

No.83-Dir (Enf.)/FSSAI/2011
Food Safety & Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Regulatory Body of Govt. of India)
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
3rd Floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road
New Delhi-110 002

Dated: 5 July, 2011

To,

Food Safety Commissioners of all States/UTs

Subject: - Clarification on the status of Public Labs functioning at Centre/State/UT after the promulgation of FSS Act, 2006 with effect from 5th August, 2011.

Section 43 of the FSS Act requires that all food testing under the Act will be done in NABL or any other FSSAI approved accredited lab. State Governments and UT Government have already been advised in this regard and the results of a 'gap analysis' commissioned by FSSAI in respect of the State Labs have been shared for appropriate action for the upgradation of the Labs to accredited standards. However, from the interaction with the State Governments it is clear that the process is likely to take some time and the labs will not be able to get accreditation before 5th August, 2011 when the FSS Act will become operational.

The matter has been examined and it is clarified that the existing Public Food Testing Laboratories which are testing food samples under PFA will continue to perform their function of food testing under Section 98 of FSS Act, 2006 till any notification is issued under Section 43 of FSS Act, 2006. The Central Food Laboratories at Kolkata, Pune and Mysore and FRSL, Ghaziabad will function as the referral laboratories.

Yours sincerely,


(S.S. Ghonkrokta)

Director

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Copy to:

1. Authorized Officers, Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, JNPT, Kolkata and Haldia.
2. FRSL Ghaziabad, CFL Kolkata, CFL Mysore, CFL Pune and all State labs.

Copy for information:

1. Sr. PS to Chairperson, FSSAI.
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI.
3. Director (M), FSSAI.
4. Director (F & VP), FSSAI.
5. Director (Admin), FSSAI.