

**Minutes of the 26th meeting of the Food Authority held on June 14, 2018 at
13:30 hrs at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi**

The twenty sixth meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held on June 14, 2018 at 13.30 hrs at FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Chairperson, FSSAI welcomed the members of the Authority and all special invitees from Industry to the meeting.

Chairperson suggested that the words 'final (draft) notifications' be replaced with the words proposed final notification in the title of agenda items in future.

Item No. I:

Confirmation of the minutes of 25th meeting held on 21/02/2018

Industry representatives mentioned that various interventions by them have not been correctly attributed in the minutes. It was decided that names need not be used in attributions in future. With regard to the Agenda item on Food Additives/Appendix-A: (1) Inclusion of provision for additional additives in various food categories, it was mentioned that the decision to remove the restriction on the use of artificial sweeteners in vending machines was also applicable for the FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additive) regulations which had not been captured in the minutes. Chairperson clarified that the suggested changes have already been made in proposed final notification.

The minutes were confirmed and adopted accordingly.



Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 25th meeting

The Action Taken Report was noted. The Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was requested to expedite the approval of notifications pending with Ministry. Chairperson also directed Secretariat to expedite the notification process w.r.t. standards for Synthetic syrup and Sharbat; Salmonella in Chicken and fixation of MRLs of Pesticides. With regard to Supplementary Agenda Item No. 25.V (1) on revision in the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011, Chief Executive Officer, FSSAI requested members to submit feedback/ comments within 15 days so that the regulations could be finalized expeditiously.

Item No. III: Chief Executive Officer's Report

Authority took note of the Chief Executive Officer's Report which was tabled during the meeting (Annexure-2).

Item No. IV: AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

Agenda Item No. 26.1

FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS -

A. Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011;

(a) Final Notifications

(I) Amendment to Regulation 2.1 Dairy Products and Analogues

(i) Milk Protein Concentrate, (ii) Whey Protein Concentrate, and (iii) Cow/ Buffalo Colostrum and Colostrum Products,

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.



(II) Amendment to Regulation 2.2 Fats, Oils and Fat Emulsions

- (i) Kachi Ghani Mustard Oil, (ii) Palm Oil with regards to melting point, (iii) Avocado oil, (iv) Palm stearin, (v) Palm kernel stearin, (vi) Palm kernel olein, (vii) Palm Superolein, (viii) Vanaspati, (ix) inclusion of Peroxide value in standards of all vegetable oils,**

Industry representative suggested a proviso for exemption of crude oil in 'Other expelled edible oils and fats up to 10 milliequivalents of active oxygen/kg oil or fat'.

It was clarified that these standards were applicable only for edible vegetable oils hence there was no need for such exemption and this would be clarified through FAQs.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

(III) Amendment to Regulation 2.3 Fruits & Vegetables Products

- (i) Thermally Processed Fruit Salad/Cocktail/Mix, (ii) Tomato Ketchup and Tomato Sauce, (iii) Date Paste, (iv) Fermented Soybean Paste, (v) Harrisa (Red Hot Pepper Paste), (vi) Vegetable Protein Products, (vii) Quick Frozen Fried Potatoes, (viii) Canned Chestnuts and Canned Chestnut Puree, and (ix) Edible Fungi Products,**

Industry representatives had certain observations as follows:

a) With regard to item (vii) Quick Frozen Fried Potatoes, it was suggested to remove requirement of 6.0 % (m/m) (max) Oil Content and to include tolerances for sizing defects in line with Codex and the same were agreed.

b) With regard to item (ix) Edible Fungi Products, it was suggested to increase the limit of maximum water content from 6% to 8% m/m in Freeze-dried fungi. It was clarified that 6.0 % limit has been recommended by concerned Scientific Panel in line with Codex hence the suggestion was not agreed to by the Authority.

With the modification under item (vii), the Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.



- (IV) Amendment to Regulation 2.7 Sweets & Confectionery**
(i) Cocoa Powder, and (ii) Cocoa mass or Cocoa/Chocolate Liquor and Cocoa Cake,

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed

- (V) Amendment to Regulation 2.9 Salt, Spices, Condiments and Related Products**
(i) Ginger (Sonth, Adrak), and (ii) Ginger (Sonth, Adrak) Powder.

The Authority approved the final notification, as proposed.

- (b) Draft Notifications:**
(I) Amendment to Regulation 2.2, Fats, Oils and Fat Emulsions
1) Limits of trans fatty acids in Refined Vegetable oil, 2) Removal of Parameter of Bellier Turbidity Test (BTT) value from standards of vegetable oils;

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

- (II) Amendment to Regulation 2.3, Fruit and Vegetable Products**
3) Thermally processed fruits- To include Cherries with stems, 4) Processed Fruit Juices, 5) Processed Vegetable Juices, 6) Cashew Kernels, 7) Water Chestnut Flour (Singhare Ka Atta), 8) Colouring foods, 9) TSS content in the fruits and vegetables products to include low sugar products;

Industry representatives suggested to specify separate limit of free fatty acids for Cashew Kernel pieces and also had concerns on the limit of marker pigment % in colouring foods. They were requested to submit their comments on the draft notification once it is issued.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposed draft notification.

- (III) Amendment to Regulation 2.5, Meat and Meat Products**
10) Amendment in sub-regulation 2.5.1 "Definitions" prescribed under regulation 2.5 related to Meat and Meat Products, 11) Animal Casings, 12) Egg products;



With regard to Egg products, Industry representatives suggested to replace 'spray drying' with 'suitable drying' in the scope of Egg Powder and the same was agreed to by the Authority.

With this modification, the Authority approved the proposed draft notification.

(IV) Amendment to Regulation 2.6, Fish and Fish Products

13) Pasteurized Fish Sausage, 14) Pasteurized Crab Meat, 15) Gelatin from Fish Processing Waste;

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(V) Amendment to Regulation 2.10, Beverages, (Other Than Dairy and Fruits & Vegetables Based)

16) Use of mineral water in the products specified under sub-regulation 2.10.6 Beverages Non-Alcoholic – Carbonated;

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(VI) Amendment to Regulation 2.11, Other Food Products and Ingredients

17) Baking Powder;

Industry representatives suggested the inclusion of wheat flour since the same was also used as baking powder. They were requested to submit their comments after notification of the draft regulations.

The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(VII) Amendment to Regulation 2.12, Proprietary Food

18) Amendment in the regulation 2.12 i.e. Proprietary Foods,

The proposal with respect to addition of micronutrients to Proprietary foods with prior approval of Authority was withdrawn in view of the perceived difficulty in its implementation. Further, it was advised that the concern of the Panel in this regard may be taken up separately.

The Authority approved the draft proposed notification with the above deletion.



- (VIII) Amendment to Regulation 3.1, Other Substances for Use in Food Products & Appendix A**
- 19) Use of Stevia in fermented dairy products, and 20) Review of safety of Sweeteners.**

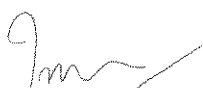
The Authority approved the proposals.

A. Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins, and Residues) Regulations, 2011;

(a) Final Notification

(1) Draft Notification dated 27.12.2017 on amendment of the sub-regulation 2.3.1 of Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 related to MRLs of Insecticides.

- a) Representative of the Ministry of Commerce had certain observations regarding pesticides not registered with CIB&RC. Chairperson suggested that Ministry of Commerce should submit data on pesticides which were not registered in India but were used in the country from where the food commodities were exported to India. Our laboratories could then be advised to check for the presence of such unregistered pesticides at the time of import of such products. Further, it was also decided to add a note to the notification stipulating that *"Tolerance limit of 0.01 mg/kg shall apply in cases of pesticides for which MRLs have not been fixed"*.
- b) Industry representatives pointed out that Tea Board had conducted a study on MRL of Quinalphos in Tea and derived the MRL as 0.7 mg/kg. They have submitted these findings to CIB&RC. It was clarified that the Authority has not received any data in this regard from CIB&RC. Once such data was received and if it was felt that the MRL needed to be modified, this would be done thorough a separate amendment.



- c) Industry representatives requested for more transition time for the implementation of these regulations. This was not agreed to and it was further decided that these regulations shall be enforced from the date of its publication in public interest.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposed final notification.

(b) Draft Notification:

- (1) Modifications in the Draft Notification for metal contaminants in Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and residues) Regulations, 2011,**
- 2) Limits of aflatoxins and mycotoxins Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and residues) Regulations, 2011**

With regard to aflatoxins, Industry representatives suggested replacement of the term 'Food not specified' with 'Food Product containing any of the above mentioned food articles' for Total Aflatoxins and Aflatoxin B1 and the same was agreed to by the Authority.

The Authority approved the proposed draft notification, with the modification as above.

B. Food Safety & Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011

(a) Final (draft) Notification:

- 1) Draft Notification dated 13.03.2018 on "Food Safety and Standards (Advertisements and Claims) Regulations, 2018.**

The Authority considered the Addendum issued to the Agenda (placed at **Annexure-3**).

Industry representatives had several observations in regard to the regulations, as under:




- a) General principles (Regulation 3.1(4)): May be reframed.
- b) Conditional Claims (Regulation 3.6): Conditions laid down in Schedule V for the use of adjectives such as 'natural', 'fresh', 'pure', 'original', 'traditional', 'premium', 'Finest', 'Best', 'Authentic', 'Genuine', 'Real' etc. need to be relooked.
- c) Approval of claims (Regulation 4): To remove Nutrient function claims from the requirement of approval and be aligned with Codex.
- d) Schedule I- To insert 'Prebiotic' under Nutrient/ component.
- e) Schedule II- To insert word 'Lite' as synonym for Low.
- f) Schedule IV- To be applicable to all products instead of only fortified food articles. This was agreed by the Authority.
- g) Schedule V- It should be flexible and wider, for which industry would provide positive list.

After detailed deliberations, it was decided that the Industry representatives would submit their comments on proposed final Notification with proper justification along with proposal to address the issue of trade mark/ brand name appearing in the labelling, presentation or advertising of a food. It was decided that after considering the comments received before 30.06.2018, the final regulations may be approved by the Chairperson on behalf of the Authority.

2) Draft notification dated 19.03.2018 of "Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018.

The Authority decided to replace 'tamper-evident bottles' with 'tamper-proof bottles'. Industry representatives had certain observations regarding 'Regulation



4.4 (5)- Products made of recycled plastics including carry bags shall not be used for packaging, storing, carrying or dispensing articles of food'. They stated that recycled plastics would also be of food grade which should be permitted. The Authority agreed to amend the regulation as 'Products made of recycled plastics including carry bags shall be not used for packaging, storing, carrying or dispensing articles of food unless they are recertified as food-grade' provided the Environment Protection Act does not specifically prohibit the recycling of plastics.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposed draft notification.

C. Food Safety & Standards (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional food and Novel food) Regulations, 2016

(a) Draft Notification:

1) Amendment to Food Safety & Standards (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional food and Novel food) Regulations, 2016.

Industry representatives had observations regarding use of single ingredients mentioned at clause (29) of page 154 of the agenda. It was decided to identify single chemical entities in the Nutraceutical category such as caffeine which have physiologically active drug like or stimulant actions. The members may submit a list of such ingredients within one week so as to enable a final decision to be taken in this regard. Till such time, this clause be removed from the proposed draft notification.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposed draft notification.

E. Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations;

(a) Draft Notification:

1) Fortified Multigrain Atta,



The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the proposed draft notification.

2) Revision of the standards of Double Fortified Salt and Fortified Vanaspati under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018,

The Authority decided to replace the text 'Not less than 15 (on dry weight basis)' with the revised text '15-30 (on dry weight basis)' in respect of the Iodine content at Distribution channel including retail level Consumer level.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposal.

3) Provision for use of 'Heme Iron' as a source of fortificants under Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016

The Authority approved the proposal.

F. Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011;

(a) Final (draft) Notification:

1) Draft Notification dated 07.02.2018 regarding removal of Boudouin Test requirement for Blended edible Vegetable Oil and Revision of Clause (3) of sub-regulation 2.3.15 - Special provisions relating to sale of vegetable oil and fat

The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the proposed final notification.

G. Miscellaneous:

(1) Reconstitution of Scientific Panels

Authority considered the agenda item and decided that the final composition of Scientific Panels may be approved by the Chairperson on behalf of Authority.



(2) Restriction on advertisement of areca nut and its products including pan masala

Authority considered the agenda item and approved the recommendation of Scientific Committee for restricting advertisement of areca nut and its products including pan masala.

(3) Approval of Recommendations of Working Groups constituted under Scientific Panel on oils and Fats to look into issues relating to Blended Edible Vegetable Oil

Authority decided that the proposed positive claims for oils may be included in Food Safety and Standards (Advertisements and Claims) Regulations, 2018 after finalisation.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposed draft notification.

(4) Proposal to further reduce the limits of trans fatty acids in Edible Oils and Fats

Industry representatives suggested that the limit of trans fatty acids in bakery shortenings be kept at a maximum of 5% and also suggested that such limits on other items be considered on case to case basis which was not agreed to by the Authority. However, Chairperson suggested that the technical feasibility for reduction of trans fatty acids be checked separately.

With these comments, the Authority approved the proposal.

H. Draft Notification on Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Amendment Regulations, 2018 regarding Labelling of Blended Edible Vegetable Oil

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action. Comments/ suggestions, if any, may be submitted at the time of draft notification stage.



I. Draft Notification on Food Safety and Standards (Import) Amendment Regulations, 2018 relating to extend the scope of provisional NOC so as to include pre-packed retail food items that are easily amenable to traceability under the scope of provisional NOC

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the proposal. The Authority was apprised that this proposal has already been merged in the Comprehensive amendment in FSS (Imports) Regulations, 2017.

J. Operationalization of standards/regulations and directions issued by FSSAI

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the action taken.

Agenda Item No. 26.2: FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

(1) List of FSSAI notified food testing laboratories

(a) The list of Notified Food Testing Laboratories after the 25th Authority meeting

Authority ratified the proposed lists.

(b) Regularization of food laboratories empanelled prior to December, 2014 without gazette notification.

Authority approved the food laboratories empaneled prior to December 2014 as deemed notified with retrospective effect.

(2) MoUs signed with M/s Thermo Fisher Scientific India Pvt. Ltd.

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the proposed action.

Agenda Item No. 26.3: FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

(a) Comprehensive amendment in FSS (Import) Regulations, 2017

Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.

(b) Rectifiable labelling information for imported food consignments

(c) Operationalization of amendment in sub-rule (3) of regulation 9 of FSS



(Import) Regulations, 2017 relating to issue of provisional NOC for pre-packaged retail items

- (d) Notification of Authorized Officers under section 25 read with section 47(5) of FSS Act, 2006 and regulation 13(1) of FSS (Import) Regulations, 2017.**

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the above actions.

- (e) Adoption of Minutes of 21st meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC)**

Authority took note of the agenda items as circulated for information.

- (f) Shortfall of Designated Officers (Dos) and Food Safety Officers (FSOs) in States/UTs**

- (g) Rationalisation of License/Registration fee to be charged from Departmental canteens /messes, etc. being run in the Central Government premises**

Authority considered the agenda items and approved the proposals. It was decided that States be requested to initiate action for creating/filling-up of posts to make up the shortfall of Designated Officers (DOs) and Food Safety Officers (FSOs).

- (h) Guidelines for differentiation between edible ice and non-edible ice.**

- (i) Direction under Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding labeling requirements for seasoning allowing permission to the existing labels for seasoning up to 30th June, 2018**

Authority considered the agenda item and ratified the above actions.

Agenda Item No. 26.4: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

- (a) Adoption of Creative Common License for Publication of IEC content**

Authority considered and approved the agenda item.

Agenda Item No. 26.5: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- (a) Framing of Recruitment Regulations**



(b) Proposed Ad-hoc promotion to absorbed employees

Authority considered and approved the agenda items.

Any other agenda item with the approval of the Chair

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (1)

Approval of the Annual Accounts of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the financial year 2017-18

The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the Annual Accounts of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the financial year 2017-18. CEO suggested adoption of activity based accounting for better clarity on broad heads such as regulatory training, IT- training, lab training etc. Further, Chairperson directed Finance division to settle the matter w.r.t unsettled advances and security paid to various agencies as specified under Current Assets separately.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (2)

Financial activities of FSSAI other than GIA from MoH&FW and internal revenue receipts of the Authority in FY 2017-18

Authority took note of the agenda item as circulated for information.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (3)

Approval of the Budget of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the financial year 2018-19

The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the Budget of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the financial year 2018-19, as proposed.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (4)

Approval of the Food Authority to the Amendments in FSS Act, 2006



Chairperson requested the Members to review the proposed Amendments in FSS Act, 2006 with respect to missing elements or over prescribed provisions so that Act could be made more robust and enforceable. Further, CEO emphasized upon Industry representatives to specially examine and comment on Section 27. Members were requested to submit their inputs/comments within two weeks' time.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (5)

Draft notification on standards for frozen beans, frozen cauliflower, frozen peas and frozen spinach

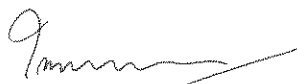
The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the draft notification, as proposed.

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 26.V (6)

Recruitment of Technical Officers (TOs) on contract basis in FSSAI

The Authority considered the agenda item and approved the proposal of appointment of 25 Technical Officers on contract basis till such time FSS Recruitment Regulations were finalized.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants.



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. Shri Sudhir Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;
4. Shri N Ramesh, Director, Ministry of Commerce; [on behalf of Shri Santosh Sarangi, Joint Secretary]
5. Shri Minhaj Alam, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
6. Shri BN Dixit, Director, Legal Metrology, Department of Consumer Affairs; [on behalf of Shri P. V. Rama Sastri, Joint Secretary]

B. Special invitees:

1. Ms. Parna Dasgupta, FICCI;
2. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
3. Ms. Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors Association (AIFPA);

C. Officers of the FSSAI

1. Mrs. Madhavi Das, CMSO
2. Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
3. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (Codex/ Regulations)
4. Shri N. Bhaskar, Advisor (QA)
5. Mrs. Garima Singh, Director (RCD)
6. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (RARD/FSMS)
7. Mrs. Suniti Toteja, Director (Imports/FFRC)
8. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA)

9. Shri AK Chanana, Head (IT)
10. Dr. A.C. Mishra, Joint Director (Standards)
11. Dr. A.K. Sharma, Consultant
12. Dr. S. C. Khurana, Consultant
13. Shri P. Karthikeyan, AD (Codex/ Regulation)
14. Shri Manoj, AD (Finance)
15. Mrs Ratna srivastava, Sci IV(I) (Regulations)
16. Dr. (Miss) Shelvi Agarwal, TO (Standards)

0-0-0-0-0

26th Meeting of Food Authority (14.6.2018)CEO's Detailed Report-(As Tabled)**1. FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATION****Scientific Committee, Scientific Panel and the Work on Standard Setting after the last Authority meeting held on February 21, 2018.**

1.1 Scientific Committee meetings (2): The twenty ninth and thirtieth meeting of the Scientific Committee were held on 21st May 2018 and 6th June 2018 respectively.

1.2 Scientific Panel meetings (19): Following Panels met during the period:

- i) **Scientific Panel on Biological Hazards:** The twenty third meeting of the Panel was held on 31st January 2018.
- ii) **Scientific Panel on Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery):** The fourteenth meeting was held on 2nd April 2018.
- iii) **Scientific Panel on Contaminants in Food Chain:** The nineteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 15th March 2018.
- iv) **Scientific Panel on Fish and Fisheries Product:** The fourteenth meeting was held on 22nd February 2018.
- v) **Scientific Panel on Food additives, Flavourings, Processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food:** The thirty sixth meeting of the Panel was held on 24th April 2018.
- vi) **Scientific Panel on Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts, Salt, Spices and Condiments):** The twelfth and thirteenth meeting of the Panel were held on 12th March 2018 and 28th May 2018.
- vii) **Scientific Panel on Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other Similar Products:** The thirty eighth meeting of the Panel was held on 9/10 April 2018.
- viii) **Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms and Foods:** The thirteenth meeting of the Panel was held on 20th April 2018.
- ix) **Scientific Panel on Milk and Milk Products:** The seventh and eighth meetings were held on 13th March 2018 and 17th May 2018 respectively.
- x) **Scientific Panel on Meat and Meat Products including Poultry:** The eighth meeting was held on 22nd March 2018.
- xi) **Scientific Panel on Method of Sampling and Analysis:** The twenty second meeting of the Panel was held on 4th May 2018.

- xii) **Scientific Panel on Labelling and claims/Advertisements:** The twenty fifth meeting of the Panel was held on 26/27 April 2018.
- xiii) **Scientific Panel on Oils and Fats:** The eleventh and twelfth meetings of the Panel were held on 5th March 2018 and 29th May 2018 respectively.
- xiv) **Scientific Panel on Pesticides and Antibiotic Residues:** The fifty first meeting of the Panel was held on 10th April 2018.
- xv) **Scientific Panel on Water (including flavoured water) & Beverages (alcoholic non -alcoholic):** The tenth meeting of the Panel was held on 5th April 2018.
- xvi) **Scientific Panel on Nutrition and Fortification:** The sixth meeting was held on 25th April 2018.

The recommendations made have been placed in the Agenda for the approval of the Food Authority.

2. FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

2.1 Food Analyst examination (FAE) results

Out of 80 candidates who appeared for Paper III of Food Analyst examination, 73 candidates passed the practical examination and declared as qualified Food Analyst by the Board. The complete list of qualified candidates is available on the website.

2.2 Updates on National Reference Laboratory System

Based on the applications received and scrutiny by a duly constituted core committee, the following 15 laboratories have been shortlisted provisionally as NRLs in areas as indicated against their names -

S.N.	Name of Laboratory	Specific area of functioning
1.	CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Nutritional labelling
2.	Export Inspection Agency, Kochi	GMO/LMO
3.	National Institute of Plant Health Management, Hyderabad	Pesticides
4.	ICAR-NRC Grapes, Pune	Pesticides and Mycotoxins
5.	CSIR- Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow	Toxicology
6.	Export Inspection Agency, Kolkata	Heavy Metals
7.	Centre of Analysis of Livestock and Food, NDDB, Anand	Milk & Milk Products
8.	ICAR-Central Institute of Fishery Technology, Kochi	Fish & Fisheries Products
9.	Export Inspection Agency, Chennai	Microbiology
10.	Punjab Biotechnology Incubator, Mohali	Honey and all sweetening agents including Confectionary
11.	Trilogy Analytical Laboratory, Pvt. Ltd Hyderabad	Mycotoxins in all Cereals & Pulses

12.	EFRAC, Kolkata	Veterinary Drug Residues including Antibiotics and Hormones
13.	Vimta Labs, Hyderabad	Water, Non-Alcoholic and Alcoholic Beverages
14.	FARE Labs Pvt. Ltd, Gurugram	Oils and Fats
15.	Neogen Food & Animal Security (India) Private Limited, Kochi	Allergens

The aforesaid laboratories are likely to be visited for inspection by the Core Group shortly. Once declared as National Reference Laboratory (NRL), these laboratories/Institutes would undertake the following activities -

- (i) Conduct of at least 1 round of Proficiency Testing/Inter-Laboratory Comparison
- (ii) Conduct of Training Programs (including personnel of other laboratories)
- (iii) Method development and validation/ verification
- (iv) Procurement and Providing with Certified Reference Material (CRMs)
- (v) NABL Accreditation for Proficiency Testing/ Specific Analyte

2.3 Progress of FRSL Ghaziabad

The completion of civil/electrical work at the First Floor is at advance stage. Lab Furniture and Fume Hoods have also been delivered. The work has also been started on the Ground Floor after closure of FRSL activities. To enable start of work, the FRSL is being shifted to old Building at Navyug Market, Ghaziabad.

2.4 Upgradation of CFL Kolkata

Tender for procurement of analytical equipment has been finalised and order placed. All these equipment are likely to be installed by mid June, 2018. Besides this, one (U) HPLC has been purchased and installed. Revised tender for setting up of microbiology section is under process. Auction of unserviceable/disposal items have been carried out and items are being disposed of.

2.5 Updates on 3rd party assisted national milk survey

The 3rd party survey begun in May 2018 and is being carried out by M/s Vimta Laboratories, Hyderabad. A total of 1106 towns with at least 6 samples per town will be covered under this survey. So far, 184 milk samples have been analysed from 30 towns for both qualitative and quantitative parameters. The mid-term review is scheduled to be held by the end of June 2018.

2.6 Updates on Strengthening Food Safety Ecosystem

- **Strengthening of State Food Testing Laboratories (as on 1.06.2018)-**

A grant of 39.45 Crore INR has been sanctioned/released to different states/UTs for upgradation purposes. With this, the total grant released towards upgradation has risen from 70.50 Crore INR to 109.95 Crore INR covering 26 state food testing laboratories across 24 States/UTs.

- **Strengthening of Referral Food Testing Laboratories-**
Grant towards upgradation of referral laboratories at IICT-Hyderabad, NIPHM-Hyderabad and NRCG-Pune has been sanctioned and released. With this, the total grant released towards upgradation of referral laboratories has risen from 9.375 crore INR to 13.09 crore INR; and has covered 7 referral food testing laboratories.
- **Food Safety on Wheels (FSW)-**
9 more FSWs have been sanctioned/delivered raising the total number of FSWs sanctioned/delivered from 22 to 31 to 26 States/UTs.

2.7 Capacity Building:

- Two more "Training of Trainers" (TOT) programs (one at PBTI, Mohali and other at M/s Waters Laboratory Bengaluru) were conducted on analysis of veterinary drug residues including antibiotics. With these, the total number of TOTs has risen from 4 to 6 in respect of veterinary drug residues including antibiotics; and, the total number of participants from 50 to 73.
- 3 Good Food Laboratory Practices (GFLP) programs at the Defence Food Research Laboratory, Mysore, Hubert Enviro Care Systems Pvt. Ltd., Chennai and Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai. With this the total number of GFLPs has risen from 10 to 13; and the total number of trainees from 321 to 394.

3. FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

3.1 Food Safety and Management System (FSMS)

Provisional recognition of Food Safety Auditing Agencies under the draft FSS (Food Safety Auditing) Regulations, 2017 and Conduct of food safety audits in Central Institutions."

3.2 Regulatory Compliance

The computer generated copy of License/Registration Certificate has replaced the practice of sending physical copy of the same w.e.f 01 May 2018. The FSSAI License/Registration Certificate shall also bear a Quick Response (QR) code as a security feature to verify License/Registration Certificate. Based on the computer generated License/Registration, the FBO will be in position to start his food business immediately.

4.GLOBAL OUTREACH

4.1 Codex

Indian delegates participated in 4 Codex Committee meetings on various subject matters from February 2018 till date. Indian delegation made several interventions during these meetings to ensure that the Indian concerns or positions were adequately considered. The major achievements and interventions made by India in the meetings are summarised as follows:

i). **12th Session of Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF)**

The Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) held its Twelfth Session in Utrecht, the Netherlands during 12th -16th March 2018. Agenda items concerning India were discussed and deliberated as under:

- **MLs for Lead and Cadmium in Quinoa -**

India informed the Committee that since quinoa is a pseudo-cereal and the growing conditions are different, it might be appropriate to consider quinoa separately and an ML for lead and cadmium in this commodity could be based on occurrence data specific to quinoa. The same was noted by the Committee and Committee agreed to discuss this matter at CCCF13 based on the paper from the Codex and JECFA Secretariats

- **Proposed draft and Draft Maximum Levels for Lead in Fruits and Vegetables and Other Selected Commodities.-**

Revision of ML of lead in Mango Chutney- EWG proposed to lower the ML of lead in mango chutney from 1mg/kg to 0.3mg/kg. However, based on India's interventions, CCCF agreed to lower the ML for lead in mango chutney from 1 mg/kg to 0.4 mg/kg.

- **Maximum Level for Methylmercury in Fish Including Associated Sampling Plans**

Committee agreed to forward an ML of 1.2mg/kg for methylmercury in Tuna fish to CAC 41 for adoption. Committee agreed to discontinue the work of fixation of any ML for Swordfish.

ii. **50th Session of Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA50)**

The 50th Session of CCFA was held during 26th - 30th March 2018 in Xiamen, China.

Food additive provisions in various categories as proposed by India were adopted, which includes TOCOPHEROLS in Food category Dried fruit and Fruit-based spreads (e.g. chutney) excluding products of food category 04.1.2.5; Nisin, Polyglycerol Esters of Fatty Acids, Propylene Glycol Alginate, Sucroglycerides, Sucrose Esters of Fatty Acids, Sucrose Oligoesters, Type I And Type II and Tocopherols in food category 1.6.4 -Processed cheese.

iii. **50th Session of Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR50) held from 9th - 14th April, 2018 in Haikou, China**

The 50th Session of CCPR was held during 9th – 14th April 2018 in Haikou, China. The Committee supported the proposal of Chile on bio-pesticides and established EWG chaired by Chile and co-chaired by India and USA.

India presented a proposal for new work on guidelines for “Uniform Risk Management Guidelines to address Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals as Pesticides in Food”, and stressed that there was a lack of harmonized guidance on regulating endocrine disrupting chemicals which has emerged as a major concern among countries. The Committee deliberated on the proposal and recognized the importance of this issue in trade and also pointed out that EDCs could arise from a wide range of sources, that the issue was broad and went beyond the mandate of CCPR. The Committee suggested that India could raise the concern to CAC.

iv. 24th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF24) held from April 23-27, 2018, in Chicago, United States of America

The 24th Session of CCRVDF was held during 23rd – 27th April 2018 in Chicago, USA. The Committee agreed to retain Ethoxyquin (used as Feed Additive for shrimps) in the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA, at the request of India and Philippines.

- **MOUs/MOCs signed**
- An MOU on Food Safety Cooperation between the FSSAI and the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA), Denmark had been signed on 16th April, 2018. The same had been exchanged during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Stockholm (April 16-17, 2018).
- **Delegations sent abroad**
- In pursuance of the agenda item circulated for information in last Authority meeting, the delegation of senior officials from FSSAI and State Food Safety commissioners were deputed for exposure visit to France (in January 2018), UK (in February, 2018), New Zealand (in April 2018) and Singapore (in May 2018). These delegations were hosted by the respective countries. The idea was to expose senior management in Indian food safety ecosystem to global food regulatory systems to ensure cross learnings.
- **Delegations visiting FSSAI**

1. GRULAC (Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries in the United Nations)

- A meeting of delegation of over 15 Latin American countries comprising Ambassadors and senior personnels was held at FSSAI

under the Chairmanship of Chairperson, FSSAI on 4th June 2018. The discussions regarding collaboration in the areas of food safety and trade were held.

2. Meeting with Polish delegation

- A delegation from Poland led by HE Mr. Jacek Bogucki, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Poland met with Chairperson, FSSAI on 12th March, 2018. The discussions focussed on issues related to food safety and trade.

3. Meeting with Mr. Ted Mckinney, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- A delegation from US led by Mr. Ted Mckinney, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, USDA met with Chairperson, FSSAI on 21st Feb., 2018. The issues related to international standards and food safety were discussed. Both sides expressed their resolve to strengthen engagement on activities of mutual interest.

5. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

5.1 FOSTAC progress:

Till date 122 Training Partners have been empaneled. More than 1300 trainers have been trained and 300 assessors identified for transparent assessment. Almost 1400 trainings have been conducted in past one year and more than 27000 people were trained under FoSTaC across the country. Training has been started in almost all States covering 764 cities.

Further, on completion of one-year of FoSTaC in May 2018, all Training Partners voluntarily took part in the “celebration of I year of FoSTaC” in a unique initiative by conducting at least one training during 1st May to 31st May 2018. Thus, in one month 257 training have been conducted in different locations of India starting from North Eastern States like Manipur, Meghalaya to Southern States of Kerala, Karnataka etc. Total number of people trained during this one month is 4100.

In compliance to the decision of Food Authority all State Food Safety Commissioners and Regional Directors were asked to take up FoSTaC for State as well as Central Licensed FBOs in their respective States vide orders dated 6th October 2017 & 25th April 2018. Total 16 States have nominated a senior officer as Nodal Officers for FoSTaC so far. Further, the provision to make FoSTaC mandatory as approved in 25th Authority meeting is being suitably incorporated in The Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations 2011.

5.2 Training of Regulatory Staff

Induction Training programmes for Food Safety Officers were conducted in 9 different states viz Karnataka, Maharashtra, Delhi, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Manipur wherein 348 officers successfully completed the training. Induction Training programmes for Designated Officers were conducted in 2 states viz Gujarat and Maharashtra wherein 37 officers were given training. Special training for 60 officers of Govt of Rajasthan was conducted. In addition, training for Technical officers of FSSAI Regional Offices through video conferencing was also conducted. Thus, a total 445 regulatory officers have been given training under different training programmes.

6. SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Safe and Nutritious Food (SNF)

In the 24th meeting of Food Authority held on 21st September, 2017, approval was accorded for provision of financial support to the interested States/UTs towards large-scale adoption of SNF initiatives as part of their IEC activities. FSSAI's Safe & Nutritious Food initiative (SNF) aims at social and behavioural change to usher in a culture of safe and wholesome food with focus on preventive healthcare.

The State of Assam is adopting two initiatives namely SNF@School & Serve Safe in Guwahati. A FSS Training for Advanced Catering under FoSTaC has also been organized along with the launch programme. Food Safety Commissioner, Assam, has formally sent across a proposal to FSSAI to allocate a cumulative amount of Rs. 1 lakh for conducting social and behaviour change activities in the State. This is the first instance of SNF financial incentive being granted to any State.

7. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

7.1. Consequent on transfer of FRSL, Ghaziabad to FSSAI along with staff and assets, the premises are under direct control of FSSAI. Due to the continuous growing demand for office and lab space etc. there is demand for additional space for office, labs, training facilities, hostel etc., it has been decided to utilize the available space in FRSL for building Tower to create facilities to meet the emerging demand for space. It has been considered appropriate to create a multistory office building (two basements for parking/Gen Set + seven floors). The space would be utilized for office, for creation of in-house training centre for FSOs and others with residential facility. The estimated cost would be around Rs. 42-45 Crore. Being the large project, FSSAI intends to hire the services of Project Management Consultants (PMC) mainly from NBCC, Engineers India Limited, HSCC etc. The building plan and necessary approvals from Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) are being obtained and likely to be received.

7.2. FSSAI has also been able to get 2500 sq. mtr land allotted at JNPT, Mumbai on long terms lease basis with a plan to build multistoried building to accommodate its office cum Lab building and it's Western Regional Office at JNPT allocated site at a total approx. cost of Rs. 35 crore. Further, efforts are being made to get consolidated office building with in-house Lab/Sample Storage facility for SR office

either through purchase of land or by hiring premises from Chennai Port Trust on long term lease basis.

7.3. The Authority is making a Day Care Centre/Crèche in view of the Government instructions and demands from working women employees from FSSAI & CDSCO. To build the Day Care Centre/Crèche, an old structure in the back side of the FDA Bhavan was selected and after ensuring the strength of the structure by lead experts empanelled by FSSAI, the work of Day Care Centre has been started which is in advanced stage and the service provider would hand-over the premises in mid-July 2018. On the terrace of the structure it was decided to provide basic facilities for yoga / meditation and gymnasium. To operationalise the Day Care Centre/Crèche/Gym/Yoga, cost of Rs. 2 crores would be spent. It is proposed to create an indoor recreation centre and an outdoor sports facility for employees of FSSAI by locating the space in the basement and the open space behind FDA Bhavan.

7.4. Further to this, FSSAI don't have any space for drivers and they have to remain in their vehicles or sit somewhere outside thus braving the vagaries of nature. It is proposed to constitute a temporary structure somewhere in the campus for drivers to sit & have rest when not on duty.

0-0-0-0-0

Addenda to agenda 26.1 (C) (A) (1) regarding draft notification dated 13.03.2018 on "Food Safety and Standards (Advertisements and Claims) Regulations, 2018

(i) The draft on Food Safety and Standards (Advertisement & Claims) Regulations approved by the Food Authority in its 23rd meeting held on 25.05.2017 was uploaded on FSSAI website on 08.11.2017 under notice for calling comments and notified on 13.03.2018 for inviting comments from various stakeholders. The Scientific Panel on Labelling and Claims/Advertisements in its 25th meeting held on 26/27.04.2018 examined the comments received on this draft. One of the comments was with respect to providing exemption to trade mark, brand name appearing in the labelling, presentation or advertising of a food from the entire general & specific conditions, prohibitions and restrictions as laid down in these Regulations.

(ii) After detailed discussion on the above issue, Scientific Panel opined that it is a policy decision and Authority may look into this from policy angle. Details of the comments are placed at **Annexure - A**.

Authority may consider and advise.

Details of Comments related to Trade Mark, Brand Name:

Sl. No.	Relevant Section	Comment	Rationale	Remarks of the Scientific Panel
1.	<p>Regulation 2 (c): Definition</p> <p>“claim” means any representation which is printed, oral, audio or visual and states, suggests, or implies that a food has particular qualities relating to its origin, nutritional properties, nature, processing, composition or otherwise</p>	<p>We propose to exempt the brand name or trade name from the conditions laid down in the regulation, -</p> <p>2. (c) “claim” means any representation which is printed, oral, audio or visual and states, suggests, or implies that a food has particular qualities relating to its origin, nutritional properties, nature, processing, composition or otherwise</p> <p>Proviso: Brand names and trade name are exempted from the above requirement</p>	<p>Registration of trademark is granted under the law applicable for trademarks i.e. Trademarks Act, after detailed scrutiny and only when mark is considered new, unique and capable of distinguishing the goods or services of one undertaking from those of others. If the mark applied causes confusion, deceives public, is commonly used in current language or incapable of distinguishing the goods or services of the applicant with those of others, the registration is refused.</p> <p>Introducing such provisions under FSS laws would increase red tape and lead to interference into the domain of trademark registry.</p>	It's a policy decision

SI. No.	Relevant Section	Comment	Rationale	Remarks of the Scientific Panel
2.	<p>Regulation 3.1 (3) Where the meaning of a trade mark, brand name or fancy name appearing in the labelling, presentation or advertising of a food is such that it may imply a nutrition or health claim, all the general & specific conditions, prohibitions and restrictions as laid down in these Regulations shall be applicable.</p>	<p>Where the meaning of a fancy name (except trade mark, brand name) appearing in the labelling, presentation or advertising of a food is such that it may imply a nutrition or health claim, all the general & specific conditions, prohibitions and restrictions as laid down in these Regulations shall be applicable.</p> <p>The brand name or trade name should be exempted from the conditions laid down in the regulations.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>2. Delete this clause.</p>	<p>Brand names and trade names are already registered by the FBOs. Products with these brand name or trade names are in market since decades and are related to the trust of the consumer regarding consistent quality. A lot of efforts have been taken in developing consumer trust associating the product with brand name. This enriches the brand value. Changing the trade name or brand name will have huge commercial impact on the FBOs. It will also create confusion in the mind of the consumer. Also, it is unfair for the FBO not to allow him to use the trademark which is being used globally by the FBO and goodwill is earned by the FBO by investing huge</p>	<p>It's a policy decision</p>

Sl. No.	Relevant Section	Comment	Rationale	Remarks of the Scientific Panel
			time and efforts beside money.	
3.	<p>Regulation 3.6: Conditional Claims</p> <p>Claims containing adjectives such as 'natural', 'fresh', 'pure', 'original', 'traditional', 'premium', 'Finest', 'Best', 'Authentic', 'Genuine', 'Real' etc. when used, shall be in accordance with conditions laid down in table IV of the guidelines. However, claims containing words or phrases like "home-made", "home cooked" etc. which may give an erroneous impression to the consumer shall not be used.</p>	<p>The brand name or trade name shall be exempted from the conditions laid down in the regulations. Adjectives which forms part of the Brand or brand variant names and being used as a registered trade mark may be allowed as an exception.</p>	As above.	It's a policy decision
4.	<p>Schedule V: Use of words Premium, Finest, Best, Authentic, Genuine, Real</p> <p>These terms may be used only if the label and/or advertisement also</p>	<p>In case of most leading Indian and International Alcohol brands, the entire Brand Name including the sub descriptor through terms and words such as Premium, Pure, Original etc are</p>	<p>The master Blender plays with different blend of whiskies to create "variants" to cater to all these palates.</p> <p>So, as mentioned above in the case of beverage alcohol</p>	<p>It's a valid request by International Spirits and Wine Association of India. However, Authority may look</p>

Sl. No.	Relevant Section	Comment	Rationale	Remarks of the Scientific Panel
	clarify in what way the overall quality is tangibly justified and why the particular term has been used.	<p>registered as composite Trade Marks and protected by Intellectual Property Rights. There is no justification, therefore, to treat these as Claims or ask explanations for the same.</p> <p>While Alcohol is food, it is different to traditional food. Beverage alcohol is exempted from providing an expiry date or nutritional content on its product labels. Similarly, we would sincerely request that beverage alcohol also be exempted from this clause.</p>	<p>some of these terms are used to differentiate variants of particular brand. They are not product claims. They are merely a means of identifying / differentiating different variants of a brand. This has been done historically across the world.</p>	<p>into this from policy angle as other industry may also approach seeking exemption for their product category.</p>

0-0-0-0-0