Strengthening of Food Testing System Including Provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs

Major Components

- Strengthening of State Food Testing Labs
- Strengthening of Referral Food Testing Labs
- Support for Mobile Food Labs
- Capacity Building of food Testing Laboratories
- Incentivising states for utilising the facilities available in FSSAI Notified Labs
- Creation of basic food labs at Schools and Colleges.

Strengthening of State Food Testing Labs

- Strengthen at least one Food Testing Labs in each State/UT (two labs in larger States)
- Establishment of State-of-the-art testing facilities like Microbiological Laboratory, ICP-MS, GC MS/MS, & LC MS/MS in each of identified labs
- Special attention to NER as there is no food testing facility available in some of the NE states.
- Labs to be established/upgraded in North East states = 4 New and 5 Existing
- Total Number of State Labs to be upgraded = 45

Support for Mobile Food labs

- Provision of one mobile lab for a cluster 20 districts, with at least 1 mobile lab in each State/UT
- Total number of Mobile Labs proposed to be established = 62
- The cluster of districts to be decided in consultation with the respective State/UT
- Operated by the respective State/UTs Governments or their agencies/NGOs/ Trusts/Societies or any other agency decided by State Government
- Mobile labs would execute functions of surveillance and creating awareness regarding the food safety

Capacity Building of Food Testing Laboratories

• Strong felt need for capacity building of the food analysts and other laboratory staff

• Regular training programmes will be organised for the scientific and technical staff

• Objective is to ensure that all the State Food testing labs attain NABL accreditation and bring them at par with best of the laboratories in the country.

Utilising the facilities available in FSSAI Notified Labs

- Significant Test facilities available in FSSAI Notified Private Labs
- Need to reduce burden on Government testing infrastructure in the States/UT
- Need for Incentivization of States to use these facilities and
- Would help in reduction of infrastructure cost for setting up new labs.

School Food & Hygiene Progamme

- To create a culture of food safety and Hygiene amongst the young people right from school level
- Establish basic food testing facility in schools for testing common adulterants in food and spread education among school students on food safety and hygiene
 - Basic (Level-1) food testing facilities in 500 Schools/Colleges
 - Basic (Level-2) food testing facilities in 1000 Schools/Colleges

Participation by the States/UTs For Strengthening of labs

- Identify one or two food testing labs in each State and prepare a project proposal taking into consideration the existing facilities in the prescribed performa
- Requisite qualified scientific manpower for operating sophisticated analytical instruments and other supporting technical staff
- Provision of other miscellaneous lab equipment.
- Enter into an MOU with FSSAI/MoH&FW for operation and maintenance of the instruments
- Funds would be released based on the readiness of the States/UTs

Participation by the States/UTs For Mobile Labs

- Identify cluster of Districts for each Mobile Lab
- Identify the operating Agency State/UTs or their agencies/NGOs/Trusts/ Societies as decided by the State/UT
- Provide requisite manpower for each Mobile lab {i.e, Technical Officer (One), Analyst (one), Driver(one) and Attendant (One)}.
- Enter into an MOU with FSSAI/MoH&FW for operation and maintenance of mobile labs

Thank you for your kind Attention