



FSSAI relaxes registration norms for direct sellers of food products

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FSSAI has decided to give relief to persons involved in direct selling of food products, as it has relaxed the requirement for registration of such operations. However, the apex food regulator has put some conditions for the same.

It has, in this regard issued a directive, stating that last-mile delivery person, direct selling agents, food vending machines, water vending machines, food ATMs owned by a single entity and branded food carts owned by a single entity, are exempted from the requirement of FSSAI registration.

However, the directive stated that it was subjected to conditions that the annual turnover of the individual entity/unit does not exceeds Rs 12 lakh, and the main entity shall obtain an FSSAI licence based on their eligibility, maintain database or record of all individual units, and shall be responsible for regulatory compliance by these individual entities.

It added that the main entity shall also issue photo IDs having a unique identity number and bearing the licence number of main unit, and when asked, the individual entity/unit shall display the license number of the main entity.

It is also the responsibility of the main entity to ensure individual unit is conversant with the basic sanitary and hygienic condition to be followed and facilitate their training under Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC).

“The main entity shall also maintain the medical records of the personnel work for such entities to ensure that no such person is suffering from any contagious disease, and also communicate in writing to such individual entities about undertaking responsibility for such compliance,” said the directive.

FSSAI, in a statement, said that the issue related to registration of last-mile delivery persons and direct selling agents was examined by the regulator, and since they generally work under a single main entity to ensure last-mile delivery of food products and are not directly involved in the manufacturing, sale and supply of food articles on their own or under their own brand name, FSSAI took the decision.