

**Call for Expressions of Interest for inclusion in the Scientific Panels
of the Food Authority**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 with the mandate for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

2. The Authority is primarily responsible for laying down science-based standards for different categories of food products/items, ingredients, additives, preservatives, contaminants, etc. The process of development of a standard is driven by the principle of food safety and involves risk assessment. It involves deliberations by the Scientific Panels constituted for product categories and laying down the standard(s); which are validated/ approved by the Scientific Committee and finally approved by the Food Authority before the process of issue of draft notification(s) of the Standards/ Regulation is initiated for inviting public comments, followed by a final notification.

3. The Authority is in the process of reconstituting some of its Scientific Panels and looking for suitable individuals as members for the following Scientific Panels:

- (i) Antibiotic Residues;
- (ii) Cereals, Pulses & Legume and their Products (Including Bakery);
- (iii) Fruits & Vegetables and their Products (Including Dried Fruits and Nuts);
- (iv) Meat and Meat Products including Poultry;
- (v) Milk and Milk Products;
- (vi) Oils and Fats;
- (vii) Spices and Culinary Herbs;
- (viii) Sweeteners, Sugars & Honey, including their products;
- (ix) Sweets and Confectionery; and
- (x) Water (including flavoured water) & Beverages (alcoholic non - alcoholic).

4. The above Scientific Panels comprise the professionals/ scientists/ subject experts, who have acquired knowledge, experience and expertise in the specific domain. Such members may be on the faculty/ staff/rolls of Universities, Academic and Research Institutions, retired individuals recognized for their outstanding knowledge/ expertise

in the subject area. However, it may not be feasible to nominate such candidates who are in employment of any Industry, as it may be perceived as conflict of interest.

5. The Food Authority follows a transparent, objective and rigorous selection procedure for short-listing the most suitable and outstanding individuals who can contribute significantly to the Scientific Panels of the Authority and provide independent scientific opinion in arriving to its decisions. The evaluation and selection of the candidates will be done by the Authority on the basis of clearly defined selection criteria. The candidates may go through the procedure for selection available at <https://fssai.gov.in/scientificpanels/files/guidelines.pdf> before applying and particularly familiarize themselves with the conflict of interest provisions.

6. Members selected on the Scientific Panels would need to undertake periodic visits to New Delhi where the meetings of the Scientific Panels are normally held and a commitment to devote time and resources for the deliberations in the meetings. Membership would be given in their individual capacities and are required to avoid conflicts of interest. The Food Authority meets the travel and lodging expenses of members as per approved rates, in addition to a token sitting as applicable.

7. Accordingly, this is a call for invitation of Expressions of Interest from the Subject Experts/ Scientists/ Professionals with outstanding records / achievements to their credit in the field of food science and subjects relevant to the Scientific Panels, for nomination as members of the Scientific Panels for a period of three years. Existing members of the Scientific Panels are also eligible to apply. The members of the Scientific Panels are to be appointed in accordance with section 13 (1) of the FSS Act, 2006.

How to Apply?

8. Interested persons are invited to submit their applications online at <http://fssai.gov.in/scientificpanels> . The scientists so selected for the Scientific Panels will be working in their individual capacity as subject experts and not represent the organization, if any, for which they may be working.

9. The last date of submission of applications is 15th April, 2018.

10. In case of any query, please contact **Shri Kumar Anil, Advisor (Standards)**, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002 (**Email: advisor@fssai.gov.in, Phone No. 011-23217833**).

11. Scientists/Professionals/ Experts are encouraged to suggest suitable candidates or forward the above details to them so that there is maximum dissemination of information and wider participation by the Scientific Community.

0-0-0-0-0