. Since the standards relate to safety, the Authority, after detailed discussions, decided not to modify the standards but agreed to allow one-year period for industry to implement these standards.
- (iii) Regarding Caffeinated Beverage, it was informed to the Authority that this regulation had already been finalized by the Authority in the past. It was explained that in view of concerns raised about the safety of this product, the standard was revisited by the Scientific Panel/Committee and based on the literature available on the safe limit for caffeine, the Panel proposed to reduce the maximum permissible limit from 320 to 300 ppm.

The Authority considered the agenda and approved the final notifications for all the above three product categories as per the above modifications.

(2) Approval of Food Standards for draft notification of:

(a) Revision of existing Standards

- (i) Inclusion of limits of parameters in the Standards of Cinnamon and Cassia;
- (ii) Fortified Atta/Maida;
- (iii) Sago;
- (iv) Renaming of "Linseed Oil" Standard as "Flaxseed/Linseed Oil";



- (v) Editorial correction in "Rapeseed Oil or Mustard Oil -low erucic acid" Standard;
- (vi) Cocoa butter;
- (vii) Palm Oil and Palm Kernel Oil;
- (viii) Beverages Non-Alcoholic-Carbonated;
- (ix) Carbonated Fruit Beverages or Fruit Drinks;
- (x) Labelling provisions of water based products which were not for human consumption.

During discussions on the above proposals for revision of existing standards, Members made the following observations:

- a) Ms. Shreya Pandey mentioned that the proposed use of high amounts of iron and vitamin B-complex for fortification in atta/maida is contrary to the recommendation of WHO. It was agreed to examine this issue. She also suggested that specific limits for use of iron and vitamin B-complex may be prescribed instead of a range, which was not agreed to.
- b) Ms. Shreya Pandey suggested formulating a separate standard for Beverage -Non-alcoholic- Non-carbonated instead of keeping it under proposed single standard i.e. Beverage (Non-alcoholic) and the same was agreed to by the Authority.

The Authority considered the agenda and approved the agenda on revision of existing Standards accordingly except labelling of water based products which were not for human consumption since these were beyond the purview of FSSAI. This item was withdrawn and it was decided to refer this matter to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution for necessary action at their end.

(b) New Standards

- (i) Vanilla;
- (ii) Coconut Milk;
- (iii) Coconut Cream;
- (iv) Dried Apricots;
- (v) Cocoa Beans;

- (vi) Areca nuts/Betel nuts/Supari;
- (vii) Fixation of MRLs of Pesticides;
- (viii) Adoption of Codex Standards;
- (ix) Durum Wheat Maida;
- (x) Pearl Millet Flour;
- (xi) Fortification of Rice;
- (xii) Quinoa;
- (xiii) Instant Noodles and Seasoning (for noodles and pasta);
- (xiv) Virgin Coconut Oil;
- (xv) Peanut Butter;
- (xvi) Fixing the limits of HCN in Sago;
- (xvii) Approval of additional additives/enzymes /processing aids for use in Category 14.2 (Alcoholic beverages, including alcohol-free and low-alcoholic counterparts); and
- (xviii) Adopting 46 BIS Standards for Food Additives.

The Food Authority considered the agenda and approved the recommendations of the Scientific Committee on the above proposed new standards.

(3) Miscellaneous: -

(a) Constitution of Assessment Committee for selection of Members of Scientific Committee / Panels;

- (i) Advisor (Standards) briefed the Members of the Authority on the status of EOIs received in respect of selection of Members of Scientific Committee /Panels. It was also informed that till date applications from nearly 400 experts for positions in various Scientific Panels/Committee have been received.
- (ii) For Constitution of Assessment Committee for selection of Members of Scientific Committee /Panels, a 3 member sub-committee was constituted comprising following Members -
 - a) Dr GS Toteja;
 - b) Dr (Mrs) Lalitha Gowda; and
 - c) One representative from FSSAI to be nominated by Chairperson.
- (iii) The above Committee would examine the applications received for the Assessment Committee and would recommend the name of the Chairman

gm

and Members which would be finalized with the approval of Chairperson of the Food Authority.

(b) Clarification on use of Monosodium Glutamate as flavour enhancer in seasoning for Noodles and Pastas (dated 30.03.2016)

The Authority took note of the information and approved the action taken.

(c) Operationalisation of Standards

The Authority took note of the information and approved the action taken.

(d) Workshop on 'Fixation of Maximum Residues Levels for Pesticides, Veterinary Drugs and Antibiotics in foods prepared from Animals, Poultry, Fish and Processed foods.

The Authority took note of the agenda item.

(e) The Food Safety and Standards (Pre-Standardization Permission and Licensing for Non-Standardized Food) Regulation, 2016 (Draft Notification).

The agenda item was considered and approved in-principle by the Authority. CEO requested all Members to send their comments, if any, on this draft regulation within 7 days to the Authority after which the regulation would be sent for draft notification and the same will be operationalised while the process of finalisation of the Regulation is underway.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.2 -

Review of activities of Codex Cell

- (1) FSSAI hosting 20th Session of Codex Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA);**
- (2) Joint application by Bhutan, Nepal and India for assistance from Codex Trust Fund for capacity building activities.**
- (3) India's participation in the Codex Committee meetings since last Authority meeting.**

The Authority took note of the above events for information.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.3-

Food Safety Management System-

- (1) Creation of a new Division for FSMS;**

The Authority took note of the agenda item and approved.



- (2) Framework for implementation of FSMS in Restaurants;**
- (3) Framework for implementation of FSMS in places of worship;**
- (4) Framework for implementation of FSMS in Government canteens;**
- (5) Empanelment of agencies/consultants for FSMS Audit.**

The Members noted the contents of the agenda items and were requested to submit their inputs/guidance to the Authority. Ms Meetu Kapur, Member volunteered to share information available with CII on GHP/GMP with FSSAI. Ms Anuradha Prasad, Member informed that a scheme relating to reimbursement of expenses incurred for ISO 22000 (FSMS) certification exists in Ministry of Food Processing Industries wherein assistance is provided to various food establishments. The Ministry has sought information from FSSAI on the plant and machinery required for implementing FSMS in FBOs. CEO mentioned that there are no definite/standardised requirements of plant and machinery for FSMS and each case by FBO has to be examined individually. However, CEO agreed to develop illustrative lists of plant and machinery and civil and electrical works for different kind of businesses for use by Ministry of Food Processing Industries & FBOs.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.4 -

Food Testing, Surveillance and Risk Assessment

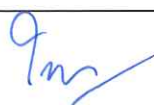
(1) Up-gradation of Food Testing ecosystem in the country;

The Members noted the contents of the agenda item. Shri Thangalura, Member, raised concern over the inadequacy of funds for up-gradation of laboratories in North Eastern Region and requested the Authority to formulate a regulation for guidance of State Governments. Chairperson clarified that the activities of State Governments could not be monitored/regulated by the Central Government. However, funds may be disbursed to the respective State Governments for up-gradation/ strengthening of State/Public Laboratories subject to funds available with the Authority. It was also decided to give special consideration to North Eastern States in this regard.

(2) FSSAI Accreditation -16 Labs;

(3) Compilation of existing parameters as per Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011;

The Authority took note of these agenda items.



(4) Creation of Risk Assessment Cell;

The Authority considered and approved the creation of Risk Assessment Cell. Dr. GS Toteja complimented the Authority for this initiative.

(5) National Milk Survey 2016;

(6) Study on Chemical contamination of food through packaging material in collaboration with Indian Institute of Packaging.

The Authority took note of these agenda items and approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.5 -

Licensing, Registration and Enforcement

(1) Proposed amendment in the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Business) Regulation, 2011;

The Authority considered the proposed amendment in the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Business) Regulation, 2011. Members were informed about the forthcoming Central Advisory Committee meeting scheduled to be held in the month of June, 2016. It was expected that the State Governments would be able to submit their inputs by that time so that the Regulation could also be endorsed by CAC. It was decided that Members would give their inputs within 7 days and after incorporating these comments and also the comments received from the State Governments, the Regulation could be finalised. In view of the fact that the proposed amendments would simplify the processes, it was decided to operationalise the regulation as soon as it is framed while continuing with the due process of final notification.

(2) Registration of FBOs using the platform of Common Service Centre-Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC-SPV);

(3) Exemption of Unit Run Canteen (URC) from the purview of FSSAI licensing (order dated 15.01.2016);

(4) Enforcement Activities on Nutraceuticals, Food Supplements and Health Supplements (order dated 30.03.2016);



- (5) Enforcement Activities on unauthorised manufacture and sale of packaged drinking water (order dated 27.04.2016);**

The Authority took note of these agenda items and approved.

- (6) Food Safety and Standards (Food Recall Procedure) Regulations, 2016 (Final Notification);**

Ms Meetu Kapur, Member commented that the final regulations presented now is entirely different from the draft regulations notified on 22nd April 2015. In response, CEO requested the Members to submit their comments so as to review the final regulations within a fortnight. Thereafter, the same could be finally approved at the level of the Chairperson.

- (7) Minutes of the 15th Meeting of Central Advisory Committee (for information).**

The Authority noted the contents of the agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.6 -

Training & Capacity Building

- (1) Training Policy for Regulatory Staff;**

The Authority considered and approved the general principles of the proposed training framework. Dr. G S Toteja, Member suggested that a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) be prepared for implementation of training scheme. Further, Shri Manoj Joshi, Member expressed his concern towards the time period (20-40 days) of induction training of the Regulatory staff comprising Food Safety Officers, Designated Officers and Authorized Officers and stated it might be difficult for the State Governments to spare their Officers to be out of station for 20-40 days. Chairperson clarified that the induction training would be conducted at the Institute identified by the respective State Governments. It was decided to address these concerns while finalising the policy/ guidelines.

- (2) Project – Clean Street Food;**

The Authority noted the contents of the agenda items. Dr. GS Toteja, Member, requested for associating ICMR with FSSAI for Project – Clean

Street Food in North Eastern Region. Also, Shri Salim Veljee mentioned that the Project could be taken up for the State of Goa.

(3) Review of IEC Scheme

The Authority approved the agenda item.

(4) Scheme for Nutrition, Food Safety in Schools;

The Authority noted the contents of the agenda item. Chairperson desired that this initiative could simultaneously be taken up with State Governments as some of them may be proactive in its implementation. Further, Shri Thangalura, Member suggested that wholesome food should also be promoted at college and University level. In response, Chairperson clarified that initially this scheme is targeting the younger population and could later also be extended to college/university level.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.7 -

Research and Development

(1) Update on Scheme of support for R&D and development of FSSAI.

The Authority took note of the agenda item for the information.

(2) Traditional Food recipes of India.

- (i) Ms Shreya Pandey, Member suggested getting Geographical Indication (GI) status for food products. Chairperson pointed out that obtaining GI status is a very lengthy and cumbersome exercise done for trade purposes and does not come within the mandate of the Authority.
- (ii) Dr. (Mrs) Lalitha Gowda, Member apprised the Authority about compendium comprising about 2400 Indian traditional food recipes prepared by CSIR-CFTRI and its availability in public domain.
With these observations, the proposal was approved in-principle by the Authority.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.8 -

IT initiatives-(i) Disaster Recovery Centre and Business Continuity Site; (ii) Existing Application and Data Centre enhancements; (iii) Launching of

gm

Mobile Applications; (iv) Integrated Food Safety and Standards e-Governance system.

The Authority took note of the agenda item for information.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.9 –

Update on International Cooperation

The Authority took note of the agenda item for information

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21.10 –

Any other agenda item with the approval of the Chair

(1) Code of conduct for disseminating the results of an investigation

The agenda item was not discussed in the Authority.

(2) Food Safety and Standards (Fortified Foods) Regulation, 2016

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, as special invitee, gave an overview of the proposal and drew attention of the Members towards a joint letter from the Secretaries of the Dept. of Food and Public Distribution; Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Women and Child Development emphasizing the mandatory fortification of staple foods. In response, Chairperson informed that there is already a prescribed procedure in FSSAI for consideration and evaluation of any technical matter through Scientific Panels and Committee according to which appropriate standards would be framed by the Authority. Further, the Members were requested to send their comments within 7 days to the Authority so that the proposed regulations could be finalised for draft notification.

In his concluding remarks, CEO informed that the Food Law would complete a decade on 23.08.2016. The Food Authority proposes to plan some activities on this occasion. In this context, the Members were requested to send their suggestions, along with short articles relating to the food sector.



Chairperson suggested taking similar inputs from previous Members of the Authority also.

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



Chief Executive Officer



Chairperson

List of Participants

A. Members of the Authority:

1. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. Shri Pawan Agarwal, CEO, FSSAI, Member Secretary;
3. Dr. Reeta Vashishta, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice;
4. Shri K.L. Sharma, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare;
5. Shri P.V. Rama Sastry, Jt. Secretary, Dept. of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution;
6. Ms. Anuradha Prasad, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
7. Shri Manoj Joshi, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;
8. Dr. J. Balaji, Secretary, Dept. of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Assam;
9. Dr. G. S. Toteja, Director, Desert Medicine Research Centre (DMRC), ICMR, New Delhi;
10. Dr. Lalitha Ramakrishna Gowda, Chief Scientist, Department of Protein Chemistry and Technology, CSIR, Mysore, Karnataka;
11. Shri Salim A Veljee, Commissioner Food Safety, Goa;
12. Shri PV Narsinga Rao, Commissioner Food Safety, Chhattisgarh;
13. Shri K.S.P.V. Pavan Kumar, Commissioner Food Safety, Assam;
14. Shri Sukhwinder Singh, Designated Officer, Chandigarh;
15. Dr. A.R. Sharma, CMD, M/s Ricelaa Health Foods Ltd. Village Manwala, Saron Road, Dhuri, Sangrur, Punjab;
16. Ms Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors' Association;

17. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
18. Shri Thanglura, Mizoram Consumers' Union, Lalat Chamber;

B. Officials from FSSAI

1. Ms. Madhavi Das, CMSO
2. Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
3. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (Codex)
4. Shri Bimal Dubey, Director (Imports)
5. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (PA)
6. Ms. Suniti Toteja, Director (FSMS)
7. Dr. Dhir Singh, Joint Director (Standards)
8. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA/Legal)
9. Shri R.K. Gupta, Head (QA)
10. Dr. A.K. Sharma, Consultant
11. Dr. S. C. Khurana, Consultant
12. Dr. J. Lewis, Consultant
13. Shri P. Karthikeyan, AD (Regulation)
14. Shri S. Anoop, AD (Enforcement)
15. Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Scientist IV(I)
16. Ms Ranum Dabas, Scientist IV(I)
17. Ms. Mallika Taneja, AD (IEC)
18. Ms. Payal, Sr. Consultant (IT)
19. Ms Heena Yadav, Consultant (FSMS)

C. Special Invitee

1. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development;
2. Shri R.P. Pant, Director, Ministry of Women and Child Development;