

Minutes of the 20th meeting of Central Advisory Committee held on 22nd Aug, 2017

The 20th meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India was held on 22nd August, 2017 at 5th Floor, FSSAI, FDA Bhawan, New Delhi. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-1**

The meeting began by welcoming the members of Central Advisory Committee. The proceedings commenced as per the agenda.

Item No. 1: Disclosure of Interest

The members filled-in and submitted the Disclosure of Interest forms.

Item No. 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 19th CAC Meeting

The minutes of the 19th CAC meeting were approved and adopted.

Item No. 3: Action Taken Report

1. The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 19th CAC meeting held on 16.05.2017 was duly noted.
2. Telangana and Madhya Pradesh were requested to send SOP for implementation of Food Safety Emergency Response Plan.
3. The States/UTs who have not yet submitted their proposal for online payment integration were requested to expedite their approval process and submit the same at the earliest.
4. All the States/UTs which have not nominated resource person for facilitation of mobile laboratory were requested to provide the same at the earliest.
5. All the States/UTs which have not submitted training proposal, nomination of Institute as well as officers for TOT were requested to provide the same at the earliest.

Agenda No. 20.1: Key activities of FSSAI

1. New Standards & Regulations

The latest updates of Standards & regulations approved by the 23rd Authority meeting were noted by the members of CAC.

2. Periodicity of inspection

States/UTs were advised to prioritize the inspection based on the Risk Grade classification of Licensing/Registration data, and submit a report/feedback on it by 15th Sep 2017.

3. FSMS Guidance Document

CEO, FSSAI informed about the FSMS guidance document been developed for Bakery products, Edible oils & fats.

4. Revised Inspection Checklists for Kind of Businesses

CEO, FSSAI briefed CAC members about the revised inspection checklists for Kind of Businesses that has been prepared referring International Best Practices and European Union guidelines.

Action Decided-

States/UTs to share their feedback/suggestions on proposed inspection checklist of various kind of businesses.

Agenda No. 20.2: Issues related to Licensing & Registration Process

1. Payment Integration Gateway

CITO, FSSAI briefed on the current modes of online payment gateway for Central License and addition of two more payment gateways which will cover all major banks, Master and Visa Credit card and Debit cards. During the last CAC meeting, the States/UTs were requested to share the details of banks through which they want to get integrated. In response to this, Gujarat and Manipur responded that they have also initiated the process of integration and approval from their respective State Finance Department.

Further, CEO, FSSAI added that if any State faces any difficulty the same may be referred to FSSAI, HQ for necessary action.

2. CSC issues in States/UTs regarding registration of food businesses

States may immediately share their bank details with both CSC and FSSAI so that Registration fee may be deposited in their treasury at the earliest.

Action Decided-

States/UTs that have not yet submitted their proposal for payment integration were required to expedite the process with their finance ministry.

Agenda No. 20.3: Discussion on Enforcement

1. Role & constitution of State & District Level Steering Committee.

CEO (FSSAI) emphasized on regular meetings of State & District Level Steering Committees wherein States/UTs may also invite representatives from FSSAI to attend the concerned meeting as special invitee.

CAC also approved that a State Level Advisory Committee be constituted with Food Safety Commissioner as Chairperson with stakeholders as its members. FSSAI will

soon issue guidelines for the same. It was also suggested to involve Director of State Lab as member, FSSAI Officials and representations from industry associations.

2. Enforcement Structure and Activities

CEO (FSSAI) sensitized on the need to adopt proactive approach towards food safety and informed that a Food Safety Index will soon be developed. This Index will help in determining the performance of the States/UTs. Various parameters of the index will be designed in order to cover all aspects of Enforcement, Surveillance, Initiatives/awareness and efficient redressal of the complaints etc.

CEO (FSSAI) informed States/UTs that recently a format was shared with States/UTs wherein information related to Enforcement structure, activities and SNF initiatives taken up in respective States/UTs was sought from them. The data was received from 25 States/UTs. The States which have not submitted the data were requested to submit the same at the earliest.

Addl. Commissioner, Tamilnadu stated that they have appointed one FSO in each Block and there are 385 such blocks in the State.

Asst. Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh informed that State have 608 FSOs and 75 CFSOs. They have appointed 1 FSO per Tehsil/ Nagar Palika.

Commissioner Food Safety, Delhi informed that they have 272 wards in 11 districts and has 8 FSO on ground. She further informed that the department is in final stage of recruitment of 19 FSOs and further applications have been invited for 5 more FSOs.

CEO, FSSAI appreciated the enforcement structure of Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Further, he added that the State may follow block/tehsil pattern wherever possible, to estimate the requirements of FSO's.

Arunachal Pradesh briefed that they have a different pattern than rest of the States wherein they should have 1 FSO at sub divisional level since they have far flung blocks widely dispersed and the population is less. It was decided that in similar North Eastern States, exception could be made.

Deputy Comm. (Food), Gujarat gave a presentation on systematic inspection and enforcement activities carried over in Gujarat. She informed that State has an active surveillance plan and has also prepared manual for FSO and DO. She also highlighted that nearly 4500 PFA cases are identified and department has approached Hon. High Court to finalize these cases by imposing fine through Lok Adalat and prosecution.

CEO, FSSAI appreciated the efforts of Gujarat and advised the rest States/UTs to take similar proactive action to conclude the issue of cases pending under PFA Act.

Rajasthan added that they have disposed of all misbranding cases launched during the PFA regime.

Sh. D.V. Mahlan proposed that wherever Food Safety Appellate Tribunal has not been established, in such cases, the provision shall be made to appeal before the Commissioner Food Safety. Chairperson, FSSAI informed that 29 States/UTs has Appellate Tribunal and suggested that rest of the States can approach the higher judiciary court.

Chairperson, FSSAI directed Head, Legal to get and examine the judgment details from Rajasthan and Gujarat and after that RCD may share the process with the rest States/UTs to dispose off the pending PFA cases lying pending in the rest of the States/UTs.

Director (RCD) requested the States/UTs to send the Annual report at the earliest as the relevant information of these reports are required to reply the various stakeholders, including to the Parliamentary Questions.

CEO, FSSAI informed the CAC Members about the World Food India which will be held on 3rd- 5th November, 2017 and that the next CAC will be held during the event so that States/UTs have opportunity of participating in the World Food India.

Action Decided-

- i. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Daman & Diu, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim and Telangana to submit the Enforcement details sought from States within 10 days.
- ii. States/UTs are required to send the FSO requirement in their States/UTs in a week.

3. Ban on use of Staple pins in tea bags

FSSAI informed that taking cognizance of risk to public safety in using staple pins in tea bags, The Food Authority, has directed the concerned food business operators to discontinue the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of stapled tea bags by January 1, 2018."

4. Surveillance activities.

Director, RCD requested the States/UTs for implementation of effective Surveillance system and to submit their reports regularly to FSSAI HQ.

Agenda No. 20.4: E-Commerce Guidelines

Director, RCD briefed that E-commerce category has been introduced in the FLRS and will be live shortly. He further, clarified that the license will be issued (State license/ Central license) as per the existing eligibility criteria.

Agenda No. 20.5: Consumer related Initiatives

1. Progress of Food safety Connect

FSSAI informed about the large pending complaints in the States/UT and advised States/UTs to review these complaints on regular basis and sensitize their DOs and

FSOs for timely disposal of consumer complaints and build up the confidence level of the consumer.

2. Water Portal

All State/UTs were requested to direct their DO's and FSO's as well as FBOs to upload their water testing data on the water portal.

3. Web Based Food Safety Compliance Verification System

CEO, FSSAI informed that FSSAI is coming up with an online Food Safety Compliance through Regular Inspections and Sampling (FoSCoRIS) mobile app. The App includes an onsite capturing of inspection carried by FSO along with an online inspection checklist revised by FSSAI.

Food Safety Compliance through Regular Inspections and Sampling (FoSCoRIS) is a system to verify compliance of food safety and hygiene standards by food businesses as per regulatory requirements through inspections and sampling. This would ensure that periodic inspection of food businesses are done on a regular basis by regulatory staff in an objective and transparent manner. Such inspection would use standard compliance matrices to ensure consistency in approach of inspection across the country.

NFCS will require a mobile/tablet with net connectivity. Many of the States/UTs already have their own Closed User Groups (CUGs) and provided hand held devices to Food Safety Officers for enforcement/surveillance. States as such may straightway adopt the system. Other States may initiate action to obtain their internal financial approvals to implement NFCS. There are many national carriers offering bundled/rental plans at nominal rates. States/UTs were requested to appoint a nodal officer to take up the matter with them for connectivity/plans.

Further, CEO, FSSAI informed that to encourage and help the States/UTs during the initial phase, FSSAI has decided to bear the cost of bundled/rental plans for first 3 months subject to a maximum of Rs. 500/- per month per connection to first 10 States/UTs giving their willingness to implement NFCS.

The proposal which was unanimously agreed to implement by CAC members.

Action Decided-

States/UTs to share their details of Closed user Group, if any, otherwise submit their willingness to implement FoSCoRIS within 1 month.

Agenda No. 20.6: Strengthening of Laboratory Infrastructure and Support Systems.

1. Strengthening of State/UT Food Laboratories

A presentation on InFoLNet to CAC members was given by Ms Payal, IT Consultant, FSSAI. InFoLNet has been developed by FSSAI known as Indian Food Laboratory

Network, which will link FSSAI and food testing laboratories across country. It will serve as knowledge repository based on the information provided by labs such as testing facilities, manpower and infrastructure details. This network will perform 5 main major functionalities:

- a) This network will assist DO/AO's to assign sample based on testing facility, Geographical location and work load of labs.
- b) To ensure uniform testing across all labs based on the database created by Standard division as per FSSR Standards.
- c) For all consumer including FBOs, this network will serve as single platform for accessing information related to Food Standards, Food Test Labs and FSOs. Similarly, Sample tracking facility is also available at home page where the current status of the sample can be viewed.
- d) InFoLNet will act as centralized repository of manpower and infrastructure, which will be used by FSSAI for planning & monitoring of Training & Capacity building need of Labs
- e) This network has been planned in an integrated manner with existing core IT systems of FSSAI, such as, Licensing system and import clearance system, also known as, FLRS and FICS.

This network will act as backbone and communication model between all divisions of FSSAI like, RARD, Standards, QA etc. Based on the information developed in this network, Risk analysis can be performed against products or the data can be used to improve standards for respective products.

Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala informed that they already have an online lab system. CP, FSSAI directed CITO, FSSAI to integrate their system to INFoLNET.

CEO, FSSAI requested all the States/UTs to adopt (and where it exists, integrate) the INFoLNET which is already live and may use the system to track online Enforcement activities.

Action Decided-

States/UTs to adopt or integrate the InFoLNet system for strengthening of Food Testing Laboratories.

2. Mobile Food Testing Laboratory (MFTL)

Advisor (QA) informed CAC members that MFTL named as "Food Safety on Wheels" are multipurpose vehicles for food testing, public education and awareness and for conducting awareness programs. Mobile unit has a fully functional laboratory equipped with basic infrastructure for quick qualitative testing for detection of common adulterants in various food commodities.

Chairperson, FSSAI flagged off nine "Food Safety on Wheels" mobile units to Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland..

CEO, FSSAI deliberated that these labs will also be integrated to INFoLNET and will carry three manuals for awareness building and training capacity building:-

- a) Scheme guidelines;
- b) Operational Manual
- c) Manual of Simple methods for Testing of common food adulterants in food

3. National Milk Quality survey

Action Decided-

- a) States/UTs have to send revalidation/ resampling data
- b) To form State Level Steering Committee, if not done till now in their State., so that a system of regular surveillance and monitoring of milk safety and quality is established.

Agenda No. 20.7: Training & Capacity Building

CMSO, FSSAI, briefed CAC about the salient features of this FBO Training ecosystem, the underlying philosophy behind FoSTaC is to empower Food Business Operators towards self compliance, through a structured programme of training and capacity building. FoSTaC supports both online and offline training modules. It would be rolled out in phased manner for different kinds of food businesses. Training courses have been co-created with domain experts and practitioners at 3 levels Basic, Advanced & Special, to address specific needs of different groups. The success of FoSTaC depends on the participation of all relevant stakeholders as the eventual aim is to have at least one trained Food Safety Supervisor in each FBO premise. FSSAI would look at introducing a regulatory Supervisor in each FBO premise, once a critical mass is achieved in terms of training capacity. FSSAI would soon issue an order on the issue.

Agenda No. 20.8: Social & Behavioural Change

1. Safe & Nutritious Food (SNF) initiative- Role of States/UTs

CEO, FSSAI deliberated to CAC members that Chandigarh has adopted the SNF initiatives (SNF@ home, SNF@ School, SNF@ Restaurants and Clean Street Food) under the banner "Safe & Nutritious Food".

Action Decided-

The States/UTs to adopt and implement initiatives in their States/UTs, creating mass awareness through several outreach programmes, conducting workshops/training for food handlers etc. and work plan of the same may be informed to FSSAI.

2. Food Fortification

Smita Mankad, Head FFRC, briefed the CAC on the developments in food fortification since the last CAC meeting –

- a) Two important **directives have been issued by Central Ministries on Food Fortification** recently, ie
 - i. Order issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development (D.O. No. 14-10/2016/ MDM 1-2 (EE.5) directing States for **mandatory use of Fortified Wheat Flour, Fortified Edible Oil and Double Fortified Salt under MDM**, dated August 2nd, 2017.
 - ii. Order issued by Ministry of Women & Child Development (D.O. No. 25/16/2015- Nutrition Desk) directing States for **mandatory Fortified Wheat Flour, Fortified Edible Oil and Double Fortified Salt under ICDS**, dated July 10th, 2017.

These make the case for adoption of fortified food at State level very strong and must be shared widely with the relevant ministries locally.

b) State Outreach by FFRC and Best Practices from States:

Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC) has been engaging with State Governments for the inclusion of fortified staples across various safety net programmes ie MDM, ICDS & PDS through a dedicated outreach program over the past few months. Letters have been sent to the Chief Secretary's of all States with a request to appoint a Nodal Officer at the State level who would coordinate all fortification activities. Certain States like **Karnataka and Chandigarh** have taken the lead and are working proactively to adopt fortified staples, by setting up a working group at the State / UT level and including representatives from FFRC.

FFRC provides all the technical and knowledge support required to implement fortification including supply chain mapping & landscape analysis, identifying the right point of intervention for fortification, linking a Development Partner for on ground support for training and capacity building, link to equipment manufacturers, premix suppliers, working out the total incremental cost for fortification, standardized tender documents and technical manuals and training manuals. State FSCs are encouraged to convene working groups in their states to push for inclusion of fortified food and reach out to FFRC for support as needed.

- c) For Fortification **Training of FSOs**, in terms of Content, the Training Manual on Fortification for FSO's has been developed and finalised. This Training manual will cover the various aspects of food fortification including:

- Introduction to Food Fortification
- Technology and Process involved in the fortification of different commodities
- Standards for Food Fortification
- Roles of FSOs with respect to Food Fortification
 - o Premix Handling and Storage
 - o Packaging and Labelling Requirements
 - o Licensing and Registration
 - o Product Sampling and Legal Procedures
 - o Overview of testing of fortificants.

In terms of Dissemination and Training, 2 tracks will be followed – [1] for new FSOs - a 2 hour module as part of the FSO training, [2] for existing FSOs - it will be made available online as a presentation, video and a manual that can be downloaded.

It will also be incorporated into any refresher trainings being conducted by Training / RCD at regular intervals.

Action Decided-

States/UTs to drive this agenda in their respective states with the help of the team members of FFRC, FSSAI

Agenda Item No. 20.9: Issues of States/UTs

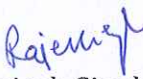
The Committee took note of the agenda pertaining to some issues of States of Kerala, Goa and Haryana along with clarifications on respective issues as circulated in the meeting.


Agenda Item No. 20.10: Any other Agenda with the permission of the Chair

It was pointed out by several States/UTs that due to lack of funding, States/UTs are not able to carry out special drive for creating awareness of Food Safety, organise regular trainings of staff and take up SNF initiatives.

Action Decided: It was unanimously decided that States/UTs can use the fees collected on account of license/registration for carrying out various activities viz. IEC (SNF initiatives), training of staff (FoSReST) and training of FBOs (FoSTaC).

The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all the Members present.


 (Rajesh Singh)
 Director (Regulatory Compliance)


 (Pawan Agarwal)
 CEO, FSSAI

The following members were present during the 20th CAC Meeting held on 22nd August, 2017 at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi:-

Sh. Ashish Bahuguna, Chairperson, FSSAI- Attended the meeting at the request of CEO, FSSAI and Chairman, CAC

A. Members of CAC:-

1. Sh. Pawan Agarwal, CEO, FSSAI- **Chairman, CAC**

Commissioners of Food Safety from States/UTs:

2. Dr. Mrinalini Darwal, Commissioner of Food Safety, Delhi
3. Sh. P.V. Narsinga Rao, Commissioner of Food Safety, Chhattisgarh
4. Sh. Ravindra Pratap Singh, Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha

Members from various fields (Private Members):

5. Dr. Sushil Kumar, Chairperson, Scientific Committee
6. Dr. Deepa Bhajkar, 'd' Technology
7. Sh. B. K. Misra, Consumer Online Foundation
8. Ms. Nirupama Sharma, Secretary General, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Council of India,
9. Sh. D V. Malhan, Executive Secretary, All India Food Processors Association
10. Sh. T.P. Rajendran
11. Sh. S.S. Marwaha, Coordinatorm Centre for Applied Agriculture

Representatives from States/UTs:

12. Sh. K. N. Swaroop, Jt. Food Controller, Andhra Pradesh
13. Sh. Lokam Mangha, Asst. Food Controller, Arunachal Pradesh
14. Sh. L.R. Nampui, Designated Officer (HQ), Assam
15. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Designated Officer, Chandigarh
16. Ms. Dipika Chauhan, Deputy Commissioner (Food), Gujarat
17. Dr. D. K. Sharma, Joint Commissioner (Food), Haryana
18. Sh. L. D. Thakur, Designated Officer, Himachal Pradesh
19. Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Asst Controller (Food), Jammu & Kashmir
20. Sh. Chaturbuj Meena, Food Analyst and Coordinator, Jharkhand
21. Dr. Ashwani Dewangan, Assistant Commissioner, Chhattisgarh
22. Dr. Srinivasa Gowda, Joint Food Safety Commissioner, Karnataka
23. Dr. Harshwardhan, Deputy Commissioner, Karnataka
24. Sh. K. Anil Kumar, Joint Commissioner (Food), Kerala

25. Sh. S.T. Thankachan, Kerala
26. Sh. Arvind Pathrol, Sr. Food Inspector, Madhya Pradesh
27. Sh. C.B. Pawar, Joint Commissioner, Maharashtra
28. Sh. N.S. Masare, Food Safety Officer, Maharashtra
29. Sh. Sanjeeva Meitei, Food Analyst, Manipur
30. Sh. S. N. Sangma, Joint Commissioner, Meghalaya
31. Dr. Jayatakr Ray, Add Resi Commissioner, Puducherry
32. Sh. Ashok Kumar, Public Analyst, Punjab
33. Dr. Aditya Attrey, Rajasthan
34. Dr. K. Vanaja, Director & Additional Commissioner, Tamil Nadu
35. Sr. Siva Leela C, Director, Telangana
36. Sh. A. Viswanatha Reddy, Asst. Food Controller, Telangana
37. Sh. R. S. Rawat, Designated Officer, Uttarakhand
38. Sh. H.S. Singh, Assistant Commissioner (Food), Uttar Pradesh

B. Invitees from Ministries/ Departments:-

39. Sh. Ashish Gawai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
40. Sh. Mahendra Vikram Singh, Ministry of Commerce
41. Sh. H.S. Bisht, Director,, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
42. Ms. Madhumita, Adv, Ministry of Environment and Forests
43. Sh. S.K. Verma, Ministry of Food Processing Industries
44. Sh. R.K. Gupta, Ministry of animal Husbandry, dairying and Fisheries
45. Dr. S. Mukherjee, Deputy Technical Advisor, Ministry of Women and Child Development

C. FSSAI Officials:-

46. Mrs. Madhavi Das, Chief Management Services Officer
47. Sh. Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)
48. Sh. Sunil Bakshi, Advisor (Codex)
49. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (QA)
50. Sh. S. K. Yadav, Director (Regulatory Compliance/Imports)
51. Sh. Raj Singh, Head (PC&GA)
52. Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Director (Risk Assessment)
53. Sh. Rajesh Singh, Director, Eastern Region
54. Sh. P. Muthumaran, Director, Southern Region
55. Sh. Tanmoy Prasad, CITO
56. Sh. Parveen Jargar, Joint Director, (Regulatory Compliance)

57. Dr. A.C. Mishra, Joint Director, (Standards)
58. Ms. Pritha Ghosh, Deputy Director (Training)
59. Ms. Anita Mahkijani, Deputy Director (Technical)
60. Sh. Karthikeyan, AD (Regulations/CODEX)
61. Sh. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
62. Sh. Akhilesh Gupta, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
63. Sh. Madan Mohan, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
64. Smt. Remya, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
65. Sh. A. Rastogi, AD (Surveillance)
66. Ms. Monika Puniya, AD (Nutrition)
67. Ms. Aruna, AD (QA)
68. Sh. Ravindra Kumar, AD (PC& GA)
69. ~~Ms~~ Smita Mankad, Head, FFRC
70. ~~Ms~~ Varsha Gupta, Sc-IV,(QA)
71. Ms. Archana Tiwari, Sc-IV(QA)

* Mistakes in the spelling of any name are unintentional and are regretted.

Action Points emerging from the meeting:

Based on the discussions held during the meeting, the following action points emerged:

A. Action points for States/UTs:-

1. To prepare a SOP for implementation of Food Safety Emergency Response Plan for India by Telangana & Madhya Pradesh.
2. States/UTs to share the details about which bank they want to get integrated with within ten days.
3. States/UTs to share their feedback/suggestions on proposed inspection checklist of various kind of businesses.
4. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Daman & Diu, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim and Telangana are requested to submit the Enforcement details sought from States within 10 days.
5. States/UTs are required to send the FSO requirement in their States/UTs in a week.
6. States/UTs to share their details of closed user Group, if any, otherwise submit their willingness to implement FoSCoRIS within 1 month.
7. States/UTs have to send revalidation/ resampling data of National Milk Quality survey.

B. Action points for FSSAI:-

1. Head, Legal to get judgment details from Rajasthan and Gujarat and RCD may share the process with the States/UTs to dispose off the PFA cases lying pending in the rest of the States/UTs.

