

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

## FSSAI offers resources for food safety

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Panaji: Countries need to pool their resources and provide support to the least developed countries in the region, said experts at the 21st session of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Health Organisation (WHO) Coordinating Committee for Asia, organised here by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Monday.

*“On behalf of India, FSSAI is happy to offer the capacity we have built at the international training centre for food safety and nutrition at Mumbai, for such capacity-building programmes,”* said FSSAI chairperson Rita Teotia.

“Countries trade extensively with each other. Almost 60% of food trade is within the region. This alone is enough reason for us to develop a common ground for cooperation,” she added. Teotia stressed on creating a network of scientific and research institutions for the collection and assimilation of data, for regional and worldwide purposes. This would help to create an IT-enabled platform.

FSSAI regulations head Sunil Bakshi emphasised on the need to promote mutual communication and resource-sharing to develop regional standards and regulations for food products.