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Canteens in govt offices told to get FSSAI licence

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Drive for safe and nutritious food at work places

The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has urged all Ministries and Central government offices to ensure that departmental canteens and cafeterias have a licence from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). This is being done to ensure that safe and nutritious food is served in these canteens and cafeterias.

It has also asked all the Ministries and Central government departments to nominate food safety supervisors, who will undergo a training workshop organised by FSSAI from June 16. As per estimates, more than 1,000 canteens and cafeterias are run in Central government office premises.

FSSAI advisory

This move comes after the FSSAI issued an advisory in April, asking all food business operators that run canteens and cafeterias in Central government offices and educational institutions to get the mandatory licence or registration.

As per regulations, all food businesses which have Central or State licences, must have at least one trained food safety supervisor for every 25 food handlers in each premise. In addition, these food safety advisors have to undergo training and certification by December 31 under the Food Safety Training & Certification (FoSTac) imitative.

In its circular sent to all the Ministries and Central Government offices, the DoPT said the first phase of training workshop for food safety supervisors will begin on June 16. "All the Ministries/departments are requested to nominate individuals to FSSAI for the said training of food safety supervisors and ensure active participation in the same," it added.

FSSAI IN NEWS

Earlier this month, the FSSAI launched a nationwide campaign for safe and nutritious food at workplace called SNF@Workplace.