

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

1. Ongoing efforts in focus areas:

(a) Final Notifications issued:

- Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Second Amendment Regulations, 2019 related to revision of existing standards of coconut milk and coconut cream, standards for dried oregano (whole and powder), pimento (Allspice) (whole and powder), formulation of laurel (Bay Leaf)(Whole and Powder), Dried Mint, Dried Rosemary on 05.07.2019.
- Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Third Amendment Regulations, 2019 relating to new standards of chia oil and its fatty acid composition on 05.07.2019
- Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and Distribution of Surplus Foods) Regulations, 2019 dated 26.07.2019.

(b) Draft notifications issued and placed for public comments:

- Food Safety and Standards (Laboratory and sample Analysis) Amendment Regulations, 2019 related to Approval of Rapid Analytical Food testing Kit, Equipment or Method draft notified on 05.07.2019.
- Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Amendment Regulations, 2019 draft notified on 05.07.2019
- Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2019 relating to “Limit of Total Polar Compounds in Fresh/Unused Vegetable Oil/fat.
- Comprehensive amendment in Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, draft notified on 26.07.2019.

(c) A MID carrier training programme for IAS Officers (Phase III) being held at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie was inaugurated by CEO, FSSAI on 8th July, 2019. FSSAI team led a technical session on “Eat Right India”, wherein various initiatives directed towards improving health & nutritional status were discussed.

(d) Under FoSTaC (Food Safety Training and Certification) initiative, a total of (527) training programmes were conducted in collaboration with training partners during the month.

(e). FSSAI-CHIFS Orientation Workshop on “Risk Assessment Framework Structure- Novel Foods and Additives was held on 24th July, 2019. This orientation workshop has been organized to incline the FSSAI Scientific Panels as well as wider food safety stakeholder communities to risk-based thinking with intent to strengthen the

application of risk assessment methodology for advancing science based food safety decision making.

2. Strengthening of testing infrastructure, support systems and Capacity Building:

- Two (2) “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 Food and Drugs Laboratory, Vadodara from 16-18 July, 2019 and National Test House, Jaipur from 20-31 July, 2019.

3. International initiatives:

The 42nd session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) was held in Rome, Italy during 7-12th July 2019 wherein following agenda items were discussed which are of concern to India:

- Proposed draft standard for dried or dehydrated garlic adopted at step 8. The proposal for development of the standards for dried or dehydrated garlic was originally framed and submitted by India.
- The commission adopted the draft guidance for the labeling of non-retail containers at step 5. The proposal for development of guidance for the labeling of non-retail containers was originally proposed by India. India also chaired the Electronic working group and Physical working group in this regard.
- Proposals approved by the Commission as new work, which will be co-chaired by India:
- Guidelines for compounds of low public health concern that could be exempted from the establishment of CXLs.
- Proposed draft guidance on internet sales/e-commerce.
- Commission adopted the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 as developed by Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CEXEC77). Being the Regional Coordinator for CCASIA, India is a member of the Sub-committee tasked to drafting Strategic Plan 2020-2025.