

**Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of FSSAI held on 29th June, 2010 at
1100 Hrs at its Headquarter at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi.**

Shri P. I. Suvrathan, Chairperson extended a warm welcome to all the members to the fifth meeting of the Food Authority. List of participants who attended the meeting is at Annexure-I. Leave of absence was granted to Smt. Upma Chaudhry, Shri Dinesh Sharma, Shri Vineet Chawdhry, Ms. Indrani Kar, Dr. (Ms.) Indira Chakravarty, Smt. Navraj Sandhu, Shri J.P. Singh, Shri Anshu Prakash, Dr. (Mrs.) T.A. Kadarbhai, and Shri Gibson G. Vedamani who could not attend the meeting.

Item No.1: Oath by New Members

Shri G. Narayana Raju took the oath as new member in the Food Authority.

Item No.2: Disclosure of Interest by Members

All the members present during the meeting signed "Specific Declaration of Interest" in respect of the agenda items to be considered in the meeting, before the start of the proceedings.

**Item No.3: Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting held on
12th April, 2010 and Action Taken Report**

Confirmed the minutes of fourth meeting of the Food Authority held on 12th April, 2010 and Action taken Report in respect of minutes of the meeting. Chairperson brought to the notice of the members that draft Rules & Regulations to govern transition from PFA to FSSA are with MOHFW for notification. The final notification will be issued after obtaining approval of government. Wherever required WTO consultation will also be carried out. FSSAI will again place before the Food Authority final rules & regulations expected by September, 2010.

Item No.4: Report by CEO

Report of CEO, FSSAI was tabled for information and perusal of members.

Item No.5: Approval of Annual Report 2009-10 of the Food Authority and Annual Accounts of the financial year 2009-10

The Food Authority considered and approved the Annual Report 2009-10 of the Food Authority and Annual Accounts of the financial year 2009-10 and authorized FSSAI to take further necessary action in respect of the above two documents.

Item No.6: Presentation on

(i) Implementing a Food Safety Management System and FSSAI-HACCP-India Standard

Quality Council of India (QCI) made a brief presentation outlining proposed road map by FSSAI to embrace international norms in food safety management systems in its food regulations. The two components of the strategy would be, mandatory GMP/GHP for all food sectors and HACCP. FSSAI will recognize adequate numbers of food safety professionals who can help industry to verify/certify compliance with these food safety requirements. Guidance Documents for implementation and Self assessment Checklist will also be developed to help small food business operators. FSSAI also proposes to develop its own FSSAI-India-HACCP standard which can be offered to units catering to the domestic market and a voluntary HACCP certification system against this standard for demonstration of compliance to FSSAI regulations.

The members supported the proposed initiative on the food safety system with the following observations:

- FSSAI needs to work out a plan to roll out the activities with timelines, transparency, accountability, credibility and delivery of the system, reasonable certification fees and training for FBOs. so as to increase the acceptability of the system by FBOs on large scale.
- Chairperson raised concern about issues associated with milk adulteration in the country and what could be the effective strategy to handle the situation.
- The possibility of introducing a grading system for licensing units on the pattern of some other countries could be considered.
- It would also be useful to survey the expectations of the licensees from the regulations and their views as to the self compliance framework.

(ii) Import Safety Action Plan:

National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) made a brief presentation outlining project background, overview of current systems, Best Practices, BPR, Progress so far and operationalisation of food import clearance process at three ports initially at Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata. The Chairperson brought to the notice of the members that FSSAI has gone for a faster operationalisation of the provisions and learning through actual participation in the food import clearance process at the three ports during the next 6 months which would be utilized to develop the final framework for IT-enabled Safety System for Imported Food.

The members appreciated the proposed initiative on the imported food safety system with the following observations:

- Food grains constitute the major portion of food items imported into India and agencies like FCI, State Government agencies, Department of Agriculture must be following some norms of food safety. These safety norms/standard could be reviewed and redefined from import safety perspective.

- Data available from DGCIS is not product-wise and some of the items like edible oils are not captured. It was suggested that product-wise data on import may be captured during the operationalisation process which could be useful in risk based sampling.
- It was also emphasized that there is need to have back-up system in case MIS is not working. Further, value addition from new system in terms of time lines for clearance need to be clearly demonstrated to bring confidence in the system. The standards of service delivery also need to be laid down.
- Issues on Food terrorism need to be considered on priority in view of open markets and potential for disruption at many points.
- FSSAI should explore possibility of outsourcing which enable service delivery at lower cost and better accountability. This will also enable skills to be accessed which would otherwise not be available within the system.

(iii) Functional Foods and other Special Foods:

M/s Amarchand Mangaldas made a presentation on suggested regulatory structure for foods for special purposes. Chairperson emphasized that presently many new products in market take advantage of non-availability of standards under PFA and take it as an escape route to make them available under proprietary food category. Section 22 of FSS Act mandate FSSAI to make regulations for such food products. Based on the proposed structure FSSAI will come with draft regulations which will be open for stakeholders consultations. The following points emerged during discussion after presentation.

- A view may be taken whether a category "Food for Weight Management" should be introduced or not. There was a view that if we are laying down such a category, it would also imply that FSSAI is endorsing the need of such products. It was suggested that use

of such products could be regulated through labelling/claims regulations. The scientific justification of claims also need to be established.

- Fortification also needs to be considered.
- It was suggested that categorization of traditional foods could also be considered. Chairperson apprised that Department of Ayush is preparing a list of natural ingredients which are safe and we may wait their inputs.
- Concern was raised about the safety aspects of animal feed supplements. Chairperson mentioned that though it is out of the purview of FSS Act, FSSAI needs to work with department of Animal Husbandry to have safety norms for animal feed.

Item No. 7: Any other item with the approval of Chairperson

The following points were also discussed:

- The need to encourage packaging of milk and milk products, traceability, holding procuring agency responsible for safety of milk procured and checking adulteration from source to procuring agency was emphasized.
- It was emphasized that there is need to develop standards for potable drinking water and to check claims of storage water purifying devices. Chairperson mentioned that Department of Drinking water has a monitoring mechanism and FSSAI has decided to work with the department to promote safety of water used as an ingredient of food. BIS Standards for potable water are there but these have not been operationalised. There is need to encourage testing of water used as an ingredient of food and panchayats need to play a key role in this regard.
- The pending notifications already cleared by CCFS need to be expedited in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Those at various stages of processing also need to be quickly disposed off.

- FSSAI need to develop its own standards of service delivery and Sevottam. Chairperson informed that FSSAI will be shortly coming out with a strategy in this regard.
- Work Plan of the Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee will be circulated to all the members of Food Authority for information and necessary inputs if any.
- Safety aspects of kitchen equipments also needs to be looked into.

Vote of thanks: The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

Following were present during the fifth meeting of the Food Authority held on 29th June, 2010 at 1100 Hrs at its Headquarter at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi.

Members of Food Authority:

1. Shri P.I.Suvrathan, Chairperson
2. Smt. Vasundhra Pramod Deodhar
3. Ms. Mona Malhotra Chopra
4. Shri M.P.Singh
5. Shri Sanjay Singh
6. Captain S. Gahlot (in place of Shri K Rajeswara Rao)
7. Dr. N. N.Varshney
8. Dr. P. Sucharitha Murthy
9. Dr. Swapan Kumar Paul
10. Dr. S. Girija
11. Shri G. Narayan Raju
12. Shri V. Balasubramaniam
13. Shri Bejon Mishra

No. 1-57/FSSA/Meeting/2008
Food Safety and Standard Authority of India
(A Statutory Regulatory Body of Govt. of India)
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
3rd & 4th Floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi - 110002

Date: 30th June, 2010

Sub: - Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of Food Safety and Standard Authority of India held at its Head Office at FDA Bhawan on 29th June 2010 at 11.00 hrs.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the minutes of the fifth meeting of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India held at FDA Bhawan on 29th June, 2010 at 11.00 hrs under the chairmanship of Shri P.I. Suvrathan, Chairperson, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

(Sumita Mukherjee)
Director, FSSAI

To:

1. Smt. Upma Chawdhry, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Room No. 244, 2nd Floor, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.
2. Sh. Dinesh Sharma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Room No. 249, II Floor, Department of Commerce & Industry, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110107.
3. Sh. Sanjay Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Room No. 365-B, M/o Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.
4. Sh. K. Rajeswara Rao, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, Panchsheel Bhawan, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110 049.
5. Sh. Vineet Chawdhary, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, Department of Health, New Delhi-110108.
6. Sh. G. Narayanaraju, Joint Secretary & Legislative Counsel, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.
7. Sh. M.P.Singh, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Office of The Development Commissioner (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, 7th Floor, A wing, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110108.