

FSSAI to review progress on de-listing of non-licensed restaurants in October

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PTI@moneycontrol.com



Food regulator FSSAI will review in the first week of October the progress made by the online food delivery platforms, including Zomato and Swiggy, on delisting of non-licensed restaurants and catering establishments.

In July this year, FSSAI had directed the food delivery platforms to de-list non-licensed establishments after getting consumer complaints of sub-standard food being served through e-commerce platforms.

"We had given time till end of September (to these platforms). We will review in the first week of October on the progress made on de-listing of non-licensed restaurants and catering firms," Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) CEO Pawan Kumar Agarwal said on the sidelines of the Retail India Summit and Expo.

Earlier this month, Zomato said it is de-listing restaurants that are not compliant with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India regulations from its platform.

When asked how many establishments have been de-listed so far, Agarwal said: "I don't know. We will know after the review the progress made so far".

Agarwal also challenged the retailers to find a way to continue achieving growth along with sustainable consumption. He said the food safety eco-system is being developed and the retailers need to build a culture of self-compliance.

In February this year, FSSAI had operationalised guidelines for e-Commerce Food Business Operators (FBOs). It later directed Box8, Faasos, FoodCloud, Foodmingo, Foodpanda, JusFood, LimeTray, Swiggy, UberEats and Zomato to de-list non licensed eateries after consumer complaints of sub-standard food being served through e-commerce platforms.