

Procedure and time line for review of Standards of food products and additives under Food Safety and Standards (FPS&FA), Regulations, 2011

The authority has constituted Standards Review Cell in Food Safety and Standards Authority of India which will review and examine all the suggestions/comments from stake holders. The procedure *for* review of Standards of food products and additives will be as hereunder.

- a. All applications will be received by “**Standards Review Cell**” who after initial screening will compile these applications depending on the nature, complexity and risk assessment associated with the suggestion.
- b. These suggestions will be forwarded to concerned expert group for review.
- c. Thereafter these will be placed before the respective Scientific Panel who will either carry out the assessment itself or form a working group to look into the matter.
- d. The Scientific Panel after due assessment, will forward these suggestions to Scientific Committee.
- e. During the review process the FSSAI, if so required, can ask for additional information from the applicant, order special study, generation of data etc.
- f. After examination and consideration these suggestions will be placed before the Authority and then forwarded to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for approval for draft notification.

The process of review will proceed according to the following tentative time line

The tentative time schedule will be as follows.

- i. Receiving suggestions - 31st March, 2012
- ii. Examination of suggestions by SRC-02 months
- iii. Report of the specially constituted expert committees as per requirement - 02 months
- iv. Consideration by Scientific Panel - 02 months
- v. Consideration by Scientific Committee - 02 months
- vi. Consideration by Food Authority - 2 months

- vii. Approval by the Government and draft notification - 02 months
- viii. Time given for receiving public comments and notification to WTO, SPS/TPT etc - 02 months
- ix. Disposal of comments and finalising the draft - 03 months
- x. Approval of the Government and final notification - 02 months

Note : The above time schedule will vary depending upon the number of proposals that are received for amending the standards, time taken in the process of risk assessment of some proposals, requirement of generation of data, special study etc