

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AND MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE MONTH OF June, 2019

1. First-Ever World Food Safety Day Celebrated:

The first-ever World Food Safety Day was celebrated in FSSAI on 7th June, 2019. The Chief guest was Hon'ble Union Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Minister of State, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The occasion was marked by recognizing the efforts of States, Food Businesses and individuals in promoting safe and nutritious food. The theme for this day was 'Food Safety, Everyone's Business'. A wide cross section of stakeholders gathered to collectively take a pledge to promote food safety for all 130- crore citizens of the country.

FSSAI has developed the first State Food Safety Index (SFSI) to measure the performance of States on five parameters of food safety. The Hon'ble Union Minister of Health recognized seven leading States/UTs based on the ranking of the first SFSI for the year 2018-2019, for their impressive performance. These were Chandigarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

On this occasion FSSAI also declared seven Eat Right Campuses based on a five star-rating by compliance to a set of well-defined benchmarks on food safety and hygiene, i.e. IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Roorkee, LBSNAA Mussourie, Unilever Bengaluru, Wipro Bengaluru, HCL Noida and Genpact Gurugram.

14 Eat Right Awards were also given for individual contributions made by young chefs, professionals and media influencers.

A new-age, hand-held battery operated device called 'Raman 1.0' from Oak Analytics, India was also launched. This device performs rapid detection (in less than 1 minute) of economically driven adulteration in edible oils, fats and ghee. This is the first of 19 such equipments and methods that have been provisionally approved by FSSAI for strengthening the food testing infrastructure in the country.

To symbolize the ongoing journey towards good health, a statue of 'Gandhiji on a Bicycle', the first of its kind, was also unveiled by the Hon'ble Ministers.

2. Ongoing efforts in focus areas:

(a) Final Notifications issued:

- i. Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Amendment Regulation, 2011 relating to revision in sub regulation 2.3.12: Restriction on sale of common salt was notified on 25th June, 2019.
- ii. Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Amendment Regulation, 2011 related to restriction on the use of diacetyl as flavoring in oils and fats was notified on 25th June, 2019.

(b) Draft notifications issued:

- i. Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2019 has been notified on 25th June, 2019.
- ii. To facilitate ease of doing business while ensuring the mandate of safe food imports in India, a notice vide no. 1-1715/FSSAI/Imports/2018, dated 17.06.19 has been issued seeking comments/suggestions from all the stakeholders before finalizing the food import entry points with respect to notification of Authorized Officers. The last date of submitting the comments/suggestions is 15th August, 2019.

(c) Under FoSTaC (Food Safety Training and Certification) initiative, total of (554) training programmes have been conducted in collaboration with training partners during June 2019.

3. Strengthening of testing infrastructure and support systems:

a) Capacity Building:

Two Good Food Laboratory Practice Training Programs were conducted for the food analysts & other scientific/technical personnel working in State Food Testing Laboratories and Notified Laboratories at Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI), Kerala from 11-13 June, 2019 and National Research Centre on Meat (NRCM), Hyderabad from 25-27 June, 2019.

b) Training Program for Analysis of Fortificants in Wheat Flour, Maida and Rice:

A three day's training program on Method of Analysis for Fortificants in Wheat Flour, Maida and Rice was conducted at CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru from 19.06.2019 to 21.06.2019.

4. International initiatives:

Inception workshop for the joint Codex Trust Fund 2 (CTF2)

The 3 year Joint CTF2 project by Bhutan, India and Nepal was officially launched with an inception workshop, held on 21st June 2019, at New Delhi, India.

About 40 participants from Bhutan, India and Nepal including representatives from the Government departments, educational/research institutions participated in the workshop.

The workshop included detailed discussion and review of all activities and their implementation plan, and finalizing preparation of annual work plan for 2019 including timelines and budget.