

**Minutes of the 36th meeting of the Food Authority held on September 23, 2021
at 10:30 hrs through virtual medium**

The thirty sixth meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held at 10:30 hrs on 23rd September, 2021 under the chairmanship of Ms. Rita Teotia, Chairperson, FSSAI. The meeting was conducted through online virtual forum due to covid-19 pandemic. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Chairperson, in her opening remarks, welcomed the members of the Authority and highlighted the celebration of Foundation Day of the Food Authority. She thanked every individual associated with the journey of the Authority so far, during which substantial progress has been achieved in a cooperative and consultative manner.

Item No. I: Confirmation of minutes of 35th meeting held on 24/06/2021

Since there were no comments, the minutes of the 35th meeting held on 24th June, 2021 were confirmed and adopted, as placed.

Item No. II: Action Taken Report of 35th meetings

The Food Authority took note of the Action Taken Report (ATR) circulated in advance to all the members. However, special invitees raised observation on action taken with respect to agenda item no. 35.1 (3.7) "Certificate of Analysis (CoA) format for imported enzyme preparations derived from Genetically Modified Microorganisms(GMM) for use as processing aids".

The special invitees reiterated their suggestion not to consider srl. nos. 4, 7 & 8 of approved CoA while importing every batch. To this, CEO informed that the concerned Scientific Panel felt that no change is needed in the new CoA from the point of view of product approval. However, such products are being imported into the country since long, and making the new CoA mandatory would disturb the current practice in the import clearance. So, it was decided to issue a direction making the new CoA mandatory for the purpose of evaluating safety during initial approval of these processing aids, ~~only~~ and, except in the case of specific information

srl. nos. 4, 7 and 8 of the new CoA will not be applicable in case of subsequent imports .

Item No. III: CEO's Report (to be presented during the meeting)

CEO, FSSAI in his report, simultaneously tabled during the meeting, highlighted the action taken and developments since the last meeting of the Food Authority. He briefed the Food Authority about the visit of Hon'ble Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Mansukh Mandaviya to FSSAI office on 20.09.2021 and other highlights of the programme that included felicitation of nine leading States/UTs based on the SFSI ranking for the year 2020-21, flagging off of 19 Mobile Food Testing Vans (Food Safety on Wheels), release of the results of PAN-India survey for identifying the presence of industrially produced trans fatty acid and various Codes of Practice etc.

Further, he also apprised about the virtual meetings of various Scientific Panels of FSSAI and finalization of standards/ methods; training and capacity building programs; MoUs with States/UTs along with technical and financial support to them; meetings of various Codex Committees; signing of MoU with IIM, Ahmedabad for conduct of survey-based study on 'Consumer perceptions of different front-of-pack labels for packaged food among Indian population'; recruitment status; notification of regulations etc.

Authority took note of the CEO's report. The detailed report is placed at **Annexure-2**.

AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

36.1 FOOD STANDARDS

1 ITEMS PROPOSED FOR DRAFT NOTIFICATION

1.1 Amendment to FSS (Food products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011

1.1.1 Relating to 2.1: Dairy Products and Analogues

A. Fat content in khoa

B. Low dry matter in processed cheese & processed cheese spread

C. Low fat mozzarella cheese and pizza cheese

1.1.2 Relating to 2.2: Fats, oils and fat emulsions

A. Allowing addition of emulsifiers in inter-esterified vegetable fats meant for bakery products applications

B. Revision of standard of peanut butter

C. Inclusion of standard of crude solvent extracted corn (maize) oil

1.1.3 Relating to 2.3: Fruit & vegetable products

2.3.43 - Change in the definition of pickle

1.1.4 Relating to 2.5: Meat and meat products

Revision of standard of pickled eggs

1.1.5 Relating to 2.6: Fish and fishery products

Fish oil

**1.1.6 Relating to 2.9: Salt, spices, condiments and related products
Standard for Dried parsley**

1.1.7 Relating to 2.13 Radiation processing of food

**Amendment in Table 1 pertaining to Class 1- Bulbs, stem & root tubers,
and rhizomes**

1.1.8 Relating to Chapter 3: Appendix A

A. Food Category Descriptions

B. Issue related to use of combination of colors in alcoholic beverages

The Authority approved the aforesaid draft notifications, as proposed.



With respect to 1.1.8 (B), the Authority agreed to withdraw the draft notification relating to FSS (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2021 currently pending with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for approval and to revise the same after incorporation of the proposals at 1.1.8 (B) approved by this Authority.

1.2 Amendment to FSS (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulations, 2018

A. Nutritional information on alcoholic beverages

B. Revision in the definition of single malt or single grain whisky

The Authority approved the aforesaid draft notifications, as proposed.

1.3 Amendment to FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020

The Food Authority considered the agenda item and approved, as proposed. Special invitees had some comments on the draft notification with respect to nutritional information of Food for Special Medical purpose (FSMP). To this, it was informed that the comments may be submitted at the draft notification stage.

2 OTHER ISSUES

2.1 Review petition on application for approval of "Biosil (Choline stabilized orthosilicic acid)" from M/s Sundyota Numandis Probiocentials Pvt. Ltd.

The Authority noted the remarks of the Science & Standards Division to constitute a sub-committee for hearing the grievance of Food Business Operator (FBO). However, Chairperson in her observations, mentioned that it is the first time in the history of FSSAI that a FBO is appealing to the Food Authority against the decision on its product approval application and it is a rarest of rare cases. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to form a Sub-committee of Food Authority and the Authority can hear the FBO directly.

It was decided to defer this agenda for next meeting and to invite the FBO formally to present his case against the speaking order before the Food Authority.

36.2 Ratification of operationalization of standards/regulations and directions issued by FSSAI

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

36.3 FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

1.Ratification of notification/recognition/discontinuation of Food Testing Laboratories

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed. However, the Chairperson emphasized to make a progressive roadmap with the States and handhold them to extend their scope of accreditation across all parameters as per Food Safety and Standards Regulations. Further, CEO apprised that an agency has been hired for conducting gap analysis of State Food Testing Laboratories (SFTLs) within 4-month time frame. Depending on the outcome of the gap analysis, additional funds will be provided for upgrading SFTLs.

2.Ratification of Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) Kit/Equipment/Method

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

3.Ratification of proposed Testing Fee for regulatory samples

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

4. Information on Surveillance activities

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

5. Information on Online Capacity Building Programs

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

36.4 FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

1. Third Party Audit Agencies

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

2. MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for Strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the Country- Latest Status

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

3. Request of FBOs for extension of time line for manufacturing and sale of Stapled tea bags

The Authority approved the extension of timeline for manufacturing and sale of stapled tea bags by 26 FBOs who have submitted their roadmap for complete change over to staple less tea bags, as proposed.

4. Provision for renewing the FSSAI License/Registration after the expiry date

The Authority approved the provision to renew the FSSAI License/Registration after the expiry date, as proposed.

5. Regulatory Compliance Orders for Ratification

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

36.5 IMPORT

A. Agenda Items for ratification by Food Authority

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

B. Agenda Item for information of Food Authority

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

36.6 HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Joining status of candidates under Direct Recruitment

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.

2. Regular Promotion of the absorbed employees of FSSAI under Section 90 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

36.7 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Annual Report of activities of FSSAI during the Year 2020-21

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

36.8 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Budget Allocation of the Authority for the FY 2021-22

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR

Supplementary Agenda Item 36.IV

1. Proposed Amendment in the 'Food Safety Mitra' Scheme

The special invitees brought to the notice of Authority that a similar scheme is being run by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) and few elements may be considered for inclusion in 'Food Safety Mitra' Scheme of FSSAI. To this, CEO informed that FSSAI is already in process of signing MoU with MoFPI for capacity building at the level of micro-processing units.

With these observations, the Authority approved the agenda item, as proposed.

2. Mandatory Inspection of Fortified Rice Kernel manufacturing plant/ facility prior to issuance of licence/ registration

The Authority approved the agenda item, as proposed.

3. FSSAI's related Accounts w.r.t.

(i) Provisional figures of Annual Accounts for FY-2020-21

The Authority approved the agenda item and authorised the Chairperson to approve the final Annual Accounts for FY-2020-21 on behalf of the Authority.

(ii) Financial activities of FSSAI for FY-2020-21 other than GIA from MoH&FW and Internal Revenue Receipt

The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.

4. Food and Food Ingredients derived from GMOs

The Authority considered the agenda item and the opinion of GEAC on the subject. After detailed deliberations, it was decided that any processing aids/additives or any other material of GM origin where scientific evidence is provided for the absence of modified DNA or LMO/GMO in the product, may be considered for approval under the FSS (Non-specified food products & food ingredients) Regulations, 2017.

5. Recruitment Status

The Authority approved the agenda item, as proposed. However, CEO highlighted that CTC criteria for the post of 'Principal Manager' has been inadvertently missed from the table and directed the concerned division to include the same in the table.

6. State Food Safety Index 2020-21

The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information. However, Chairperson highlighted that the ranking given to the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland in Table 2 is wrongly depicted and needs to be corrected:



OTHER ISSUES WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR

1. Shri B.N. Dixit, Director, Legal Metrology, Department of Consumer Affairs brought to the notice of Authority that M/s Adani Group and other oil industries are declaring different net quantity (volume) of oils at different temperatures on product labels which is not in consumer interest as the oil temperature and volume are inversely proportional. To this, Chairperson requested the participant to forward the issue to FSSAI for further deliberation and necessary action.
2. Dr. Hemant Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat informed that a petition has been filed regarding differentiation of veg and non-veg product merely on the basis of logo on product labels. He further stated that a rapid kit based on the technique of DNA sequencing to identify the veg/ non-veg source is available which is portable and easy to use. The kit may be considered for placing in the FSSAI Manuals of Methods of Analysis and can also be used in Food Safety on Wheels. To this, Dr. Koshia was informed that the manufacturer of rapid kit can apply to FSSAI through the Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) scheme for approval of their rapid kit. Further, he was also informed that the said petition has also been received in FSSAI which is under consideration by relevant division of FSSAI and a response will be submitted shortly.
3. Shri Thanglura, Mizoram Consumer's Union desired to have a system of providing incentives to the States for improving the infrastructure and ranking in State Food Safety Index. CEO apprised that FSSAI is signing MoUs with the States/UTs for strengthening their infrastructure and food safety ecosystem and provision of funding States/UTs is a part of such MoUs. Adequate funding is available subject to the willingness of States/ UTs to provide matching commitments.
4. Comments on Action Taken Report of 33rd Food Authority Meeting held on 23rd March, 2021:

With respect to agenda item no. 33.1 (1.9) "Amendment to FSSA (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, FSDU, FSMP, Functional Foods and Novel Foods) Regulations, 2016 [Uploaded on 06-11-2020]", the special invitees raised their observation that FAQs are not yet placed in public domain. To this, CEO informed that the FAQs are almost at the stage of completion and will be uploaded shortly on the website of FSSAI.

With respect to agenda item no. 33.1 (2.6) "Amendment to FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020", the special invitees sought information on the status of notification. To this, CEO informed that the said draft will be available shortly for inviting comments and suggestions of stakeholders.

5. Issues relating to FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020 raised by Special Invitees:

- (i) The status was sought with respect to "Revisiting the tolerance limit of maximum (minus) 10% of the declared value of the nutrient on the label for the purposes of compliance and analysis". Advisor (S&S) informed that the matter has been deliberated in the Scientific Panel on Methods of Sampling & Analysis and the same has been forwarded to the Scientific Panel on Labelling for deliberation. Till such time a decision is taken, existing tolerance limit as specified in the Food safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 will prevail.
- (ii) Special Invitees highlighted that in the current regulation there is no separate provision for wholesale packages and they are treated under the Non-Retail Container (NRC) and requested that these packages may be exempted from the provision of NRC for declaring mandatory nutritional information. They also requested to exempt the intermediary raw materials (like if pulp is a raw material for jam) from the provision of mandatory nutritional labelling as the nutritional information will not serve any purpose in such cases.

Chairperson directed the secretariat to align the provisions for NRC with the NRC related document currently under development/finalization in the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

(iii) Overall extension of timeline for compliance of FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020:

Special invitees and MoFPI representative strongly raised the point that there is a huge transition in the labelling requirements and hence, extension of timeline for compliance of said regulations is needed. In this context, CEO presented a list of Notifications / Directions with labelling provisions **(Annexure -3)**. It was decided to make compliance with labelling provisions voluntary till 1st July, 2022 for regulations at S. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10. There will be no such extension in case of S. No. 1, 7 & 8.

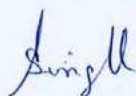
It was also decided that the directions relating to the provision for claims on food articles (S. No. 11) will be re-issued and making the provision as mandatory from 1st July, 2022.

CEO asked the special invitees to inform within a day's time if any other matter pertaining to labelling requirements needs to be addressed.

The Authority authorised Chairperson on its behalf to issue a comprehensive direction in this regard. Further, Chairperson emphasised that this extension shall be considered as the final extension in respect of compliance date for labelling provisions and no further extension will be entitled in this regard.

At the end, CEO thanked Chairperson for her valuable contribution and guidance in progress of FSSAI.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants.



Chief Executive Officer



Chairperson

Annexure-1

List of Participants**A. Members of the Authority:**

1. Ms. Rita Teaotia, Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. Shri Arun Singhal, Member Secretary;
3. Shri Manoj Joshi, Special Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries;
4. Shri Diwakar Nath Mishra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry;
5. Shri Ashish Gawai, Director, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare [on behalf of Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Joint Secretary];
6. Shri B.N. Dixit, Director, Legal Metrology, Department of Consumer Affairs [on behalf of Shri Anupam Mishra, Joint Secretary];
7. Shri Neeraj Arora, IEDS, Deputy Director, O/o DC(MSME), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, [on behalf of Smt. Alka Nangia Arora, Joint Secretary];

B. Special invitees:

1. Dr. Hemant Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat;
2. Shakeel-Ul-Rehman Rather, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir (UT);
3. Shri V. Vumlunmang, Commissioner of Food Safety, Manipur;
4. Smt. Manjushree Narasimhaiah, Commissioner of Food Safety, Karnataka;
5. Dr. A. Muthama, Commissioner of Food Safety, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu;
6. Prof. S Ayyappan, Chairperson, Scientific Committee;
7. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
8. Ms. Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors Association (AIFPA);
9. Ms. Parna Dasgupta, FICCI;
10. Shri Thanglura, Mizoram Consumer's Union

C. Officers of the FSSAI

1. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, ED (CS);
2. Shri Rajeev Jain, ED (HR);
3. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (S&S);
4. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Advisor (QA);
5. Ms. Lily Prasad, CTO;
6. Dr. Amit Sharma, Director (Imports);
7. Shri Sharad Agrawal, Director (Training);
8. Ms. Sweety Behera, Director (S&S);
9. Shri Rakesh Kumar, Director (S&S);
10. Lt Col Lejy Jacob John, Director (GA);
11. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA);
12. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Head (Regulations)
13. Shri R. K. Mittal, Head (RCD);
14. Shri Pushp Vanam, Joint Director (S&S);
15. Dr. Inderjeet Singh Hura, Joint Director (S&S);
16. Shri P. Karthikeyan, Deputy Director (Codex/ Regulation);
17. Dr S. C. Khurana, Lead Expert;
18. Shri Harish Kumar R. K, Assistant Director, (S&S);
19. Ms. Monika Puniya, Assistant Director, (S&S);
20. Ms. Ratna Shrivastava, Assistant Director, (Regulations)

Annexure-2

36th Meeting of Food Authority to be held on 23.09.2021
CEO's Detailed Report- (As Tabled)**1. SOCIAL BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE**

1.1 The Hon'ble Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Mansukh Mandaviya had visited FSSAI office on 20.09.2021 for releasing 3rd State Food Safety Index (SFSI) to measure the performance of States across five parameters of food safety. The Hon'ble Minister felicitated nine leading States/UTs based on the ranking for the year 2020-21 for their impressive performance. This year, among the large States, Gujarat was the top ranking state, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Among the smaller states, Goa stood first followed by Meghalaya and Manipur and among the Union Territories, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and New Delhi secured top ranks.

1.2 The Hon'ble Minister flagged off 19 Mobile Food Testing Vans (Food Safety on Wheels) to supplement the food safety ecosystem across the country (taking the total number of such mobile testing vans to 109). These mobile food testing laboratories will not only help functionaries in the States/UTs to enhance their outreach and conduct surveillance activities even in the far-flung areas, but will also be utilized as an effective tool for training and awareness generation activities amongst citizens.

1.3 While applauding the action taken by the organization along with industry partners to take the country forward in Food Safety, the Hon'ble Minister emphasized that the citizens are a stakeholder for food safety along with Government and Industry where awareness generation plays an important role along with proper enforcement and self-compliance by food businesses.

1.4 The Union Minister also released the results of PAN-India survey for identifying the presence of industrially produced trans fatty acid content in the selected foods. Samples of various packaged food items under six pre-defined food categories were collected from 419 cities/districts across 34 States/UTs. Overall, only 84 samples, i.e. 1.34%, were found with more than 3% industrially produced trans fats from the total of 6245 samples.

1.5 The Hon'ble Minister also launched various innovative initiatives by FSSAI including the Eat Right Research Awards and Grants to encourage and recognize high-quality research in the area of food safety and nutrition in India; a logo for Vegan Foods for easy identification and distinction from non-vegan foods for empowering consumers to make informed food choices. Further, the Minister also released various e-books that advocate and captures recipes around local seasonal food items, indigenous millets and plant-based sources of protein.

1.6 As part of the ongoing efforts to engage industry on the issue of plastic in food packaging, 24 food businesses signed a pledge in front of the Hon'ble Minister on becoming "Plastic Waste Neutral" by collecting, processing and recycling of 100% post-consumer plastic

waste from across the sources. 21 companies committed to reduce the levels of virgin plastic in the food and beverage sector.

1.7 8 companies had physically joined the event including Amway India, Kellog India, Coca Cola, Jubilant FoodWorks, Cargill India, PepsiCo, Mother Dairy and Perfetti Van Melle. 14 companies joined virtually including Hindustan Unilever, Dabur India, Britannia India, Mondelez India, Ferrero India, Marico Limited, Herbalife, India Ice cream Manufacturers, Nestle India, ITC, Hector Beverages, DFM, Tata Consumer Products and Abbott Nutrition International India.

2. FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS

2.1 Scientific Committee, Scientific Panel and the Work on Standard Setting after the 35th Food Authority meeting held on 24.06.2021

Certain Scientific Panels met during the period and made significant contributions in arriving at draft and final standards and suggestions on issues of food safety. Various recommendations made by these panels were deliberated in the Scientific Committee of the FSSAI which comprises the Chairpersons of all Scientific Panels as well as independent eminent scientists and the same have been placed in the Agenda for the approval of the Food Authority.

2.1.1 Scientific Committee meetings (1): The thirty ninth (39th) meeting of the Scientific Committee was held on 23.08.2021.

2.1.2 Scientific Panel meetings (17): Following Panels met during the period:

SP. No.	Name of Scientific Panel	Meeting No.	Date
SP-01	Food additives, Flavourings, Processing aids & Materials in contact with food	50	26.07.2021
SP-02	Pesticides Residues	68	13.07.2021 & 14.07.2021
SP-04	Genetically Modified Organisms and Foods	22 & 23	03.08.2021 & 17.08.2021
SP-05	Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other similar products	53	30.07.2021
SP-06	Biological Hazards	33	22.07.2021
SP-07	Contaminants in the food chain	28	23.07.2021
SP-08	Labelling and Claims/Advertisements	36	05.08.2021
SP-09	Method of Sampling and Analysis	34	27.07.2021
SP-11	Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their products (including Bakery)	30	23.07.2021

SP-12	Fruits & Vegetables	23	28.07.2021
SP-13	Meat & Meat Products, poultry	17	29.07.2021
SP-14	Milk & Milk Products	16	27.07.2021
SP-15	Oils & Fats	23	04.08.2021
SP-17	Water & Beverages	20	06.08.2021
SP-18	Nutrition and Fortification	17	06.08.2021
SP-19	Spices and culinary herbs	11	22.07.2021
SP-21	Alcoholic Beverages	05	02.08.2021

3. FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

3.1 Enforcement of FSS Act, 2006 & Rules/Regulations made thereunder in respect of the Food Business Operators having Central Licenses. As per the provisions of Section 29 (1) of FSS Act, 2006 the Food Authority and the State Food Safety Authorities shall be responsible for the enforcement of the Act. Further, Section 29 (5) of the Act inter alia states that orders may provide for the giving of assistance and information by any authority concerned in the administration of the regulations or orders or any provisions of this Act, to any other authority so concerned, for the purposes of their respective duties under them. Accordingly, FSSAI had earlier assigned the task of enforcement of provisions of FSS Act 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder to Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs for both Central as well as State Licenses and Registration of Food Business Operators.

However, with the induction of Central Food Safety Officers (CFSOs) in the system, FSSAI advised States/UTs vide letter dated 06.07.2021 that enforcement of provisions of FSS Act 2006 Rules and Regulations made thereunder with regard to Centrally Licensed FBOs be carried out by Central DOs/CFSOs.

3.2 Devising New Food Product Category for Registration/Licensing of FBOs manufacturing Indian Sweets, Snacks & Savouries.

FSSAI is in receipt of several representations from Industry Associations regarding difficulties being faced by the various small and medium scale manufacturers/packers of Indian Sweets, Snacks & Savouries products due to unavailability of standards of these products under Food Safety and Standards Regulations. As a result, such small and medium FBOs are required to obtain Central License under Proprietary Food which is not only costly but also entails onerous compliances. Considering it and in order to ease out the licensing/registration for such small and medium FBOs, FSSAI has devised New Food Product Category 18 in the Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) under 'General Manufacturing' Kind of Businesses. This will enable FBOs involved in manufacturing of Indian Sweets, Snacks & Savouries to apply for Registration, State License, or Central License as per the eligibility criteria based on their production capacity and turnover.

3.3 Licensing of FBOs manufacturing/re-packing Fresh/Surface-treated/Minimally processed Fruits & Vegetables.

Several representations received from stakeholders that due to unavailability of food category mapped with the food products such as fresh fruits and vegetables including minimally processed fruits & vegetables and surface treated fruits & vegetables on FoSCoS, the FBOs are not being able to apply for license under manufacturing/re-packing kind of businesses for these products. Considering it and in order to avoid unnecessary hurdle and to facilitate trade, FSSAI issued direction dated 16.08.2021 aligning such products with Food Category Code in FoSCoS.

3.4 Signing of Memorandum of Agreement(MoA) with Advertising Standards Council of India(ASCI) to track, monitor and identify advertisements related to food and beverages (F&B) sector which potentially violate the provisions stipulated under FSS Act, 2006 and Regulations made thereunder in the Electronic and Print media.

Of late, it has been felt that screening of all Food and Beverages related advertisement appearing in various print and electronic media is a big challenge. Further, it is difficult for limited manpower to take recourse on all such cases wherein advertisements are found misleading and also to keep regular watch on the same. Therefore, FSSAI has signed MoA with ASCI, a self-regulatory voluntary organization of the advertising content for exclusive tracking, tracing and evaluation of all Food and Beverages advertisements appearing across various media which could be potentially violating provisions of FSS Act, Rules and Regulations made thereunder and for submission of its recommendation to FSSAI for further investigation.

3.5 Signing of MoU with IIM, Ahmedabad for conduct of survey-based study on 'Consumer perceptions of different front-of-pack labels for packaged food among Indian population'

FSSAI had draft notified provisions for Front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) under the draft FSS (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2019. However, considering the comments of stakeholders citing issues in implementation of the draft FOPL, a Consultative Group was constituted by FSSAI, which recommended conduct of a nation-wide survey-based study through an institution of excellence like IIM to analyze major FOPL models that are available across the globe with the objective to identify ease of understanding and behavioural change of Indian consumers on a national level.

Accordingly, an MoU has been signed with IIM, Ahmedabad in September, 2021 for conduct of survey-based study on 'Consumer perceptions of different front-of-pack labels for packaged food among Indian population'. The study is being funded by FSSAI involving an expenditure of approximately Two Crores Forty Lakhs and is likely to be completed by the end of February, 2022.

3.6 Status of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between FSSAI and States/UTs.

FSSAI has extended both technical and financial support to the States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the country through MoUs. Based on the proposals received, MoU was executed with 24 States/UTs during 2020-21 and funds to the tune of Rs 64.66 Crore were released. FSSAI also sought Work Plan proposals for 2021-22 from all the States & UTs. Proposals from 34 States/UTs have been received so far and first tranche of payments of Rs 19 Crores released in respect of 13 States. Remaining Work Plan Proposals are under different stages of scrutinization and processing.

4. IMPORT

4.1 FSSAI has opened new offices at 3 locations, i.e. Bangalore, Hyderabad and Vishakhapatnam w.e.f. 15th July, 2021. Further, new food import entry points have also been brought under direct control of present FSSAI offices from Customs officials. With this total of 53 Points of Entry (PoEs) of food import are now under direct control of FSSAI.

4.2 FSSAI has carried out Integration of SEZ Online system of NSDL, operational at SEZ, with Food Import Clearance System (FICS) of FSSAI which has been implemented on 01.09.2021. The Bills of Entry for food import filed at notified SEZ PoEs is now seamlessly transmitted online to FSSAI for food import clearance purposes.

4.3 For the consignments of Pulses and Crude Oil (Edible Grade), the Authorised Officers were directed to facilitate and carry out food import clearance process on priority without delay for consignments of imported pulses and crude oil (Edible Grade) and if required, scrutiny/visual inspection/sampling to be carried out on weekends also to expedite the clearance.

5. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

5.1 Finance:

FSSAI and all its Regional offices and laboratories have been brought under Treasury Single Account (TSA). The grants from the Ministry are now assigned in the TSA and all payments and salaries are being made through the PFMS w.e.f 01.09.2021.

5.2 Recruitment:

The recruitment process for 37 Deputy Director and Joint Director level posts is at advanced stage and it is expected that these posts will be filled up by end of the year. In addition, FSSAI is also commencing recruitment process for additional 250 posts. The advertisement for these posts will be published shortly.

6. QUALITY ASSURANCE

6.1 PAN-India Survey on Trans- fat in different Food categories

After the last Food Authority meeting, FSSAI carried out a baseline survey for presence of industrially produced trans-fatty acid content in the selected food categories in chosen cities and districts across India in partnership with Quality Council of India (QCI).

6.1.1 Samples of various packaged food items under six pre-defined food categories (number of samples given against each product category) mentioned below were collected from 419 cities/districts across 34 States/UTs.

- Category 1 - Sweets, Toppings and Chocolates: 1,051
- Category 2 - Fried Foods: 1,061
- Category 3 - Bakery and Confectionary products: 1,072
- Category 4 - Frozen Foods: 973
- Category 5 - Composite Foods: 1,019
- Category 6 - Oils, Vanaspati, Shortenings and Margarine: 1,069

In all, 6,245 samples of packaged products were collected on a random basis to ensure diversity and sampling of local packaged foods from different strata of food market. The trans-fat content was determined based on the sum of trans fatty acid (TFA) isomers, i.e. Elaidate and Linoelaidioate, and calculated in terms of fat content in the processed food samples in selected NABL accredited testing laboratories.

The results revealed that 3.14 % (196 samples) contained trans-fat exceeding 2%. About 90% (176 samples) of the 196 samples that exceeded 2% trans-fat belonged to the category 6 (Oils, Vanaspati, Shortenings and Margarine). The analysis of 5176 samples collected from the other five categories of food products (Category 1-5) revealed that nearly 0.4% (20 samples) contained more than 2% trans-fat. In category 6, comprising of Oils, Vanaspati, Shortenings and Margarines, 100 samples out of a total of 1,069 food products analysed had trans-fat content of more than 2% and less than 3%, while 76 samples contained more than 3% trans-fat.

The findings of the Survey revealed that the Food Processing Industry is positive about FSSAI's regulation for eliminating the industrially produced trans-fats in foods by 2022. The survey results demolish the perception of excessive usage of industrial trans- fat in processed food products. This study has shown that India is well set to achieve its mandate of eliminating industrially produced trans-fats by 2022.

6.2 Online Capacity Building Programs

42 online training programs were organized by FSSAI in co-ordination with its three training centers viz. (i) Food Safety Solution Centre (FSSC) and the (ii) Centre

for Microbiological Analysis Training (C-MAT) situated at National Food Laboratory Ghaziabad; and (iii) International Training Centre on Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (ITC – FSAN), Mumbai from 5th June to 26 August, 2021 for the laboratory personnel of States/UTs, FSSAI notified laboratories, other laboratories, Food Industry, students and consumers. Approximate 3650 participants attended these online training programs. These online trainings focused on the areas of handling of certified reference materials (CRMs), FSS Advertising and Claims, Food safety: Different approaches for sample preparations, sampling and analysis of fish and fishery products for export trade, Understanding the Sources and Concepts of Migration Studies from Packaging Material, Media Types and its Preparation, GC-MS/MS training (basics, workflow followed for food safety analysis), etc.

7. Regulation Division

Four Final notifications relating to amendment in the FSS (Food products standards and Food additives) Regulations, 2011, FSS (Fortification of Foods) Regulations 2018, FSS (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Food and Novel Food) Regulations, 2016 and FSS (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 have been notified in the Gazette of India.

Nine final amendment notifications relating to articles of food, Licensing and Registration, import and Packaging have been finalized and are under the process of vetting and approval of Central Government.

Six amendment draft notifications have been published in the Gazette of India to invite comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

Annexure -3

List of Notifications / Directions with labelling provisions

S.No.	Regulations	Subject	Notification date	Compliance date
1	FSS (Packaging and Labelling) first amendment Regulations, 2020	Display of Information in food service establishment	21.08.2020	01.01.2022
2	FSS (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020	New principal regulation relating to labelling of foods	17.11.2020	17.11.2021
3	Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) First Amendment Regulations, 2021	Renaming of multi-source edible oil; Labelling declarations for sweeteners	10.09.2021	17.11.2021
4	Direction for Operationalization of: (i) FSS (Labelling and Display) Amendment Regulations (ii) FSS (Prohibition and Restriction) Amendment Regulations (iii) FSS (FPS&FA) Amendment Regulations	Font size, date markings; change in nomenclature of blended vegetable oil; labelling declarations for sweeteners etc.	29.06.2021	17.11.2021
5	FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2021	Specific labelling provisions for foods as part of gluten free diet; trehalose	04.03.2021	01.01.2022
6	FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, Third Amendment Regulations, 2021	Specific labelling provisions for pepper, sage, flavoured tea, coffee-chicory mixture	26.07.2021	01.02.2022
7	Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction of Sales) Second Amendment Regulations, 2021	Reduction in limit of industrial trans fatty acids (with implications on labelling)	02.02.2021	01.01.2022
8	Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) First Amendment Regulations, 2021	Specific labelling declarations for foods fortified with iron and fortified milk powders	27.08.2021	01.03.2022
9	Food Safety and Standards (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional)	Inclusion of new ingredients; Specific labelling provisions for FSDU for sportspersons;	06.09.2021	01.04.2022

	Food and Novel Food) First Amendment Regulations, 2021	amendment in Schedules/Clauses;		
10	FSS (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020	Specific labelling provisions for foods for infant nutrition	04.12.2020	01.04.2022
11	Directions for Operationalization of FSS (Advertising and Claims) Amendment Regulations	Provision for claims on food articles	28.06.2019; 07.09.2021	NIL

**Minutes of the 37th meeting of the Food Authority held on November 23, 2021 at
10:30 hrs through virtual medium**

The thirty seventh meeting of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was held at 10:30 hrs on 23rd November, 2021 under the chairmanship of Ms. Rita Teautia, Chairperson, FSSAI. The meeting was conducted through online virtual forum due to covid-19 pandemic. The list of participants is at **Annexure -1**.

Head (GA) welcomed the members of the Authority and highlighted that this is the eighth meeting of the Food Authority held through virtual platform since COVID-19 pandemic.

Head (GA) requested the members to submit duly signed Annual Declaration of Interest and Specific Declaration of Interest at the end of the meeting. Thereafter, he invited Chairperson for her opening remarks.

Chairperson, in her opening remarks, welcomed the members of the Authority and thanked all for facilitating the work of the Authority in ongoing COVID pandemic.

Item No.	Description
I	Confirmation of minutes of 36th meeting held on 23/09/2021
	Since there were no comments, the minutes of the 36 th meeting held on 23 rd September, 2021 were confirmed and adopted, as placed.
II	Action Taken Report of 36th meeting
	Since there were no comments, the Action Taken Report was noted by the Authority, as placed.
III	CEO's Report (to be presented during the meeting)
	CEO, FSSAI in his report, simultaneously tabled during the meeting, highlighted the action taken and developments since the last meeting of the Food Authority. He apprised the Authority about the enforcement of Section 22 (2) of FSS Act related to Genetically Modified (GM) foods and subsequent draft notification on GM foods which is available in public domain for stakeholder's comments. He also emphasized to focus on having proper testing protocols for analysing GM foods. Further, he also apprised about various activities viz. Food Safety Connect Mobile Application,

	<p>FoSCoS portal, Food Safety on Wheels (Mobile Food Testing Lab), TFA Survey, launching of Eat Right India (ERI) Initiatives like ERI Research Awards etc.</p> <p>Authority took note of the CEO's report. The detailed report is placed at Annexure-2.</p>
FOODSTANDARDS	
37.1	Other Issues
37.1.1	Review petition on application for approval of "Biosil (Choline stabilized orthosilicic acid)" from M/s Sundyota Numandis Probiocentials Pvt. Ltd.
	<p>Discussion: As decided in 36th meeting of the Food Authority, representative from M/s Sundyota Numandis Probiocentials Pvt. Ltd. presented his case in-person and expressed to obtain Provisional Approval for importing "Biosil (Choline stabilized orthosilicic acid)" in India so as to undertake its clinical trials for further studies and data generation on Indian population.</p> <p>CEO, FSSAI asked the applicant whether their product has history of safe use for last 30 years. In response, the applicant mentioned that it is in the market since 2004 and thus do not comply this requirement. Further, CEO questioned the need to have Provisional Approval for clinical trials as the FSS (Import) Regulation, 2017 allows import of a product for R&D purpose with a declaration as prescribed in the regulation. The reasons for not conducting clinical trials in India earlier and focussing only on observational trails were also sought.</p> <p>Decision: It was decided that provisional NOC cannot be issued to the applicant for import of the materials for conducting clinical trials. The applicant, if desires, may conduct Clinical trials of Biosil (Choline stabilized orthosilicic acid) in India as per extant protocols laid down by ICMR; and, then submit a fresh application along with the duly authenticated data for consideration by the Authority. The Review Petition is accordingly disposed off.</p>

	Action Point: Science and Standards (S&S) division shall communicate the aforesaid decision of the Authority to the applicant.
37.1.2	Notification of Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEM) conditions under FSS (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020
	<p>Discussion: One of the special invitees highlighted that the two hypoallergenic conditions under IEM needs to be addressed in the regulation. In response to this, Advisor (S&S) clarified that these conditions have already been subsumed in the regulations and a clarification if required, may be issued.</p> <p>Decision: The Authority approved the draft notification, as proposed.</p> <p>Action Point: S&S division to proceed with the draft notification, as proposed.</p>
37.1.3	Review of FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011
	<p>Discussion: The members were in agreement of the proposal. However, Chairperson recommended to frame Terms of Reference (ToR) and systematic work plan with reasonable timeline.</p> <p>Decision: The Authority approved the proposal in-principle, as placed.</p> <p>Action Point: S&S division to take necessary action.</p>
FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE	
37.2	Monitoring of safe disposal of Used Cooking Oil (UCO) by the Food Business Operators (FBOs)
	<p>Discussion: Chairperson questioned the functionality of footnote “<i>No topping up of Cooking Oil at 25% TPC with Fresh Oil</i>” and enquired about the scientific evidence that the addition of fresh oil to oil with 25% TPC is harmful for consumers. Advisor (S&S) highlighted about the lack of testing protocols to differentiate addition of fresh oil in used oil; and, also mentioned that lack of evidence to prove that the addition of fresh oil in used oil is harmful to consumer. The Authority agreed with the fact that there will be difficulty in enforcing the said footnote in absence of testing protocol and lack of evidence.</p> <p>Decision: The Authority approved the proposal, as placed. The direction</p>

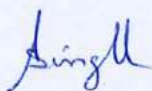
	dated 30.01.2019 should be revised to delete the foot note. Further, the revision in Annual Return Form shall be communicated to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare so as to incorporate under the FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulation, currently with the Ministry for approval. Action Point: RCD/ Regulations divisions to take necessary action.
37.3	MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for Strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the Country- latest status
	The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information.
37.4	Mapping of 08 New/Revised standardised food products with Food category System in FoSCoS for Licensing and Registration
	The Food Authority considered the agenda item and approved, as proposed.
GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	
37.5	FSSAI's related Accounts w.r.t.
(I)	Annual Accounts for FY 2020-2021
	The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.
(II)	Scheme of Constitution of IFD at FSSAI Regional Offices (RO's) & National Food Laboratories (NFL's)
	The Authority took note of agenda item as circulated for information. Chairperson suggested to include the statement that IFW shall exercise powers based on overall plan approved by the Authority.
ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR	
Supplementary Agenda Item 37.IV	
1.	Proposal to amend the appeal procedure in the FSS (approval of non-specified foods & food ingredients) Regulations, 2017 [FSS(NSF&FI)
	The Authority approved the proposal, as placed. However, Shri Sajji Kumar, JS (Legislative Dept.), Ministry of Law and Justice suggested to fix a timeline for both appellate authority and reviewing authority for facilitating timely disposal of appeal. The Authority agreed to make necessary amendment in regulation to fix 30 days' timeframe for disposing off the cases with enabling proviso for extension of timeline beyond 30 days, for reasons to be recorded in writing.

2.	1. Ratification of Notification / Recognition / Discontinuation of Food Testing Laboratories 2. Ratification of Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) Kit/Equipment/Method
	The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.
3.	Comprehensive plan for conducting food safety inspections and auditing of FBOs
	The Authority took note of the withdrawal of the agenda item.
4.	Operationalization of standards/ regulations and directions issued by FSSAI
	The Authority considered the agenda item and ratified, as placed.
5.	Implementation of Basic Food Import Clearance Fee (BFICF)
	The Authority approved the proposal, as placed. However, CEO suggested to work in association with the Custom Office for effective implementation of import process.

At the end Authority, while noting that this meeting will be the last meeting of Chairperson due to her superannuation at the end of this month, placed on record the appreciation of Chairperson in driving the Authority for the last three years with her dynamic leadership. The members of Authority and special invitees also placed on record the deep appreciation of Chairperson in her service in the Authority during last three years.

Chairperson expressed her gratitude and thanked all the members of the Authority and officials of FSSAI in their contribution to drive her vision with high spirits and strengthening the food safety ecosystem across the nation. She believed that the accomplishments of her predecessor as taken forward by her will also be taken forward in future in a collaborative and continuous manner.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants.



Chief Executive Officer



Chairperson

Annexure-1**List of Participants****A. Members of the Authority:**

1. Ms. Rita Teaotia, Chairperson, FSSAI;
2. Shri Arun Singhal, Member Secretary;
3. Dr. Mandeep K. Bhandari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare;
4. Shri K.R. Saji Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department;
5. Shri V. Thirukumaran, Assistant Industrial Advisor, Ministry of Food Processing Industries [on behalf of Shri Manoj Joshi, Special Secretary];
6. Shri U.C. Shukla, Director, O/o DC-MSME, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises [on behalf of Smt. Alka Nangia Arora, Joint Secretary];
7. Shri Sandeep Verma, Under Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry [on behalf of Shri Diwakar Nath Misra, Joint Secretary];

B. Special invitees:

1. Dr. Hemant Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat;
2. Shri Shakeel-Ul-Rehman Rather, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir (UT);
3. Dr. A. Muthama, Commissioner of Food Safety, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu;
4. Prof. S Ayyappan, Chairperson, Scientific Committee;
5. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII);
6. Ms. Shreya Pandey, All India Food Processors Association (AIFPA);
7. Ms. Parna Dasgupta, FICCI;
8. Shri Thanglura, Mizoram Consumer's Union

C. Officers of the FSSAI

1. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, ED (CS);
2. Shri Rajeev Jain, ED (HR);
3. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (S&S);
4. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Advisor (QA);
5. Shri Raj Singh, Head (GA);
6. Shri R. K. Mittal, Head (RCD);
7. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Head (Regulations)
8. Dr. Amit Sharma, Director (Imports);
9. Cdr. Sharad Agrawal, Director (Training);
10. Ms. Sweety Behera, Director (S&S);
11. Shri Rakesh Kumar, Director (S&S);
12. Shri Sanu Jacob, (S&S);
13. Ms. Lily Prasad, CTO.

37th Meeting of Food Authority to be held on 23.11.2021

CEO's Detailed Report- (As Tabled)

1. FOOD STANDARDS/REGULATIONS

1. Scientific Committee, Scientific Panel and the Work on Standard Setting after the 36th Food Authority meeting held on 23.09.2021

Certain Scientific Panels met during the period and made significant contributions in arriving at draft and final standards and suggestions on issues of food safety. Various recommendations made by these panels were deliberated in the Scientific Committee of the FSSAI which comprises the Chairperson of all Scientific Panels as well as independent eminent scientists and the same have been placed in the Agenda for the consideration of the Food Authority.

1.1 Meetings of Scientific Panels (13): Following Panels met during the period:

SP. No.	Name of Scientific Panel	Meeting No.	Date
SP-01	Food additives, Flavourings, Processing aids & Materials in contact with food	51	05.10.2021
SP-02	Pesticides Residues	69	29.09.2021
SP-05	Functional foods, Nutraceuticals, Dietetic Products and Other similar products	54	04. 10.2021
		55	06.10.2021
		56	20.10.2021
SP-07	Contaminants in the food chain	29	11.10.2021
SP-08	Labelling and Claims/Advertisements	37	06&07.10.2021
SP-09	Method of Sampling and Analysis	35	30.09.2021
SP-10	Fish & Fisheries products	23	07.10.2021
SP-11	Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their products (including Bakery)	31	27.09.2021
SP-12	Fruits & Vegetables	24	27.09.2021
SP-14	Milk & Milk Products	17	13.11.2021
SP-17	Water & Beverages	21	27.09.2021
SP-18	Nutrition and Fortification	18	08.10.2021
SP-21	Alcoholic Beverages	06	05.10.2021

- 1.2 Five Final notifications relating to amendment in the FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, FSS (Import) Regulations, FSS (Organic Foods) Regulations and FSS (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Food and Novel Food) have been notified in the Gazette of India.

Three draft notifications including new principal regulation on GM Foods have been published in the Gazette of India to invite comments and suggestions from stakeholders.

2. FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE

2.1 Implementation of One FoSCoS Login, One License/Registration:

In order to address the issue of control of user-ID, FSSAI has introduced a new methodology for filing applications for new License/Registration. Now, food businesses are not required to make name-specific user-IDs prior to filing of applications. Instead, they can now apply for FSSAI License/ Registration from the homepage according to the Kind of Business they are involved in and proceed to selection of food products category. After entering required details, FBOs are being assigned with a 17-digit application number based user ID on submission of 'Primary' and 'Secondary' contact details under 'Sign Up details'. Capturing of Primary and Secondary contact details will help in sending the notifications and Password reset OTPs to both contacts i.e. to food business and to person who has provided any assistance in filing the application. The system generated 17-digits User-ID valid for the future login purpose till the generation of License/Registration. After grant of License/Registration, the 14-digits license/registration number becomes the User-ID. The newly created User-ID can also be located through online utility available at Login page. Order dated 01st November 2021 containing instructions for the details of methodology adopted for conversion of existing FoSCoS User ids into 14-digits License/Registration number based User-id has been issued.

2.2 Food Safety Connect Mobile Application:

FSSAI has launched 'Food Safety Connect' Mobile Application for Consumers and Food Business Operators (FBOs). Users can now download this Mobile App from Google Play Store to stay updated with FSSAI news, important notifications or orders/advisories, events, initiatives and resource materials. Consumers can access Citizen Knowledge Hub such as Books, Videos, Myth Busters. Moreover, FBO can also file application for FSSAI Registration and access information related to Notified Laboratories for food product testing, Inspection Checklists, Third Party Audits, Product Standards, Food Safety Display Boards, Food Safety Mitra, FoSTaC Training, Guidance Documents etc.

2.3 Provision for renewal of License/Registration even after expiry date :

FSSAI vide order No. 15(31)2020/FoSCoS/RCD/FSSAI dated 29th October 2021, allowed food businesses to renew their expired license / registration certificate even after expiry date. Food Business Operator can now apply for renewal of their FSSAI License/Registration upto 180 days after the expiry date with the payment

of some penalties. However, FBOs shall not be allowed to conduct any food business in the period from original expiry date till the issuance of renewed license. Any food business conducted in such period will be subject to the penalties and punishment as per Section 63 of FSS Act, 2006.

2.4 Status of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FSSAI and States/UTs :

FSSAI has extended both technical and financial support to the States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the country through a MoU. Based on the proposals received, MoU was executed with 24 States/UTs during 2020-21 and funds to the tune of Rs 64.66 Crore were released. FSSAI also sought Work Plan proposals for 2021-22 from all the States & UTs. Proposals from 34 States/UTs have been received so far and first tranche of payments released in respect of 13 States. Remaining Work Plan Proposals are under different stages of scrutiny and processing.

3. FOOD TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE

3.1 Strengthening of Referral Food Testing Laboratories

An amount of ~ Rs 1.77 Crore was released to Centre for Food Research and Analysis, *National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management* (CFRA-NIFTEM), Kundli, Sonipat towards advance payment for procurement of two high-end equipment. With this, the total grant released towards strengthening of referral laboratories has risen from Rs. 27.66 Crore to Rs. 29.43 Crore covering 12 Referral Food Laboratories.

3.2 Food Safety on Wheels (FSW)

37 more FSWs have been sanctioned to various States/UTs raising the total number of FSWs sanctioned/delivered from 118 to 155 to 33 States/UTs.

3.3 Trans- Fat Survey, 2021

The report of the PAN- India Survey for identifying the presence of industrially produced trans- fat content in selected 6 food categories was released by the Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family welfare on 20th September, 2021. Further the Press note and the Report of the Trans- fat Survey is available on the FSSAI Website.

The results of the survey revealed that only 3.14 % (196 samples) contained trans-fat exceeding 2%. About 90% (176 samples) of the 196 samples that exceeded 2% trans-fat belonged to the category 6 (Oils, Vanaspati, Shortenings and Margarine). The analysis of 5176 samples collected from the other five categories of food products (Category 1-5) revealed that nearly 0.4% (20 samples) contained more than 2% trans-fat. In category 6, comprising of Oils, Vanaspati, Shortenings and Margarines, 100 samples out of a total of 1,069 food products analysed had trans-fat content of more than 2% and less than 3%, while 76 samples contained more than 3% trans-fat. The findings of the Survey revealed that the Food Processing

Industry is positive about FSSAI's regulation for eliminating the industrially produced trans-fats in foods by 2022

3.4 Online Capacity Building Programs

34 online training programs have been organized by FSSAI in co-ordination with its two training centers viz. **(i)** Food Safety Solution Centre (FSSC) situated at National Food Laboratory Ghaziabad; and **(ii)** International Training Centre on Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (ITC – FSAN), Mumbai from 1st September to 30 October, 2021 for the laboratory personnel of State/UTs, FSSAI Notified laboratories, Food Industries, Students, Consumers, Navy Officers for INS HAMLMA Mumbai, Maharashtra Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED) Officials, Food and Drugs Department Officials. Total 2181 participants attended these online training programs.

These online trainings focused on the areas of Regulations Program (Understanding Food Regulations of India), 8-weeks Training session on Food Import Regulations of India, Sample Preparation Strategies & Methods Used for the Analysis of Pesticide Residues in Rice, FoSTac Training, NABL Accreditation process as per ISO 17025:2017 & Laboratory Management System, Basics and advancement in ICP-MS and Food safety solutions.

4. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

FSSAI has undertaken following activities in the last two quarters:-

- (a)** Induction training programme of FSSAI's officials for third batch was conducted from 16 August-04 September 2021 wherein 85 newly recruited officers/officials were trained.
- (b)** FSSAI has signed an MoU with MoFPI to undertake training and capacity building of nearly eight lakh microenterprises under Prime Minister's Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PM FME Scheme).

5. SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Eat Right Challenge for cities and districts for 188 districts participating will end on 31st December, 2021. Eat Right Research challenge for individuals and research institutions where under 38 entries were received so far will end on 15th December, 2021. Eat Smart Cities Challenge where 108 cities are participating will end on 15th January, 2022. Eat Right Mela and Walkathon is ongoing activity and stakeholders are continuing with this activity.
