

File No. 9(16) 2020/32nd CAC/RCD/FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Regulatory Compliance Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110 002

Dated : 28th July, 2021

Minutes of 32nd meeting of Central Advisory Committee held on 29th June, 2021

The 32nd meeting of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India was held on 29th June, 2021 through video conferencing in two sessions. List of participants is annexed.

At the onset, Head (RCD) welcomed the participants and briefed about the program schedule of the meeting. In his opening remarks, CEO, FSSAI welcomed the participants and requested the Commissioners of Food Safety to set apart at least one-hour time in a week for the purpose of issues related to food safety. He envisaged that the time provided for food safety may go a long way in raising morale of the officers involved in food safety. He further hoped that the next meeting of CAC would be physical one instead of through video conferencing. Thereafter agenda items were taken up, discussed and decisions were taken as under: -

Agenda No.1: Disclosure of Interest

All members of CAC were requested to make Specific Declaration of Interest and Declaration Concerning Confidentiality in the forms provided with the Agenda and send back by email at enforcement1@fssai.gov.in by 1st July, 2021.

Agenda No. 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 31st CAC Meeting

The minutes of the 31st CAC meeting held on 10.02.2021 were approved and adopted.

Agenda 3: Action Taken Report of 31st CAC Meeting

The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 31st CAC meeting held on 10.02.2021 was noted. While informing the important achievements under Eat Right Campus initiative, Head (RCD) suggested that the success stories may be shared by the respective States/UTs in the CAC meetings.

(Action: States and UTs)

Agenda No. 4: Review of performance of States/UTs based on 4th Quarterly Report (January-March-2021)

Form-1: Administrative Structure

CEO, FSSAI emphasized that there is still a large gap in availability of adequate administrative staff which is a very critical requirement and any shortcoming on this part is bound to affect overall food safety in the country. Also the total number of Designated Officers (DOs) in the country has reduced as compared with the last quarter (Q3).

CEO, FSSAI complimented CFS, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for recruitment of additional Designated Officers (DOs). He then sought status on the recruitment process in various States such as Assam, Haryana, Mizoram and Nagaland. He advised all the states to pursue for creation/sanction of posts on the basis of one DO per district and expedite the recruitment process. He further emphasized that the north-eastern states are on the priority list and a proposal in MoU for facilitating recruitment in these States could be included for a limited period of time.

Action Decided:

(a) The States were advised to consider recruitment or provision of additional charge for the sanctioned posts of Designated Officers and creation /filling of the posts of DOs and FSOs as per the ideal strength in their States.

(b) It was decided that the Regional Directors, in consultation with their respective States/UTs, would review the ideal strength of DOs & FSOs required and submit their recommendations by 15th July, 2021. The recommended ideal strength would be considered final and would serve as the base for performance review from the next CAC meeting onwards.

(Action: States/UTs, RCD & Regional Directors, FSSAI)

Form-2: Details of Adjudication Cases:

Head (RCD) mentioned that the numbers of cases filed by States are less than the expected cases, i.e. 3 cases/FSO/quarter. Further, regarding the pendency status of cases, he informed that there is high pendency in most of the States/UTs. It was also observed that no new cases have been filed in D& N H, Daman & Diu, Goa, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

CEO, FSSAI emphasized on the need of regular follow up to reduce the pendency. He observed that a large number of cases have been launched in Haryana & Uttar Pradesh whereas in the rest of the States/UTs the cases were launched far below expectation. If no action is taken in respect of the failed samples, then the overall regulatory impact would get dissipated and that would be taken as complacency against the defaulters.

Subsequently, status was sought from the States of Maharashtra, Goa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan individually. He further remarked that the overall pendency has increased to 17,000 and the disposal of cases should be more than the no. of new cases filed in the quarter.

Action Decided:

a) CFSs to ensure proper action on failure of samples in testing and expedite disposal of pending cases of adjudication at the earliest possible.

(Action: States and UTs)

Form-3: Details of Appellate Tribunal and Advisory Committees

Head (RCD) informed that States/UTs of Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Mizoram and Nagaland do not have Appellate Tribunals whereas Bihar, Karnataka and Sikkim are in the process of setting up Appellate Tribunals.

CEO, FSSAI observed that the overall number of DLAC meetings in States/UTs have reduced to 1/6th as compared with the last quarter and similarly number of SLAC meetings conducted in all States/UTs has been inadequate. He advised States/UTs to conduct regular DLAC meetings which may be aligned with the District Health Committee meetings that are being held regularly by respective health departments where at least half an hour could be given to food safety activities.

Action Decided:

a) States/UTs of Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Nagaland, Bihar, Karnataka and Sikkim to expedite the process of setting up Appellate Tribunals.

b) Regional Directors, FSSAI to review and follow up with States/UTs who have not yet constituted DLACs & SLACs and ensure that regular meetings are held.

(Action: States/UTs & Regional Directors, FSSAI)

Form-4: Active State Licenses and Registrations

Head (RCD) briefed that although the number of licenses and registrations have increased, the total number of FBOs under licensing/registration is below the benchmark in many States, i.e. 1 FBO per 200 population.

CEO, FSSAI complimented the States of Maharashtra, Puducherry, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu who have performed well ($\geq 100\%$ of expected increase). He expressed concern about the States of Assam, Bihar, Nagaland, Tripura and West Bengal with low overall coverage of FBOs and directed them to ensure that FBOs are identified and inducted into the FSS licensing regime by conducting special registration/licensing drives.

Head (RCD) urged States/UTs to utilize the funds provided through MoU for conducting special drives as well as setting up of helpdesk in their respective State/UT for facilitating FBOs to obtain license/registration as applicable.

Action Decided:

- a) States to initiate measures such as special drives and Camps to induct FBOs into the Licensing/Registration regime.

(Action: States and UTs)

Form-5 & Form-6: Pendency of Applications for State License & Registration

Head (RCD) briefed about the pendency status. CEO, FSSAI remarked that despite there being the provision of auto-generation, there is a high percentage of pendency in both License and Registration for over the period of 6 months and 30 days respectively. He further emphasized that auto-generation should not be encouraged as it reflects poorly on part of States/UTs regulatory mechanism.

During discussions, CEO, FSSAI informed that the number of unattended applications has also gone up as compared with the last quarter. CFS, Maharashtra mentioned about the mapping issues in the State. Assam and Goa assured to expedite the processing of unattended applications.

Action Decided:

- a) ED(CS) to review the functionalities of implementation of auto-registration and recommend corrective steps, if required.
- b) IT Division to conduct a VC and review all mapping issues in the State of Maharashtra within 14 days.
- c) CFS of all States/UTs to review the pendency status at their level and ensure timely processing of applications instead of depending on auto-generation provision.

(Action: RCD, CITO & States/UTs)

Form-7: Consumer Grievances

CITO briefed the updated details of consumer grievances wherein overall pendency has reduced to 1800 cases(1192 FLRS cases, 611 Foscos cases) from around 7000 pending cases in last quarter.

CEO, FSSAI complimented all States/UTs for excellent work done in reduction of pendencies and encouraged them to keep up the progress in upcoming quarter as well.

Form-8: Inspection, Sampling and Testing

Head (RCD) remarked that the number of FoSCORIS inspections have increased as compared with the last quarter but significant improvement needs to be done in order to achieve the

target number of inspections by all States/UTs. CEO, FSSAI complimented all States/UTs as the number of FoSCoRIS inspections have been doubled since the last CAC meeting and so is the case with sampling.

CEO, FSSAI observed that out of samples being analyzed, there is wide variation in number of samples found non-conforming across the country. While States with high number of non-conforming samples claim that targeted sampling is being done by them and on the other hand, States with very less number of non-conforming samples may claim that food is comparatively safe in their States. Such wide variation ranging from 0 to 60% of non-conforming samples needs to be analyzed.

Action Decided:

Regional Directors (RDs), FSSAI to get some random sampling done through CFSOs, get them tested and compare the results with the figures provided by the State. RDs to consider the States with less than 10% non-conforming samples and also States with more than 40% non-conforming samples for this exercise. The outcome of this exercise would be discussed in the next CAC meeting.

(Action: Regional Directors/FSSAI)

Form-9: Eat Right Initiatives

ED (CS) briefed the agenda to CAC members and emphasized that for initiatives such as clusters, hygiene rating and awareness activities, the figures should be mentioned only when the entire certification process is completed and not when the same is in process. The entire Form-9 has exaggerated values and States/UTs need to review them before submitting them to FSSAI. Further Discussion on this form is as follows:

- a) Overall good improvement has been observed in Hygiene Rating as compared with last quarter. Funds for conducting Hygiene Rating audits have been included in the MoU and States/UTs should utilise the same.
- b) Since progress is very slow in the Save Food Share Food initiative, all States/UTs to make special efforts to improve the performance by the next quarter.
- c) Excellent work has been done by Gujarat in the field of RUCO wherein 76720 KI of used cooking oil has been collected, Regional Director, WR to review and verify the same. Once verified, Gujarat would give a presentation in the next CAC meeting for other States/UTs to adopt the good practice.

(Action: Regional Directors, FSSAI & States/UTs)

Form-10- Testing Infrastructure

CEO, FSSAI mentioned that most of the States/ UTs have received Sample Management Systems (SMS) and a few of them have put the systems in place. CEO, FSSAI complimented the laboratories which have been granted NABL accreditation recently, but mentioned that there is a lot of scope for betterment in this area. He further explained the working of Lab Information Management System (LIMS) and how the data would be automatically linked to INFoLNET. He mentioned that the condition of SFTL in certain States is still below average and the CFS need to pay special attention to this and in case any support towards computer and IT infrastructure is needed, FSSAI would provide the same through MoUs.

Shri. Rahul Singh of Uttar Pradesh informed that Food Safety Data Collection System(FSDCS) is not working right now due to some technical issues, and the same is under optimisation and would be functional within two weeks.

(Action: States and UTs)

Form-11 CSS for strengthening of SFTLs

Regarding Form 11, Advisor (QA) informed that Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have sent Utilization Certificates. However, 100% UC is yet to be received from most of the States/UTs. The following observations were made -

- a) Andhra Pradesh informed that once the civil work gets completed then the State would initiate the procurement of High End Equipment (HEE). CEO, FSSAI suggested to simultaneously initiate the process for procurement of HEEs and may contact the QA division in case if they need any help/ support.
- b) Chhattisgarh informed that Rs. 5 crore received has been utilised and UC would be sent at the earliest.
- c) In case of Bihar, the progress is unsatisfactory and Regional Director (ER) was asked to review and follow up with the State.
- d) SFCs or the State representatives from Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala and Tamil Nadu were asked to send the UC at the earliest.
- e) CFS, Maharashtra informed that Rs.50 lakhs have been handed over to PWD for civil works but no work has been initiated despite repeated follow-up. CEO, FSSAI advised to take up the matter in the SLAC meeting and resolve the issue at the earliest.
- f) Deputy Food Safety Commissioner, Puducherry informed that about 90% of civil works has been completed. One instrument has been installed and the other two are awaited which will be completed by next month.
- g) Joint Director (Food Safety), Rajasthan informed that order for HEEs has been placed and the same would be installed in the next two months.
- h) In Uttarakhand, one instrument has been installed and the remaining instruments would be installed in 2 weeks. The State assured to send the UC at the earliest.

(Action: States and UTs)

Form-12 Testing Infrastructure Utilization

Regarding Form 12, Advisor (QA) briefed the CAC members about the ambitious program of FSW wherein it is proposed to give one FSW to each district in all States/UTs in the next five years. CEO, FSSAI emphasised on proper utilisation of FSWs for all the three functions namely testing, awareness and training. He complimented Gujarat for performing well and pointed out that the States of Bihar, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Goa, Telangana, Tripura, Puducherry, Mizoram, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, have performed below expectation in this quarter.

Action Decided:

- a) States and UTs were requested to ensure proper utilisation of FSWs.
- b) CFS of all States/UTs were asked to review the figures submitted in Quarterly reports before submitting the same to FSSAI and ensure the correctness of the same.

(Action: States and UTs)

Form-13: Food Fortification

ED(CS) briefed the agenda to CAC members wherein she informed about the development of an online module for training of FSOs regarding food fortification. She complemented States of Kerala

and Uttar Pradesh where good work has been done however overall no. of trained FSOs is low in the country.

Action Decided:

- a) CFS of all States/UTs to encourage their respective FSOs to register and complete the online training.
- b) States & UTs to conduct special drives for sensitization and training of FBOs regarding food fortification.

(Action: States/UTs)

Form-14: FoSTaC & Regulatory Staff Training

Head (RCD) emphasised on the need for increasing the number of FoSTaC as well as regulatory training in the next quarter. States/UTs were requested to include training as a part of their respective MoUs.

(Action: States/UTs)

Agenda No. 5: Status of signing of MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Ecosystem in the country.

Head (RCD) made a presentation on the status of MoUs between FSSAI and States/UTs, wherein it was mentioned that in the financial year 2020-21, MoU were executed between FSSAI and 24 States/UTs to strengthen the food safety ecosystem and funds to the tune of Rs 64.66 Crore were released. Also, for financial year 2021-22, proposals from 24 States/UTs have been received which are under process. He requested the other States (Assam, Bihar, Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu, Haryana, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal) to submit proposal for MoU and work plans at the earliest.

He also informed that States/UTs of Goa, Gujarat, Mizoram and Nagaland have opted for utilization of 75% of Licence/Registration fee towards cost of various activities in the work plan. CEO, FSSAI advised States/UTs to consider utilising their existing budget towards State share under the work plan.

The following observations were made -

- a) Work plan is under preparation by the States of Uttar Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu and the same would be submitted within 2-3 weeks by respective States.
- b) Maharashtra, Assam, D & NH, & Haryana to expedite the approval from their respective governments and simultaneously submit the work plan to FSSAI.

Action Decided:

- a) All the States/UTs who have not yet submitted the MoU/Work Plan proposal for 2021-22, to submit the same immediately.
- b) States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to confirm the fund share option.

(Action: Respective States)

Agenda No. 6: Review of Ideal strength of Designated Officers (DO) and Food Safety Officers (FSO) of States/UTs

Head (RCD) briefed the agenda to CAC members. In the last CAC meeting, States/UTs were requested to review the ideal strength of DOs and FSOs required in their States & UTs and submit

the proposal to FSSAI. The same has been received from 8 States/UTs (Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Puducherry, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh) so far.

Action Decided:

It was decided that the Regional Directors, in consultation with their respective States/UTs, would review the ideal strength of DOs & FSOs required and submit their recommendation by 15th July. The recommended ideal strength would be then considered final and would serve as the basis for performance review from the next CAC meeting onwards.

(Action: States/UTs, RCD & Regional Directors, FSSAI)

Agenda No. 7: Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCOS)- Recent Developments and Upcoming Modules

ED(CS) briefed on the functionalities and recent developments under FoSCOS and the upcoming modules, primarily, the auto generation of licenses and registrations, annual returns and migration from State to Central Licenses and vice versa without change in license numbers. She also mentioned the upcoming modules regarding risk based inspection scheduling, adjudications, etc. which are under development and shall be made available on FoSCOS in the future. CEO, FSSAI emphasized that the focus of FSSAI is to shift towards a paperless regulatory system, wherein all processing and data shall be made digital under FoSCOS.

Agenda No. 8: Streamlining and Settlement of payments related to State License/Registration

ED(CS) briefed on the status of payments made to the States for remittance of license and registration fees through FSSAI's centrally pooled account and informed that the details of bank accounts from the States of West Bengal, Assam, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are still awaited. The representative of Maharashtra informed that a new bank account has been created and the details of the same shall be shared within a week with FSSAI. ED(CS) also informed that the nodal person of FSSAI can be contacted by the States for any clarification on the matter. It was also informed that whereas the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala have closed their State Specific payment portals, confirmation regarding same was still awaited from Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal.

Action Decided:

- a) States/UTs whose payments are pending shall provide the bank account details within 15 days to FSSAI HQ.
- b) Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal to take immediate action for closure of their State specific payment portals and confirm to FSSAI.

(Action: Respective States)

Agenda No. 9: Mandating the non-issuance of offline renewal of FSSAI license/registration

ED(CS) informed that with the launch of Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) all States/UTs are issuing online license and registration except a few districts of Arunachal Pradesh. It was also informed that many States/UTs are doing offline renewal of license and registrations which were issued offline earlier. ED (CS) highlighted that offline licensing and renewal pose a challenge in record keeping, filing of annual returns, online inspections or online programmes such as hygiene rating. Offline issues of licenses will also pose a challenge in complying with latest criteria for licensing eg. criteria for licensing of Nutraceutical is being changed.

CEO, FSSAI also stressed on the use of FoSCoS for licensing and renewal as FSSAI is targeting to go paperless in licensing/registration, inspection, etc. and use of such technology is essential to achieve the same.

Action Decided:

- (a) All districts of Arunachal Pradesh to be made online for State License and Registration.
- (b) State/UTs to ensure renewal of all licenses/registrations and issue of fresh license/registrations online through FoSCoS.

(Action: Respective States)

Agenda No. 10: Recent Regulatory Updates regarding compliance and corresponding actions to be taken by Licensing/Registration Authorities

ED (CS) briefed the agenda to CAC members. FSSAI has enabled food businesses to migrate from State license to Central License and vice versa. The automatically generated transfer form will be approved by the licensing authority which issued license and scrutinized by concerned licensing authority. Further, FSSAI has mandated

- (a) Issuance of FSSAI license number on the invoice /cash memo/bills (except GST e-way)w.e.f. 1st October 2021.
- (b) Submission of annual return for financial year 2020-21 through FoSCOs.
- (c) Modifications of license of manufacturers as per the standardised list latest category on FoSCoS (date extended till 31st October 2021) .

ED (CS) also informed that after incorporation of comments received on the draft notifications and getting approval for the same from Food Authority, FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulation, 2020 have been sent to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for approval.

Action Decided:

- (a) State/UTs to scrutinise transfer applications (if received) in a specific time frame.
- (b) State/UTs to organise special camps to spread awareness and for online submission of Annual returns and 100 percent implementation of online submission.
- (c) State/UTs to ensure compliance with the orders issued by FSSAI.

(Action: All States/UTs)

Agenda No. 11: Relaxation to Food Businesses getting Hygiene Rated under FSSAI's Hygiene Rating Scheme.

Head (RCD) briefed the agenda to CAC Members. In the 28th CAC Meeting held on 28th May 2020, comments were requested on the proposed relaxation for FBOs opting for Hygiene Rating and obtaining higher rating for the first time and after renewal of Hygiene Rating. It was also informed that as recently, validity of Hygiene Rating Certificate has been increased to 2 years from 1 year to align with Eat Right India Initiatives; it is proposed to implement the above relaxations with suitable modifications.

CEO, FSSAI informed the members that these relaxations would serve as incentives to promote the Hygiene Rating Scheme. In such cases, only regular inspection will not take place and in case there is any complaint against the FBO then the State may schedule inspection.

Dr. Poonam Kakkar (CSIR) suggested that relaxation for both 4 and 5 Star ratings should not be the same and more relaxation may be given to 5 Star ratings. The proposed relaxations were accepted with differential treatment for 4 Star and 5 Star ratings.

Action Decided:

Suitable guidelines to be issued by FSSAI for relaxation in inspection and States/UTs to implement the same in their respective States/UTs.

(Action: RCD and States/UTs)

Agenda No. 12: Quality Assurance: Credible Food Testing and Effective Surveillance

Advisor (QA) informed that 41 SFTLs have obtained NABL accreditation for different product categories. It was also informed that 6 out of the 39 discontinued SFTLs have obtained NABL accreditation while 13 have applied for the same. CEO, FSSAI emphasised that all the SFTLs must target to get NABL accreditation by the end of this year and apply for Integrated FSSAI-NABL accreditation in specific product categories at the earliest possible.

Advisor (QA) also informed the members about the status of modified FSWs. So far, 58 modified FSWs have been sanctioned/delivered to 16 States, on first come first serve basis, subject to their readiness including 28 modified FSWs which are under delivery.

Advisor (QA) also raised his concern regarding delay in submission of UC and MPRs in prescribed formats by most of the State/UTs and urged that MPRs and UCs shall be submitted in a timely manner to avoid delay in sanctioning of funds. States were also requested to submit the reports on tests carried out using four hand held devices provided to the States. It was informed that only 10 states viz. Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Manipur, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal have started sending the reports.

He shared the 5-year roadmap for the FSWs and mentioned that FSSAI aims to provide 637 FSWs by the year 2026. He mentioned that out of 127 FSW, demand for only 28 has been received for the year 2021-22 and urged States to submit proposals for the remaining 99 FSWs. It was also proposed to increase the existing grant of Rs.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh which can be used for operational expenses including hiring of manpower (One Analyst mandatorily). This grant can be provisioned through MoU with States.

CEO, FSSAI urged States to send proposal for getting FSWs and other facilities provided by FSSAI to further strengthen the testing mechanism at the state level.

Action Decided:

- (a) SFTL, Varanasi to submit the proposal for recognition and notification of their lab by FSSAI
- (b) 20 discontinued SFTLs should immediately take action for obtaining NABL accreditation
- (c) States/UTs may seek funds for NABL accreditation and grants for FSWs under MoU being signed with FSSAI
- (d) States should ensure towards operationalization of HEEs and provide monthly reports to FSSAI.
- (e) States to ensure that equipment are calibrated, methods are validated and complete scope is covered under NABL accreditation.
- (f) Karnataka and Odisha should submit proposal for upgradation/setting up of the Microbiology lab on turnkey basis.
- (g) States to coordinate with the vendors for installation and training in the respective State Food Testing Laboratories. States to send proposals for training of their staff to FSSAI.
- (h) States to ensure timely submission of Food testing reports, MPRs and UCs to FSSAI

(Action: Respective States)

Agenda No. 13:

(A) Training: Launching of FSO Manual by CEO, FSSAI

FSSAI has published the second edition of the FSO Manual. Director (Training) and his team briefed the members about the features of this manual. It was informed that the second edition of FSO manual is aligned with the latest advancements in FSS Act, 2006 and has been published in English as well as Hindi and is available in hard copy as well as online.

CEO, FSSAI appreciated the efforts of the Training Division and released the FSO manual. He also suggested States to translate the same in regional languages.

(B) Training Programme for Regulatory Officials, Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC)

Director (Training) updated on the status of training conducted for regulatory officials of the States/UTs, railway department and food businesses. Induction training of 126 officials and two hour COVID-19 training of 850 employees have been completed in the previous quarter. FSSAI has also conducted training on special requirements identified by the States/UTs. FSSAI has also framed a two-day training curriculum for the training of adjudicating officers to be conducted in July 2021 for which proposals have been received only from Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh so far.

It was also informed that 21000 trainings have been conducted under the FoSTaC programme and more than 5.18 lakh food handlers have been trained.

Nodal Officer (Food Safety), Madhya Pradesh requested FSSAI to direct the training partners to inform regulatory officials about the trainings organised in the State so that FBOs can be updated about the upcoming training programmes. CEO, FSSAI recommended that States should liaise with the training partners to train all FBOs. There should be coordination between the training partners and the regulatory officials to avoid duplication in the training.

Action Decided:

- a) States/UTs to share the feedback on FSO Manual using Google form and translate this manual in regional languages.
- b) State/UTs to submit proposals for training of the Adjudicating Officers by 15th July 2021.
- c) State /UTs to submit proposals on any special training needed for the regulatory officials.
- d) Training division to instruct training partners to inform concerned States/UTs about the upcoming training programmes.

(Action: State/UTs , Training Division)

Agenda No. 14: Any other Business

After discussion on the agenda items, CEO, FSSAI called upon all the participants to share their inputs.

Ms. Meetu Kapur, representative of CII requested for clearer framework on Street Food Hubs and for providing due acknowledgement to a food company which extend their assistance and efforts under the Eat Right India campaign. CEO, FSSAI mentioned that Eat Right India is FSSAI's holistic initiative towards awareness building and the food industry involved in any of the initiatives under the campaign shall be given due acknowledgement for their contribution.

The issue regarding information on training activities being conducted by training partners to be made available to the State Food Safety Commissioners and local food authorities was also discussed.

Training Division, FSSAI was directed to make it mandatory for all training partners to convey this information to the State Food Authorities.

Chairman, Vimta Labs also mentioned that a proposal to incorporate use of rapid technology testing throughput systems for protein estimation, trans fats, etc. may be considered to be a part of Testing Manual. He informed that the JNPT Lab shall be operational by end of July, 2021. Advisor (QA) informed that the suggestion is welcome, however, due to constraints with the use of rapid kits such as stability, sensitivity, the results of these kits are validated again with basic equipment. However, Chairman, JNPT may submit a detailed note on the same for further examination by QA Division.

Concluding Remarks by Chairperson, FSSAI:

Chairperson, FSSAI complimented CEO and all the participants for interesting discussions on important topics touching upon all aspects of food safety in all aspects. She advised the States and UTs to leverage upon the tools being made available by FSSAI, especially under the MoU and the IT advancements.

She expressed that CAC is an important forum and participation of Food Safety Commissioners of all States and UTs is essential. She observed absenteeism of some FSCs without formal approval of the Chair and remarked that such an absence shows laxity towards the objectives and responsibilities of food safety. Regarding manpower, she stated that the status is precarious and over 50 % vacancies are still existing despite best efforts. The States need to gear up their efforts towards recruitment of manpower since the same would directly affect the food safety activities.

She emphasized upon the need to recognise the role of MoUs for enhancement of food safety and to ensure equivalent commitment by the State Governments.

She expressed pleasure on the success of FoSCOS and mentioned that IT is the backbone for functioning of FoSCOS and hence, all States need to ensure appropriate internet services and best utilisation of FoSCOS features available at their end. She mentioned that although the FoSCOS system is in place, there is a need for uniformity and synchrony in data for every user, be it in the State, Regional Office or HQs. She advised CITO to create a dashboard and present it in the next meeting to ensure uniformity of data.

She emphasized the need for enhanced engagement of States with the Regional Directors for productive teamwork. She mentioned that the Food Safety Commissioners need to ensure performance review of the food safety officials once a month. The Regional Directors should provide all support and assistance to the States & UTs.

She highlighted that testing receives little attention despite the bulk of FSSAI support being provided for improving testing infrastructures. The importance of testing cannot be undermined and compliance/enforcement rests on testing activities only.

She advised the Food Safety Commissioners of all States/UTs to identify areas where their respective States/ UTs are lacking and work on the same to strengthen them.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(R.K. Mittal)

Head (Regulatory Compliance Division)

List of Participants

Smt. Rita Teotia, Chairperson, FSSAI
Sh. Arun Singhal, CEO, FSSAI- Chairman, CAC

Members of CAC:-**Commissioners of Food Safety from States/UTs:**

1. Dr. P. Senthilkumar, Health Secretary & Commissioner Food Safety, Tamil Nadu
2. K.D Kunjam IAS, Commissioner of Food Safety, Chhattisgarh
3. Smt. Jyoti J. Sardesai, Commissioner of Food Safety, Goa
4. Dr. H. G. Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat
5. Shri Suneel Anchipaka, Commissioner of Food Safety, A & N islands
6. Sh. Shakeel-UI-Rehman, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu & Kashmir
7. Smt. Leelavathy, Commissioner of Food Safety, Karnataka
8. Sh. Ajayakumar A R, Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala
9. Shri A.S. Bhatia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Nagaland (Principal Secretary, DoHFW)
10. Ms. Yamini Sarangi, Commissioner of Food Safety, Odisha
11. Sh. Tapan Kanti Rudra, Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal
12. Sh. V. Vumlunmang, Commissioner of Food Safety, Manipur
13. Shri Parimal Singh, Commissioner, FDA, Maharashtra
14. Ajeet Kumar Sahoo, Principal Secretary, Commissioner, Ladakh
15. Sh. K. Sridhar, Executive Director, Railways

Invitees from Ministries/ Departments:-

16. Shri N. Subrahmanyam, MoEFCC
17. Shri B.N. Dixit, Director, Legal Metrology
18. Sh. Ashish V. Gawai, Director (Food Regulation Division), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
19. Sh. Diwakar Mishra, JS Ministry of commerce (MoCI)
20. Sh. Ajai Narain Pandey, Department of Food and Public Distribution
21. Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers welfare

Members from various fields (Private Members):

22. Ms. Meetu Kapur, Executive Director, Confederation of Indian Industry
23. Dr. Prabodh Shrish Halde, Member, RAI
24. Mr. Ashim Sanyal, COO, Consumer Voice
25. R.K. Singh, Director, ICAR – Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology
26. Sh. Vilas Vishnu Shinde, Managing Director, Shayadari Farm Producers co. Ltd.
27. Dr. Kaushik Banerjee, National Referral Laboratory, ICAR- National Research for Grapes
28. Dr. Shivalinga Prasad Vassireddi, Vimta Labs
29. Sh. Balwinder Bajwa, Director & CEO, EFRAC Ltd., Kolkata
30. Prof. (Dr.) Poonam Kakkar, Chief Scientist & Head Herbal Research Section, CSIR

Representatives from States/UTs:

31. Chandrakishore Oraon Joint secretary health department, Jharkhand
32. Shri Rahul Singh, Additional Commissioner, U.P.
33. Shri S N Sangma, Joint Commissioner of Food Safety, Meghalaya
34. Sh. D.K. Sharma, Jt. Commissioner, Haryana
35. Sh. Ilanthirayan Dy Food safety Commissioner, Puducherry
36. Smt. Anuradha Majumdar, Deputy Commissioner of Food Safety, Tripura
37. S P Adhav, Joint Commissioner HQ, FDA MH
38. S R Kekare Joint Commissioner, FDA, Maharashtra
39. Mr. Lalsawma Pachuau Deputy FSC, Mizoram
40. UK Mitra, Dy. Commissioner FS, Arunachal Pradesh
41. Sh. Arvind Pathrol, Nodal Officer, Food Safety, M.P.

42. Sh. Anupam Gogoi, Food Analyst, Assam
43. Sh. Chaturbhuj Meena, Food Analyst and Coordinator, Jharkhand
44. Dr. Sunil Singh, Joint Director, Food Safety, Rajasthan
45. Dr. Vijaya, Assistant Commissioner, Shimla
46. Dr. K. Shankar, Director, Food Safety, Telangana
47. Dr. P. Manjiri, Director, Andhra Pradesh
48. Dr. Sonia Oinam, Deputy Secretary, Health and FW, Manipur.
49. Sh. Firdous Ahmad Ahangar, FSO-HQ, J&K
50. Sh. Mukesh Ji Kashyap DO Gaya, Bihar
51. Sh. Samiran Baruah, FSO, Assam
52. Sh. Rajendra Rawat DO (HQ) Uttarakhand
53. Sh. Sanjeev Kumar DCFS DFCO JK
54. Sh. Samuel Zehol, Designated Officer, Dimapur, Nagaland
55. Sh. Tapeswari Singh, DO, Bihar
56. Sh. T. Vijaya Kumar, DFC, Telangana
57. Ms. Priti Thakore, FSO, Dadara & Nagar Haveli
58. Sh. Ranjeet Singh, DO, Delhi
59. Smt. Ravneet Kaur, Food Safety, Punjab
60. Sh. Pankaj Kumar, Chief Food Analyst, Rajasthan
61. Sh. N Thapa, DO, Sikkim
62. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Designated Officer, Chandigarh
63. Dr. V K Das - DO - DNH & DD
64. Dr. Vijaya Kumari, Assistant Commissioner, Himachal Pradesh
65. Sh. Tamchos Gurmet, Designated Officer, Ladakh
66. Nayeem FSO LADAKH
67. Smt. Sangeeta Thakur

FSSAI Officials:-

68. Sh. Rajeev Kumar Jain, ED, FSSAI
69. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, ED, FSSAI
70. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Advisor (QA)
71. Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor (Standards)
72. Shri Sunil Bakshi, Head, FSSAI
73. Mr. R. K. Mittal, Head (Regulatory Compliance Division)
74. Sh. Raj Singh, Head (PC&GA)
75. Smt. Lily Prasad, CITO
76. Cdr. Sharad Aggarwal, Director (Finance and Accounts / Training / Consumer Grievances / Performance Management Unit)
77. Dr. Amit Sharma, Director, Imports
78. Dr. Sanu Jacob, Director (Lab Training and Surveillance)
79. Sh. Rajesh Singh, Director, Northern Region
80. Sh. P. Muthumaran, Director, Southern Region
81. Col Pramod Shahaji Dahitule, Director, Eastern Region
82. Sh. B.S. Acharya, Joint Director, CLA-NR.
83. Sh. Subburaj, Deputy Director, Kolkata
84. Shri Umesh Kumar Jain, Joint Director (QA / Vigilance)
85. Sh. Parveen Jargar, Joint Director (RCD)
86. Sh. Anil Mehta, Joint Director (RCD)
87. Smt. Pritha Ghosh, JD, (Training)
88. Sh. Vikas Talwar, DD(RCD)
89. Sh. Karthikeyan, DD (Regulations/CODEX)
90. Sh. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, AD (Regulatory Compliance)

91. Sh. Akhilesh Gupta, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
92. Sh. Arvinda Kumar, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
93. Sh. R.K. Narula, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
94. Ms. Kriti Chugh, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
95. Ms. Sreela Bandopadhyay, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
96. Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, AD (Regulatory Compliance)
97. Dr. Heena Yadav, TO (Regulatory Compliance)
98. Ms. Hiya Pandey, TO (Regulatory Compliance)
99. Ms. Tripti Tayal, TO (Training)
100. Ms. Ruchika Sharma (SBCD)

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