

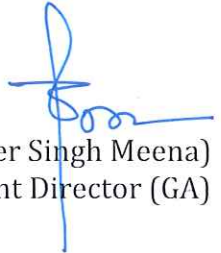
File No. 15-10/GA/2016-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(General Administration Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

The 15 June, 2017

SUBJECT:- Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of Food Authority held on 20th December, 2016.

The Authority adopted the minutes of the 22nd Meeting of Food Authority held on 20th December, 2016 at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi in its 23rd Meeting held on 25th May, 2017.

2. Accordingly, the minutes of the 22nd Meeting of Food Authority are being uploaded on the website of FSSAI.


(Sumer Singh Meena)
Assistant Director (GA)

Enclosure:
Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of Food Authority (seventeen pages).

**Minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Food Authority held on December 20, 2016
at 1100 hrs at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi**

The twenty second meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held on December 20, 2016 at 1100 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. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI welcomed the Members of the Authority to the meeting.

3. The Authority placed on record its gratitude to all outgoing Members of the Authority viz., Dr. Lalitha Ramakrishna Gowda; Dr. J. Balaji; Shri Salim A. Veljee; Shri P.V. Narsinga Rao; Shri K.S.P.V. Pavan Kumar; Shri Sukhwinder Singh; Shri Rameshwar Sharma; Dr. A.R. Sharma; Ms Shreya Pandey; Ms. Meetu Kapur; Shri Vasudev K Thakker; Dr. A.K. Srivastava; Shri Abulkalam; and Shri Thanglura. The Authority also noted that a special Joint Commemorative Meeting of the Food Authority, CAC and Scientific Committee had been held on 23rd August, 2016.

Item No. I:

Confirmation of the minutes of the last 21st meeting held on 26.05.2016

No comments had been received on the minutes of the 21st meeting circulated to all Members. The minutes were confirmed and adopted.

Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 20th Meeting of Food Authority

The Action Taken Report was noted by the Members.

Item No. III: Chief Executive Officer's report

- (i) Shri Pawan Agarwal, CEO, FSSAI in his report highlighted various developments since the last meeting of the Authority with regard to Imports; standards formulation through notification of 19 final and 18 draft regulations; Food Safety Management System; and Codex activities. Further, he also informed the Authority about some important events organized by the Food Authority viz., two-day event celebrating ten years of integrated food law- the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (22-23 August, 2016); National submit on Fortification of Food (16-17 October, 2016); a special meeting with Mr. Bill Gates regarding Food Fortification (17 November, 2016); and hosting of 20th session of CCASIA by India in New Delhi (26-30 September, 2016). CEO apprised the Authority regarding revamping of FSSAI website by IT team in consultation with all Divisions of the Food Authority. The newly developed FSSAI website linking with other micro-sites like Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC), Food Fortification, etc. was launched. The Authority placed on their record appreciation to the FSSAI team for accomplishing this job in time bound manner.

Agenda Item No. 22.1-

(1). Development and Review of Standards-

(i) Operationalization of Standards-

- (i) Standards for proprietary food;**
- (ii) Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulation;**
- (iii) Food Safety and Standards (Fortified Foods) Regulation;**
- (iv) Revised limits of iron filings in tea;**
- (v) Standards for Caffeinated Beverages and use of blue tint in containers of packaged drinking water;**

- (vi) Food Safety and Standards (Food for Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods for Special Dietary Uses, Foods for Special Medical purpose, Functional Foods, and Novel Food) Regulation;**
- (vii) Standards for table olives;**
- (viii) Standards for cinnamon; and**
- (ix) Standards for camel milk.**

The Authority took note of the items in the agenda and approved the same.

(ii) Approval of Food Standards for Final Notification -

- (i) Revision of Standards of Silver Leaf (Varakh);**
- (ii) Inclusion of use of Ethylene gas for ripening of fruits;**
- (iii) Standards for use of blue tint in containers of packaged drinking water;**
- (iv) Standards for Raw Pulse;**
- (v) Revision of Standards of Packaged Drinking water;**
- (vi) Revision of standards of Carbonated Fruit Beverages or Fruit Drinks;**
- (vii) Standards for proprietary food;**
- (viii) Microbiological Standards for Fish and Fish Products;**
- (ix) Limit of iron filings in Tea;**
- (x) Limits of Histamine Level for fish and fishery Products;**
- (xi) Redefinition of Interesterified vegetable Fat as Interesterified vegetable fat/oil, Inclusion of Enzymatic degumming in refining process, exemption of Expelled/Processed Coconut oil imported in India from refining and standards for Oats and Pasta;**
- (xii) Standards for Malt extract, expeller pressed flour, baker's yeast, lactic acid, ascorbic acid, calcium propionate, potassium metabisulphite; and**
- (xiii) Standards of Chocolate.**

The Authority noted that the proposal for final notification of the standards indicated at sl. no (i) to (xii) had already been sent to the Ministry after taking approval of the Chairperson. As regard the regulation on Chocolate, the following observations were made:

(a) Ms. Meetu Kapur, former member of Authority and special invitee felt that the explanation on milk solids given under the table in the draft regulation was confusing & likely to be misinterpreted. It was pointed out that the current text was intended to prevent the use of different milk products and components in chocolates.

(b) As regard the provision to declare as "Contains permitted vegetable fat in addition to cocoa butter" on the label, Ms. Kapur informed that since the composition of the chocolate including vegetable oils is already declared under the list of ingredients on the label, a separate declaration may not be required.

(c) The representative of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was of the view that Shea & Barneo tallow vegetable oils should be removed from the list of vegetable oils permitted for use in chocolates in view of various representations received in this regard. Chairperson was however of the view that the mandate of the Food Authority was limited to food safety whereas the representations were made in regard to other issues. The Scientific Panel/ Committee has not pointed out any detrimental effect on food safety by use of these vegetable oils in production of chocolates.

After detailed deliberations, the Authority approved & ratified the action taken to send the above mentioned final regulations to the Ministry for notification after taking approval of the Chairperson on behalf of the Authority. With regard to the regulation on chocolate, the following decisions were taken:

(i) The issues on milk solids and labelling requirement were decided to be

re-examined and a final view taken with the approval of the Chairperson.

- (ii) In respect of the issue on Shea and Barneo tallow, the Authority decided to approve the proposal as recommended by the Scientific Committee.

(iii) Approval of Food Standards for Draft Notification of-

(a) Revision of existing standards-

- (i) Cocoa Powder;**
- (ii) Canned Tropical Fruit Salad/Cocktail/Mix;**
- (iii) Labelling requirements for Beverages Non-Alcoholic Carbonated;**
- (iv) Proposed Draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging, Labelling & Claims) Regulations, 2016;**
- (v) Jaggery or Gur;**
- (vi) Sodium Saccharin (Food Grade) and Calcium Saccharin (Food Grade); and**
- (vii) Removal of additives mentioned in Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011 in view of the Notice for operationalization of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2016 dated 20.06.2016.**

The Authority considered the draft notifications as detailed above. During discussions, the following observations were made:

- (a) On the proposed draft Food Safety and Standards (Packaging, Labelling & Claims) Regulations, 2016, Ms. Shreya Pandey and Ms. Meetu Kapur, both former members of the Authority and special invitees raised the issue with regard to 'best before' date and 'Use by' date and suggested to have only best before date based on international practices. Chairperson explained the need of

mandatorily keeping expiry dates for food products in the interest of consumers which could not be compromised. However, comments on this issue could be submitted after the draft notification is issued.

- (b) Further, the Authority decided to have separate regulations for Packaging, Labelling, and Claims & Advertisements considering that all three are entirely distinct issues.

The Authority after detailed deliberations approved the above draft notifications.

(b) New Standards –

- (i) Date Paste;
- (ii) Fermented Soybean Paste;
- (iii) Coca Mass or Coca/Chocolate Liquor, and Coca Cake;
- (iv) Vegetable Protein Products;
- (v) Harrisa (Red Hot Pepper Paste);
- (vi) Shea butter;
- (vii) Borneo Tallow/Illipe butter;
- (viii) Inclusion of Fatty Acid Composition (by GLC) in standards for Various Edible Vegetable Oils;
- (ix) Quality of Vegetable oil for Repeated Frying;
- (x) Infant Food Regulation (IFR);
- (xi) Complementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children;
- (xii) Special dietary foods with low-sodium (including salt substitutes);
- (xiii) Durum Wheat;
- (xiv) Durum Wheat Semolina and Whole durum wheat semolina;
- (xv) Sorghum Flour;
- (xvi) Soybean;
- (xvii) Soy Protein Products;
- (xviii) Finger Millet (Ragi);
- (xix) Amaranth;
- (xx) Whole Maize (Corn) Flour;
- (xxi) Wheat Protein Products Including Wheat Gluten;
- (xxii) Fixation of MRLs of Pesticides;
- (xxiii) Milk Protein concentrate (MPC); and
- (xxiv) Whey Protein Concentrate (WPC).

The Authority considered all the draft notifications as detailed above except durum wheat which had already been notified earlier. With regard to the draft regulations on Infant Food Regulation (IFR), Ms Shreya Pandey and Ms Meetu Kapur expressed the need for re-examining this draft.

After detailed deliberations, the Authority approved the draft notifications as proposed except Infant Food Regulation (IFR) which would be processed for draft notification after considering the comments of CII and FICCI, if any, and with the approval of Chairperson.

(iv) Miscellaneous (Eleven): -

- (a) Comments on Omission of existing provision relating to Infant Nutrition Formulae;**
- (b) Additives permitted by the Panel in various categories in response to representations from stakeholders;**
- (c) Method of analysis for Vitamin A & Vitamin D in Fortified Milk;**
- (d) Method for determination of added water in Milk;**
- (e) Method of Detection of Melamine in Milk and Milk Products;**
- (f) Finalization of Manuals of Methods of Analysis of various Food Products;**
- (g) Legal view on Rule 2.4.2(7) of FSS Rules, 2011;**
- (h) Code of Practice for the Reduction of Contamination of Food with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH);**
- (i) List of Generic Medical Conditions for which Special Foods for Medical Purpose are required to be imported in India;**
- (j) Recommendations of the Assessment Committee for Selection of the Members of Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels; and**
- (k) Constitution of Standards Review Groups.**

The Authority considered the agenda as mentioned above. During discussions the following observations were made:

- (i) With respect to item (g) above, the Authority was of the view that it did not require Authority's approval and may be dealt with

separately.

- (ii) With regard to item (j) above, the Authority noted that the numbers of domain experts were limited in some areas. It was felt that though a few Members had already completed two terms in their respective Panels, their continuation in those Panels would be extremely useful to the Authority. The Food Safety and Standards Authority (Transaction of Business and Procedure for Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels) Regulations, 2016 provides 'for appointing such members beyond two terms with the reasons to be recorded in writing'. In view of their expertise in their respective domains and based on the recommendations of the Assessment Committee for Selection of the Members, the Authority decided to appoint Dr. D.K. Kanungo (Pesticide Residues); Dr. S.K. Saxena (Methods of Test); and Dr. S.R. Rao (GM) beyond two terms in their respective Panels.
- (iii) With regard to item (k) above, the Authority authorized that other members could be co-opted to the Committee and various Panels as and when required.

With the above modifications, the Authority approved the proposals.

Agenda Item No. 22.2

Regulatory Compliance-

- (i) Regulatory Works.**
- (ii) Initiatives for easing Licensing & Registration process and ease of business.**
- (iii) Streamlining Enforcement & Inspection Activities.**
- (iv) Interaction with States/UTs-Proactive Approach.**
- (v) Connect to Citizen.**

- (a) The Authority took note of these items in the Agenda for information.
- (b) With regard to the initiatives for easing Licensing/ Registration process and ease of business, the Authority approved the proposal to extend the time-line for registration process through Common Service Centres upto 31.03.2017.
- (c) Further, Chairperson directed to have an institutional interactive interface with industry comprising representatives from Trade and Industry Associations like CII, FICCI, etc. covering all geographical regions in India. The outcome of the interface may be utilised for improving compliance. Similar institutional interface may be set up for interacting with consumer organisations.
- (d) The Authority took note of the minutes of 16th and 17th meetings of CAC held on 3rd February and 22nd June 2016 respectively along with the notification of new members of the CAC for a period of three years.

Agenda Item No. 22.3

Codex Cell-

- (i) **Hosting of the 20th Session of FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (26-30 September 2016, New Delhi).**

The Authority took note of the agenda item for information.

Agenda Item No. 22.4

Import-

- (i) **Orders/Decisions Easing Food Import.**
- (ii) **Food Safety and Standards (Food Import) Regulations, 2016.**

- (a) The Authority took note of the agenda item on 'Orders/Decisions Easing Food Import' for information.
- (b) With regard to agenda item on 'Food Safety and Standards (Food Import) Regulations, 2016, the Authority approved the regulation in-principle. However, Ms Meetu Kapur sought one-week time for submitting comments.

Agenda Item No. 22.5

Human Resource-

- (i) **Recasting of Recruitment Rules.**
- (ii) **Hiring of Consultants.**

The Authority took note of the agenda item on 'Hiring of Consultants' for information and approved the agenda item on 'Recasting of Recruitment Rules'.

Agenda Item No. 22.6

Finance & Accounts-

- (i) **Annual Accounts of the FSSAI for the Financial Year 2015-16.**
- (ii) **Budget, Financial Work Plan and Outcome & Output Budget of the FSSAI for the Financial Year 2016-17 and 2017-18.**

The Authority considered and approved the agenda items in principle. Chairperson directed that activity wise (physical and financial) break-up of the budget may be provided in future for better clarity.

Agenda Item No. 22.7

Generation Administration-

- (i) **Annual Report of the FSSAI for 2015-16.**
- (ii) **Renovation and up-gradation of office premises of FSSAI at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi.**

The Authority took note of the agenda item on 'Renovation and up-gradation of office premises of FSSAI at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi' for information and approved the 'Annual Report of the FSSAI for 2015-16'.

Agenda Item No. 22.8

Risk Assessment & Research & Development-

- (i) Guidelines for the Scheme of Research & Development Studies for Food Quality and Safety.**
- (ii) Workshop on Scientific Cooperation Framework for Food Safety.**
- (iii) Food Safety Knowledge Assimilation Networks (FSKAN).**

The Authority approved the 'Guidelines for the Scheme of Research & Development Studies for Food Quality and Safety' and took note of the other two agenda items for information.

Agenda Item No. 22.9

Quality Assurance, Food Testing and Surveillance-

- (i) Revision of Analysis Charges of Food Products.**
- (ii) Third Food Analyst Examination.**
- (iii) Strengthening of the Food Testing Labs in the Country (SoFTeL).**
- (iv) Notification of Labs under the FSS Act, 2006.**
- (iv) Operation and management contract of Food Research and Standardisation Laboratory (FRSL), Ghaziabad.**
- (vi) Surveillance activities.**

- (a)** The Authority approved the agenda item on 'Revision of Analysis Charges of Food Products' and took note of the other five agenda items for information.
- (b)** Chairperson recommended outsourcing the complete activity of conducting the Food Analyst Examination to institutions having relevant capacity. He

also directed that the work being done by food labs be also reviewed in Authority meetings.

Agenda Item No. 22.10

Update on International Cooperation

The Authority took note of the agenda item for information. CEO informed that in view of the usefulness of the training programme on mycotoxins & pesticides residues, he had requested Global Food Safety Program (GFSP) to organise similar training on veterinary drug residues. This was noted and the Authority appreciated the efforts made by FSSAI in engaging with GFSP.

Agenda Item No. 22.11

Information, Education and Communication (IEC)

Ms. Madhavi Das, CMSO, FSSAI presented the new approach to IEC activities by FSSAI. This was approved by the Authority. CEO informed that National Street Food Festival was being organized by National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI) and FSSAI wherein advocacy on SNF@Home; SNF@School; SNF@Workplace; SNF@Eatingout including Fortification would be done. The Authority took note of this development.

Agenda Item No. 22.12

Training & Capacity Building-

- (i) Training Policy for Food Safety Regulatory Staff.**
- (ii) Training Policy for Training of Food Business Operator.**
- (iii) Establishment of International Centre for Training and Applied Nutrition at Mumbai.**
- (iv) Policy for Capacity Building of food testing personnel.**

(a) The Authority approved the Training Policy for Training of Food Business Operators; and gave in-principle approval for establishment of International Centre for Training and Applied Nutrition at Mumbai and took note of the other two agenda items.

(b) The Authority also noted that for IEC and Training & Capacity Building activities, FSSAI is working closely with CII, especially for 'Surakshit Khadya Abhiyan' program.

Agenda Item No. 22.13

Food Safety Management System-

- (i) Composition of Technical Panels for revision of GMP/GHP for Food Businesses.**
- (ii) Serve Safe initiatives.**

The Authority approved the Composition of Technical Panels for revision of GMP/GHP for Food Businesses. The Authority also took note of the agenda item on 'Serve Safe initiatives' for information.

Agenda Item No. 22.14

Fortification and Food Fortification Resource Centre

The Authority approved in principle the Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC) for advocacy and testimonial support of fortification of food in collaboration with TATA Trusts and other stakeholders.

Agenda Item No. 22.15

IT initiatives-

- (i) Strengthening of IT team.**

- (ii) IFS. Quick Access System.
- (iii) Indian Food Laboratory Network (INFOLNET).
- (iv) e-Office.
- (v) Other initiatives.

The Authority took note of the agenda items for information. Chairperson stated that though the process of automation is laudable but it should serve the purpose of improving efficiency. He expressed his concerns about delay in clearance of import consignments and enquired at which level the applications for import consignments were normally stuck for clearance and what remedial measures were being taken to address the same. In response, he was informed that appropriate monitoring system was in place and that he would be provided with an access to relevant dashboard for updates. A similar concern was raised regarding delay in licensing & registration.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 22.1

Guidelines for operations of direct selling food business operators

The Authority approved the draft Guidelines for operations of direct selling food business operators to seek public comments and authorised Chairperson to operationalize the guidelines after considering the comments received.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 22.2

New Scientific Panel on 'Fortified and Enriched Foods'

The Authority approved the constitution of new Scientific Panel on 'Fortified and Enriched Foods' but did not agree to the inclusion of representatives from international bodies like WHO, etc.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 22.3

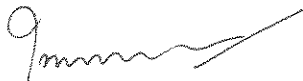
Irregular expenditure on foreign tours of contractual staff

It was mentioned that the deputation of staff (regular/deputationist/contractual) on foreign tours depended on the suitability and availability of resources in the organization. It was not possible for FSSAI to permanently recruit in-house experts to address all issues discussed in bilateral & multilateral fora on food safety. Therefore, there was no option but to depute contractual employees on foreign tours on several occasions depending upon the requirement. Accordingly, the Authority approved in-principle any future nominations/ funding of contractual staff for international meetings/ events as the need may be.


Chairperson expressed his concern on the non-availability of Agenda items on time. He advised officers of the Authority to submit proposals for inclusion in the agenda as and when such requirement is felt without waiting for the meeting of the Authority to be fixed.

In their remarks, Ms Shreya Pandey and Ms Meetu Kapoor, former members appreciated the work being done by FSSAI.

The meeting ended 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, 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. Ms. Anuradha Prasad, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
6. Shri D.D.K. Sharma, Additional PPA, C/o JS(PP), Ministry of Agriculture;
7. Dr. G. S. Toteja, Director, Desert Medicine Research Centre (DMRC), New Delhi;
8. Ms Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors' Association;
9. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

B. Officers of the FSSAI

1. Ms. Madhavi Das, CMSO
2. Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
3. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (Codex)

4. Shri Bimal Kumar Dubey, Director (RCD)
5. Shri Rakesh Chandra Sharma, Director (Imports)
6. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (RARD)
7. Ms. Suniti Toteja, Director (FSMS)
8. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA)
9. Shri R.K. Gupta, Head (QA)
10. Shri Tanmoy Prasad, Chief Information and Technology Officer (IT)
11. Dr. Dhir Singh, Joint Director (Standards)
12. Shri Umesh Kumar Jain, Joint Director (QA)
13. Dr. A.K. Sharma, Consultant
14. Dr. S. C. Khurana, Consultant
15. Ms. Anita Makhijani, Deputy Director (Technical)
16. Dr. A. C. Mishra, Scientist III
17. Shri P. Karthikeyan, AD (Regulation)
18. Shri Manoj Kumar, AD (Finance & Accounts)
19. Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Scientist IV(I)