File No. 1-95/Stds/Misc/SP (L&C/A)/FSSAI-2015 (pt-4) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

(A Statutory Authority established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)

FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi- 110002

Dated the

December, 2019

Subject: Consumer Education and Awareness on proper disposal of plastic packaging and litter management

The Hon'ble NGT had constituted an Expert Committee (EC) comprising of the representatives of BIS, CPCB, DGHS and FSSAI (Nodal Agency) to examine the regulatory provisions on restriction of plastic packaging and related issues. The EC has submitted its report to the Hon'ble NGT with recommendations and responsibilities of various stakeholders in reducing the usage of plastics and also in managing the plastic waste.

- 2. The EC in its report had recommended a systematic plan of action for different stakeholders, and one of them pertains to the final consumers/users of plastic packaged articles and food stuff with the following responsibilities;
 - a) *Eliminate/Ban single use plastics:* Eliminate and prohibit the usage of single serve/use plastics within their ecosystems by setting an example and create awareness among their group of people regarding plastic pollution and so to take this across the masses.
 - b) Substitute to plastics: Encourage the use of reusable and recyclable environment friendly alternatives such as jute and cloth bags, bamboo and wooden cutlery, leaf based plates, glass and metal containers etc.
 - c) *Improved Litter Management:* Education on collection of plastic waste, segregation of dry & wet waste and practices to reduce/reuse and to efficiently aid recycling of packaging waste so as to keep up with the growing demand to reduce plastic pollution.
 - d) Better Plastic Disposal: Initiatives are to be taken up, to dispose plastic waste by forming groups/clusters for collection, segregation, transportation, storage and to set up/identify energy recovering systems for processing/recycling of the plastic waste either on its own or by engaging agencies.
- 3. In view of the above recommendations of EC which were accepted by Hon'ble NGT, Food Safety Commissioners are requested to organize consumer education and awareness programmes amongst the public, establishments, agencies, institutions, organizations including government/non-government, schools, colleges and university campuses, E-commerce groups, corporate campuses, hotels, marriage banquet and community halls to propagate above recommendations for reduction in plastic usage.
- 4. In this connection, you are requested to take appropriate action on the points mentioned above and a progress report for the same shall be submitted to FSSAI by 20th January 2020, so that the Hon'ble NGT can be apprised accordingly.

(Dr Shobhit Jain)

Executive Director (Compliance Strategy)

To

- 1. All Food Safety Commissioners for taking up this with Local Municipal Bodies
- 2. Head (IT) For uploading on the website

Copy for information to:

- 1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
- 2. PS to CEO, FSSAI.