



Now, radiation processing of food, new kind of business in FoSCoS portal

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The FSSAI has included radiation processing of food as a new kind of business in the FoSCoS portal for licensing of food businesses.

The food authority has issued an order in this regard adding that such food businesses will only get Central licence.

According to the FSSAI, the decision was taken to 'facilitate' the food business operators involved in radiation processing of foods.

FSSAI's proviso on 'irradiation' says that no person shall manufacture, import, sell, stock, exhibit for distribution or sale any article of food which has been subjected to the treatment of irradiation, except under a licence obtained from Department of Atomic Energy under the Atomic Energy (Control of Irradiation of Food) Regulations, 1996.

FSSAI's definition of such businesses says that radiation processing of food or food irradiation is a physical process in which food commodities, bulk or pre-packaged, are exposed to controlled doses of energy of ionising radiation such as gamma rays or X-rays to achieve different technological objectives.

The additional documents required by such food businesses to get the Central licence include licence obtained from Department of Atomic Energy under Atomic Energy (Radiation Processing of Food and Allied Products) Rules, 2012, and list of food products along with 'class category/allied product category', purpose' and dose/dose range' as per clause 2.13 of FSS-(Food Products Standards & Food Additives) Regulations.

Besides, such food businesses need to furnish a self-declaration to comply with the conditions for approval, operation, licence and process control prescribed under the Atomic Energy (Radiation Processing of Food and Allied Products) Rules, 2012.

FSSAI has also asked food businesses to keep additional records like certificate of irradiation indicating the dose of irradiation and purpose of irradiation provided by the facility during inspection, after grant of licence.