

F.NO/ RCD-09001/6/2022-Regulatory-FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

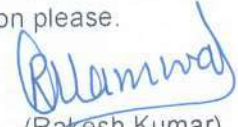
Dated the 5th April, 2023

Adopted and Confirmed

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Subject: Minutes of 38th Meeting of CAC-reg.

The draft Minutes of 38th Meeting of Central Advisory Committee held on 5th-6th December, 2022, at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh chaired by the CEO, FSSAI was **adopted and confirmed** by CAC members in 39th Meeting of CAC held on 9th March, 2023 with no amendment and comments. The same are enclosed herewith for information please.


(Rakesh Kumar)
Director (RCD)

Encl: As above

To

- a. All CAC members
- b. Special invitee
- c. FSSAI officials

Copy to:-

PS to CP and CEO, FSSAI

Minutes of the 38th meeting of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of FSSAI held at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh on 05.12.2022

1st Session

The 38th meeting of Central Advisory Committee (CAC) of Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) was held at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh on 5th December, 2022. The meeting was held in hybrid mode. The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

At the outset, a workshop was held on "Knowledge Exchange- 'Lead to Change'". All the members of CAC deliberated on the various aspects of leadership. During the deliberation, participants exchanged their experiences and views. The outcome of the session is attached at **Annexure-2**.

The agenda items were taken up thereafter as under: -

Agenda Item 1: Declaration of Interest by Members

All members of CAC were requested to make "Specific Declaration of Interest" and "Declaration Concerning Confidentiality" in the forms provided with the agenda and submit latest by 08.12.2022.

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 37th CAC Meeting

The committee noted that the minutes of the 37th Central Advisory Committee meeting held on 23rd August, 2022 were circulated on 28.09.2022 to all the CAC members and States/UTs for comments. The committee further noted that comments were received from Training division, FSSAI against agenda item no. 11.1 and 11.5 with respect to validity of FoSTaC trainer.

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes after incorporation of comments received from Training Division.

Agenda Item 3: Action Taken Report

The action taken report on the minutes of the 37th CAC meeting held on 23.08.2022 was noted.

It was pointed out that action taken report has been received from 29 States/UTs only. The States/UTs of **Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, J&K, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep and Manipur** have not submitted the action taken report and these States/UTs were requested to submit Action taken reports at the earliest.

Agenda 4: Review of performance of States/UTs based on 2nd Quarterly Report (of 2022-23)

The committee discussed the 2nd Quarterly State Performance Report (1st July- 30th September) of FY 2022-23. The observations made and decisions taken are as follows: -

Form 1: Administrative Structure

The States/UTs, not having single full time DOs and FSOs and also the ones with the gap greater than 30 per cent against the ideal strength of DOs and FSOs were stressed during the meeting.

CEO, FSSAI observed that from the previous meeting till date, the administrative structure has not been fully accomplished. He added that a sound health machinery leading to food safety needs adequate administrative structure. Further, he pointed out that States of Karnataka, Telangana, Haryana, Assam and Bihar are having huge gap in strength of DOs and FSOs against the ideal strength.

In connection with the recruitment of FSOs, the state of Arunachal Pradesh proposed the inclusion of Horticulture degree as one of the basic subject required for the recruitment of FSOs.

Action Decided-

- (i) States/UTs to take steps for recruitment and creation of posts of FSOs and DOs.
- (ii) HR division, FSSAI to provide clarification for the inclusion of subjects from the concerned Departments/ Ministries for FSOs recruitment as per 2.1.3 of FSS Rules, 2011 (**Annexure-3**) and the same to be uploaded on the website.

(Action required: States/UTs and HR Division, FSSAI)

Form 2: Details of Adjudication cases

The States/ UTs who have achieved 100% against the expected new cases filed were appreciated. The states/UTs with 75% cases pending for more than 12 months and states/UTs where no case has been filed were also highlighted during the meeting. States/UTs were requested to ensure the filing of a minimum number of cases.

With regard to long pendency of Adjudication Cases, CEO FSSAI suggested that CFS may raise the issues of timely disposal of Adjudication Cases in their DLAC/SLAC meeting.

In addition, CFS were requested to incorporate training modules for ADMs on Food Safety. Subsequently, ED, HR suggested the States/UTs to intimate the requirement of training, if any.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to expedite disposal of pending cases and review the status of cases filed.
- (ii) Training Division, FSSAI to organize training of Adjudicating Officers on request of States/UTs. The Division to also develop an SOP for Adjudicating Officers for disposal of cases.

(Action required: States/ UTs, Training Division, FSSAI)

Form 3: Details of Appellate Tribunal and Advisory Committee

It was pointed out that the States of Bihar and Mizoram have not constituted Appellate Tribunal yet and the States/UTs of Dadra NH & DD, Delhi, Haryana, Puducherry, Lakshadweep and Telangana have not constituted DLAC.

Further, it was also informed that the States/UTs of Assam, Haryana and Dadra NH & DD are under process of constituting SLAC. These States/UTs were requested to expedite the same.

CEO, FSSAI advised the State/UTs to explore the possibilities of giving additional charge to existing Tribunals till new Appellate Tribunal is constituted.

Action decided-

- (i) States of Bihar and Mizoram to constitute Appellate Tribunal at the earliest.
- (ii) States/UTs to expedite disposal of cases pending under Appellate Tribunal.
- (iii) States/UTs to constitute/reconstitute DLAC and SLAC and organize SLAC and DLAC meetings in a timely manner.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Form 4- Active State Licenses and Registrations

It was mentioned that the number of FBOs under License/Registration is quite low in most of the States/UTs and decreasing trend has been observed in the issuance of licenses/registrations for some of the States/ UTs.

CEO, FSSAI focused on bringing the Food Business Operators (FBOs) into the FSSAI ambit and helping them to get registered at the earliest. He further emphasized that awareness to be created through campaigns, radio jingles, consumer oriented videos etc. for FBOs to obtain license/ registration and for the consumers to identify license/ registration number on any packaged food.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to make efforts to bring more food businesses under the regulatory regime through licenses and registrations.
- (ii) Multilingual awareness materials for registration/licensing to be developed by SBCE, FSSAI in coordination with RCD.
- (iii) RCD, FSSAI to write to States/UTs for creating awareness on license/ registration.

(Action required: States/UTs, SBCE & RCD, FSSAI)

Form 5- State Licenses pendency

It was apprised that more than 5% of auto generation of new license application has been observed in States/UTs of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Dadra NH & DD, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Puducherry, Tripura. These States/UTs were requested to minimize the auto-generation as it reflects poorly on part of States/UTs regulatory mechanism.

CEO FSSAI reiterated that auto-generation of license is not advisable and pointed out the States/UTs of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka for large number of auto generation of license.

The Commissioner of Food Safety of States/UTs where pendency of license application is seen greater than 75 days were requested to monitor the processing of applications to reduce the pendency.

Action decided-

- (i) IT Division, FSSAI in coordination with RCD to create functionality for CFS/DOs to change the jurisdiction of DO/FSOs in case of their non-availability or due to any other reason.
- (ii) States/UTs to ensure minimization of pendency of state license applications.
- (iii) State/UTs to ensure timely processing of applications so as to avoid auto-generation of licenses.

(Action required: States/ UTs, RCD & IT division, FSSAI)

Form 6: State Registrations Pendency

The States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra NH & DD, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Odisha, Puducherry, Telangana and Tripura were pointed out for more than 15% of auto-generation of new registration. These States/UTs were advised to take necessary action to minimize auto generation of registrations.

Further, the States/UTs where the registration applications are pending for more than 30 days were also highlighted. The CFS of States/UTs were requested to monitor the processing of applications to reduce the pendency.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to ensure minimization of pendency of state registration applications
- (ii) State/UTs to ensure timely processing of applications so as to avoid auto-generation of registrations.

(Action required: States/ UTs)

Form 7- Consumer Grievances

It was noted that the highest pendency in clearing consumer grievances is observed in Delhi (178), Haryana (146), Karnataka (152), Maharashtra (483) and Uttar Pradesh (119).

CEO, FSSAI advised the States/UTs to be more responsive to the grievances received from the consumer, as it helps in identifying the gaps and hotspots for food safety issues.

State of Haryana pointed out that there should be an online system for forwarding the consumer grievance from DOs to FSOs.

States/UTs pointed out that complaints/ grievances other than food safety are also received under Consumer Grievance portal. It was felt that guideline/SOP may be developed to address the genuine complaints/grievances related to food safety only. In this context, the CFS Maharashtra, CFS Rajasthan, Representative of Consumer Organization, Director Northern Region and Director Western Region, FSSAI volunteered to develop a guideline/SOP.

The States/UTs were further informed that the development of CFS dashboard for enabling the provision of viewing all pending grievances is under process and the same will be shared with the them for their comments/suggestions soon.

Action decided-

- (i) States/UTs to ensure resolving consumer grievances within stipulated time frame.

- (ii) State of Maharashtra, Representative of Consumer Organization and Director Western Region, FSSAI to develop guideline/SOP to address the genuine complaints/grievances related to food safety.
- (iii) IT Division, FSSAI to provide Integrated Dashboard for CFS to monitor Consumer Grievances and enable DO to forward consumer grievance to FSO online.

(Action required: States/ UTs and IT Division, FSSAI)

Form 8- Inspections, Legal Sampling and Testing

It was pointed out that the sampling/Inspection conducted are not being updated in the FOSCORIS portal by some States and UTs. CEO, FSSAI stated that henceforth, all data in this regard needs to be uploaded on the portal to ensure proper reporting in each quarter and the same will be used during the review.

The States/UTs were requested to focus on inspection of High risk Food Business Operator as per RBIS. Further, it was observed that there is a difference in number of samples lifted by states/UTs in actual and that indicated in FOSCORIS portal which is not admissible. Also the data for the legal samples lifted during the financial year received from States/UTs in Annual Reports does not match with the total of the data for the actual legal sampling received from the States/UTs in Quarterly Reports.

Action Decided-

- (i) States/UTs to undertake inspections only through FOSCORIS and ensure drawing of the number of legal samples as per the stipulated expected sampling.
- (ii) States/UTs to ensure that there is no gap between the figures of sampling/Inspections stated in quarterly report of CAC and those reported for Annual Report.
- (iii) States/UTs to ensure inspection of high risk food category as per RBIS.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Form 9: Eat Right initiatives

During the discussion, it was observed that less number of clusters have been certified in many States/UTs during the reporting Quarter as compared to previous Quarter. States were applauded as the number of campuses certified as Eat Right Campuses was higher than the previous quarter. However, there is downfall in the status of hygiene rating certification in the reporting quarter.

No action has been initiated by the States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Dadra NH & DD, Goa, Jharkhand, Kerala, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Puducherry, Punjab, Sikkim, Telangana and Tripura for certification of Clusters. Besides, States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra NH & DD, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Telangana and Tripura were pointed out for not initiating any action on certification of Eat Right Campuses & School. Further, no hygiene rating has been done in the States/UTs of Lakshadweep and Tripura so far.

The efforts of the state of Kerala for proposing the checklist on Hygiene Rating were appreciated in the meeting.

Action Decided:

- (i) State/UTs to take active participation in activities under Eat Right India initiative for building food safety awareness.
- (ii) States/UTs to ensure taking up activities of certification of clusters, Eat Right Campus & Schools.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Form 10: Testing Infrastructure

1. Participation in training and PT programme

- Column 12 of Form 10 denotes the state wise status of SFTLs participating in PTP/ILC. In order to ensure consistency in test results, it is essential for the laboratories to take part in the Proficiency Testing Programme (PTP) and to increase efficiency of manpower in the laboratories it is essential to participate in the training programmes for laboratory personnel being organised on regular basis.
- The concern was raised by Advisor QA as there is no significant increase in the number of PTP and very less participation of laboratory personnel in training programmes.
- He requested all the states/UT's to increase participation in PTP and to nominate more lab personnel for hands on training being organised by FSSAI on regular basis.

(Action required by: States/UTs & QA Division, FSSAI)

2. Food Laboratory Advisory Committee (FLAC)

- Advisor (QA) suggested constituting Food Laboratory Advisory Committee (FLAC) at State Level to monitor the performance of the labs and to address the real-time issues faced by the laboratories. He also requested Commissioner/s of Food Safety of all the States/UT's to visit State Food Testing Laboratory (SFTL) at least once in the month and conduct the FLAC meeting in the laboratory.
- Dr. Vasireddi, Executive Chairman and founder of VIMTA LABS suggested the organization of Annual / Biannual meeting with all Food testing Laboratory Heads

(Action required by: States/UTs)

3. FSSAI-NABL Integrated Assessment (IA)-unavailability of manpower

- All the food testing laboratories need to obtain FSSAI-NABL Integrated Assessment (IA) before 30th June, 2023. In this regard, CEO, FSSAI raised his concern over the unavailability of adequate technical manpower in the SFTLs. He suggested that for optimal utilization of the testing infrastructure, all State/UT's should ensure availability of trained technical manpower.

- Advisor (QA) informed that, FSSAI has sanctioned grants towards appointment of contractual manpower under annual MoU between FSSAI and State/UT's. All concerned states are requested to hire contractual Food Analysts / technical manpower and utilise grants released under MoU at the earliest.

(Action required by: States/UTs)

4. Use of INFOLNET by the SFTLs

Number of reports uploaded on INFOLNET by the SFTLs are not satisfactory. CEO, FSSAI suggested that Food Testing Laboratories should mandatorily test only those parameters which are included in their NABL Scope and should not provide test reports for the parameters which are not covered under NABL Scope.

(Action required by: States/UTs)

5. Status of procurement of equipment to be used to test fortificants in rice

- It was informed by Dr. Balwinder Bajwa, Managing Director & CEO EFRAC that while conducting Hands on training for Fortified Rice Testing at ERAC Kolkata, laboratory personnel attending the training have informed about un-availability of basic equipment / consumables required for fortified rice testing.
- Advisor (QA) informed that advance grants for fortified rice testing equipment has been released in March 2022. He requested all concerned states to ensure the availability of equipment, consumables and grants for contingency expenditure required for fortified rice testing.
- Dr. Abhinav Trikha, CFS, Punjab pointed out that in many States / UT's procurement of equipment / consumables is being carried out through Departmental Procurement Board / State Agency. These agencies have multiple responsibilities for procurement of different items and barely possess technical knowledge of food testing equipment and have very little time due to this procurement of equipment /consumables for food testing laboratories gets delayed. In order to overcome this, he suggested to provide training to laboratory heads/ personnel regarding procurement through GeM under capacity building programme.

(Action required by: States/UTs, QA and Training Division, FSSAI)

Form 11: CSS for Strengthening of SFTL

Utilisation of grant released under CSS

- Advisor (QA) reviewed Form 11 and raised his concern over the slow utilization of the grants by SFTLs.

- During the discussion, it was appreciated that the number of utilization certificates due from the States/UTs has decreased. But, few states like Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland are not making payments to the vendor of High End Equipment as per terms and conditions of the rate contract. He also requested CFS of all States/UTs to follow the timelines for payment to the vendor of HEE.
- He also mentioned that 40 microbiology laboratories (on turnkey) have been sanctioned under CSS and four vendors have been selected through the tender process for setting up of these labs. All concerned States/ UTs have been requested to obtain permission from State PWD/ any other designated agency for civil and electrical work necessary for setting up of microbiology lab and share the layout for vetting by FSSAI expert committee at the earliest.

(Action required by: States and UTs)

Form 12: Testing Infrastructure utilization

- Advisor (QA) highlighted that the percentage of sample received and sample tested by SFTLs has increased in comparison to the last quarter
- He raised concern over pendency of samples at SFTLs and an increase in time required for testing of samples in states like Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
- With respect to the increased sample load in the SFTLs and thereafter causing pendency, CEO, FSSAI suggested that all the Laboratories under Municipal Corporations' can also be scaled up for Food Testing as well.
- Advisor (QA) appreciated overall increase in Training, Testing and Awareness activities by Food Safety on Wheels (FSW) by 18%, 101% and 73% respectively. However, there is decrease in number of Training, Testing and Awareness activities by the states, like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.
- In order to optimise the utilization of FSWs, Advisor (QA) requested all State and UT's to introduce fortnightly plan for FSW.

(Action required by: States and UTs and QA Division, FSSAI)

Form 13: Food Fortification

It was informed that the total number of 284 and 2070 of DOs and FSOs respectively have been trained till the end of the reporting quarter. Further, the States/UTs namely Dadra NH & DD, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Rajasthan have not trained any DO so far. Similarly, no FSO has been trained in States/UTs of Meghalaya, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tripura.

In this regard, the States/UTs were advised to ensure that all DOs and FSOs have been trained in food fortification.

Action Decided:

- (i) State/UTs to ensure that all DOs and FSOs have been trained in food fortification.
(Action required: States/UTs)

Form 14: FoSTaC & Regulatory staff Training

The Form was discussed while deliberating on the Agenda Item no. 10 in the 2nd Session. The action to be taken has been mentioned in the relevant portion.

Agenda 5: MoU between FSSAI and States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Ecosystem in the country

A brief on the MoU Work Plans finalized so far was given in the meeting. The States/UTs of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Manipur were urged to surrender the unspent balance under Work Plan 2020-21. It was also mentioned that the Work Plan proposal for FY 2022-23 has been finalized for 35 States/UTs so far and the State of Haryana was requested to confirm the funding pattern at the earliest. Further, it was emphasized that the States/UTs shall expedite utilization of funds received under first tranche and the conditions for the release of second tranche were restated.

It was brought to the notice of States/UTs that the MoU for 2023-26 and Work Plan for 2023-24 have already been shared with them and States/UTs were therefore requested to submit their proposal at the earliest.

CEO, FSSAI took note of the same and reiterated to the States/UTs to speed up their process of expenditure and timely submit the Utilization Certificates.

Action Decided-

- (i) Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Manipur to surrender the unspent balance under Work Plan 2020-21.
- (ii) State of Haryana to confirm the funding pattern for the Work Plan 2022-2023 immediately to avoid delay in further processing and release of funds.
- (iii) States/UTs in receipt of first tranche amount, to expedite the utilization of the funds received and seek second tranche amount under Work Plan 2022-23 along with all the requisite documents as sought in the letter dated 02nd November 2022.
- (iv) For any requirement of fund for undertaking fresh activities, supplementary Work Plan 2022-23 proposals may be submitted.
- (v) States/UTs are requested to submit MoU document duly signed by the Commissioner of Food Safety and the draft proposals of Work Plan 2023-24 at the earliest.

(Action required: States/ UTs)

Agenda Item 6: Mandatory pre-license inspection for high risk food categories

It was informed to the States/UTs that certain food categories such as 'Milk & Milk Products, Meat & Meat Products, Fish & Fish Products, Slaughter Houses and Fortified Rice Kernels' are considered as high-risk food category and FSSAI has already allocated risk based inspections for these categories w.e.f 02.05.2022.

It was also highlighted that CFS of States/UTs were already requested to conduct inspections before grant of license and submit the report. However, no report has been received. Besides, from the FoSCoS Dashboard, it was found that till 15.11.2022 only 229 units were inspected out of 2678. It was clarified that with effect from 28th Oct 2022, FoSCoS will not generate the license in these categories till the pre-inspection report is filled online.

CEO, FSSAI also apprised the State/UTs about importance of pre-inspection of high risk categories and stressed on the decreased number of post-inspection conducted for FRK manufacturers and requested States/UTs to ensure that the inspection is conducted in a timely manner.

Action Decided

- (i) Commissioners of Food Safety of concerned States/UTs shall direct their Licensing Authorities to conduct the pre-license inspection for all high risk food category and post-license inspection for FRK manufacturers (where pre-license inspections were not done) to ensure the compliance with the decision of the FSSAI.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Agenda Item 7: Recent development in Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS)

(i) The States/UTs were apprised on the recent development happened in the FoSCoS specifically emphasizing on the last date of submission of annual return which is 31st May of every year. It was further informed that provision has been given for Designated Officers (DOs) to upload physically received annual return for Financial Year (FY) up to 2019-2020. Also, for FY 2020-21, annual return shall be submitted online; however, renewal of license will not depend on payment of this penalty. From FY 2021-2022 onwards, a capping of maximum penalty up to five times of the annual license fee will be applicable. It was further clarified that FoSCoS is ensuring the submission of annual return and penalty, if any, w.e.f FY 2021-22 as a pre-requisite for the renewal of license. In other words, renewal of any license will not be stopped due to non-submission of Annual Report or penalty of the years prior to FY 2021-22.

(ii) With regard to, licensing and registration, it was clarified that FoSCoS is ensuring the submission of inspection report before the grant of license in case of High-Risk Categories w.e.f 28.10.2022. Besides, mobile authentication before grant of license and authentication during logging in from a new location/IP address have been implemented from 28.10.2022. In addition, search console panel has been refined to get information on FBOs having active/ expired/ expiring in 180 days/ in process renewal license/registration.

(iii) In order to enable ease of working for FSOs, few changes have been made in online module of inspection. In case the unit is non-operational, provision has been made so that FSOs can close the inspection without conducting it. Also, the points that are 'Not applicable', can be mentioned in the online portal and no scoring will be done against these points.

Further, provisions for capturing signatures of FSO and FBO's representative through physical upload / AADHAAR /Mobile OTP has been enabled. Also, the system has also been linked with google map for assisting FBOs in locating the unit of FBO.

(iv) It was also highlighted that provisions for DOs to create and issue online standardized Improvement Notices to the FBOs as per Section 32 of FSS Act, 2006 has been enabled. The FoSCoS portal will also send auto-reminders up to five times to FBOs to file the response through FoSCoS portal. Also, FBOs history can be generated to evaluate the risk profile of FBOs.

(v) With regard to improvements in online module for sampling procedure, provisions such as capturing witness(es) signature, linking with InFoLNet for availability of online laboratory test reports, sending samples to laboratory on FBOs request and to Referral Laboratory on FBO's or DO's appeal has been enabled. Besides, for surveillance samples, only 'label scrutiny' option has been enabled.

CEO, FSSAI suggested the States/UTs to ensure that all the field officers are accustomed with all the changes that are made in the FoSCoS system. He also added that, any feedback from States/UTs in this regard will help to address the gap between the field officer and the online system generated in Headquarter. The States/UTs are requested to submit their feedback on email: foscoss_hq@fssai.gov.in

As part of integration between FoSCoS and InFoLNET, Chief Technology Officer (CTO), FSSAI ran through the online process of sample lifting in FoSCoS to generation of laboratory report in InFoLNET to the States/UTs.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to submit feedback received from field officers, if any on the changes made in the FoSCoS.
- (ii) Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs may propose for training of regulatory staff [DOs / FSOs] on the recent developments in FSSAI Licensing and Registration and FoSCoS to Training division, FSSAI HQ.

(Action required: States/UTs and Training Division, FSSAI)

Agenda Item 8: Proposal for Appointing Dedicated Adjudication Officers to Adjudicate the Cases related to the Centrally Licensed FBOs filed by the Central Food Safety Officer

It was informed that Regional Directors of FSSAI are acting as Central Licensing Authority (CLA) after recruitment of Central Food Safety Officers (CFSO). At present, 37 CFSOs are posted in all States/UTs across the country while the number of centrally licensed FBOs is around 50,000.

As, the procedure to file Adjudication & Prosecution in cases of the Centrally licensed FBOs is same as that of State Licensed FBOs. The members were apprised on the challenge faced by CFSOs for filing adjudication cases due to limited strength of CFSOs and the large territorial jurisdiction under them.

It has been observed that most of the violations are adjudicable offences under the FSS Act, 2006 and hence bulk of the cases are to be filed by the CFSOs with the concerned Adjudicating Officer of the respective District. This leads to inordinate delays and administrative inconveniences.

It was also reiterated that as per section 68 of FSS Act, 2006, the Adjudicating Officer is notified by the State Government who shall be an officer not below the rank of Additional District Magistrate (ADM) of the district where the alleged offence is committed. Accordingly, in all the States/UTs, the Adjudicating Officers (AO) have been appointed by the respective State/UT Governments for adjudicating the cases under the FSS Act, 2006, who is holding the rank of ADM except in case of Maharashtra where the State Government has appointed the officers of FDA as Adjudicating Officers.

It was proposed that a designated Adjudicating Officer (AO) may be appointed by the State/UTs to deal with the cases filed by the concerned CFSOs against the centrally licensed FBOs and shall dispose them in accordance with the provisions of FSS Act, 2006 and Rules/Regulations made thereunder. Accordingly, an amendment to Section 68 of the FSS Act, 2006 is proposed with the following proviso-

“One or more Adjudicating Officers may be designated by the States/UTs for Adjudication of the cases relating to Centrally Licensed FBOs.”

Action Decided

(i) State/UTs are requested to look into the above matter and the proviso proposed for feedback, if any.

(Action required: States/UTs and FSSAI)

Agenda Item 9: Social and Behavioural Change, Update on Eat Right India Initiatives

A. Eat Right Millets Mela

All the States/UTs were apprised that the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has declared 2023 as “International Year of Millets” (IYoM)-2023 and all Ministries and Departments have been mandated to take up activities, events and projects to promote and popularize use of Millets.

All the States/UTs were again requested to organize at least one or more Eat Right Millets Mela and the funds required for the same may be utilized from the approved released funds of IEC head of the MoU (2022-23) done between the States/UTs & FSSAI.

It was also highlighted that Madhya Pradesh has already executed first Eat Right Millets Mela in Bhopal and States like Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab & West Bengal have shared their tentative list for organizing the Eat Right Millet Mela.

Action Decided

(i) States/UTs to share the tentative list of the cities along with proposed dates for organizing the Eat Right Millets Mela as early as possible at iec@fssai.gov.in.

(Action required: States/UTs, SBCD)

B. Eat Right Challenge for Districts

It was informed that the Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts (Phase-1) has successfully culminated with participation of a total of 188 cities/ districts and top 75 winners were announced on 7th June, 2022.

Further, it was highlighted that many cities/ districts have neither submitted the Utilization Certificate (UC) nor have transferred back the un-utilized funds in FSSAI Bank Account. States/UTs were requested to submit UC and transfer the un-utilized funds at the earliest. Furthermore, it was informed that four districts (i.e., Ahmedabad rural, Pulwama, Doda, Baramulla) have received double payment and requested to surrender the additional funds to FSSAI along with UC.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs (67 cities/districts) to submit the Utilization Certificate (UC) at the earliest as per **Annexure-4**.
- (ii) 58 cities/districts (as per **Annexure-5**) who have submitted UC but have not transferred the un-utilized funds are requested to transfer the amount to FSSAI account at the earliest.
- (iii) 4 districts (as per **Annexure-6**) who have received double payment and requested to surrender the additional funds to FSSAI along with UC.

(Action required: States/UTs, SBCD)

C. Eat Right Mela and Walkathon

The members were apprised that 122 cities/districts have successfully organized Eat Right Mela and Walkathon till 15.08.2022. It was highlighted that 68 Cities/ Districts have organized the event but have not submitted the Utilization Certificate (UC) for the advance amount and Statement of Expenditure (SoE). Further, it was categorically mentioned that 12 Cities/ Districts have not organized the event yet, although the funds have already been transferred by FSSAI.

The Commissioner of Food Safety of the States/UTs are requested to share the UC for the 50% advance payment released to them along with the SoE latest by 31.12.2022 so that balance amount (if any) can be disbursed from FSSAI.

The last month for conducting the event was October 2022. Therefore, the States/UTs where the event has not been conducted yet, they shall return the amount to FSSAI on or before 31.12.2022 for final adjustment.

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to submit UCs for the 50% advance payment released to them along with the SoE latest by 31.12.2022.
- (ii) States/UTs are requested to share 4-5 high quality pics of each (Walkathon and Mela conducted) to Walkathon.fssai@gmail.com.
- (iii) States/UTs who have not conducted the event yet (**Annexure-7**), shall return the funds to FSSAI on or before 31.12.2022 for final adjustment.

(Action required: States/UTs, SBCE)

Agenda Item 10: Training and Capacity Building

10.1. Training of FSOs, DOs and AOs-

It was informed that during second quarter of 2022-2023 (i.e., 1st July to 23rd November), a total number of 228 officials were trained on various topics such as orientation training for Adjudicating Officers, Induction training programme for Food Safety Officers and Designated Officers

It was further highlighted that States/UTs such as Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Mizoram, Puducherry have not sent any nomination for induction/refresher training of FSOs in last five years. Similarly, States/UTs such as Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Jharkhand, Puducherry have not sent any nomination for induction/refresher training of DOs in last five years.

Besides, for last five years, 08 States/UTs such as Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep, Puducherry and Uttar Pradesh have not sent any nomination for orientation training of Adjudicating Officers.

The State/UTs are therefore requested to expedite the nominations for the training programmes and in case, no officer is available for training, the same may also be intimated to FSSAI.

10.2. Printing and Translation of FSO manual in booklet form-

It was informed that FSSAI through letter has already requested the States/UTs to print the FSO manual in booklet form as per prescribed rate. Except Gujarat and Kerala, no request for reimbursement has been received at FSSAI. He therefore requested the States/UTs to get the FSO manual printed and distributed amongst their FSOs at the earliest. Further, States/UTs which are willing to translate the *ibid* manual in their regional language may seek fund from FSSAI under MoU the same.

10.3 Trainings conducted under FoSTAC programme in States/UTs-

It was highlighted that the number of trained Food Safety Supervisor (FSSs) under ambitious FoSTaC Training Programme has crossed a remarkable milestone of 1 million. Further, he also apprised the members that as per revised formula the expected number of FSS in the country should be 13,75,296 as on 30.09.2022. However, the total number of FSS trained was 10,00,066 as on 30.09.2022 which is 73% of the expected number of Food Safety Supervisors (FSSs). Therefore, on reviewing the performance as per Form 14, it was observed that 73% of the expected number of FSSs were trained till the end of second quarter of FY 2022-23.

It was further pointed out that no training has been conducted in second quarter in 5 States/UTs such as Andaman and Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshwadeep, Manipur, and Nagaland. Also, 7 States/UTs such as Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshwadeep, Mizoram, Nagaland, Puducherry, Rajasthan and Telangana have less than 30% of the expected number of FSSs. The UT Lakshadweep has not conducted any FoSTaC trainings and no Food Safety Supervisors is available in the UT from the start till date.

The above States/UTs were therefore requested to conduct FoSTaC trainings with the help of 189 empanelled Training Partners and utilize the grant sanctioned/being sanctioned under MoU for this purpose.

10.4 Login ID to State/UT FDAs for FoSTaC portal-

It was informed that online monitoring system has been introduced in the new FoSTaC portal which will help the States/UTs to monitor the ongoing training programs, download various reports/data and evaluate the quality of past trainings. Login ID of the same will be provided to the nodal officers of the States/UTs as nominated by them.

The State of Haryana has requested that instead of state wise data, the online portal should show the district wise training data for respective States/UTs

Action Decided

- (i) States/UTs to send the nomination for Training of FSOs, DOs and AOs to FSSAI. In case, no officer is available for training, the same may also be intimated to FSSAI.
- (ii) States/UTs to expedite and complete the printing of FSO manual and if required, to translate the ibid manual in their regional language and seek fund under MoU for translation of the same.
- (iii) States/UTs are, therefore, requested to start conducting training programs at the earliest.

(Action required: States/UTs, Training Division, FSSAI)

Agenda Item 11: Credible Food Testing and Effective Surveillance

11.1 (1): Status of Notified laboratories

Advisor, QA updated CAC on following points:

- FSSAI has a network of 246 laboratories out of which 225 are primary food testing laboratories notified u/s 43(1) of the FSS Act, 2006. These primary labs include 55 State Food Testing Laboratories (SFTL), 26 labs of other Govt. Institutions and 144 Private Labs recognized.
- 21 Referral laboratories for appellate testing are recognized and notified u/s 43(2) of the Act.
- Out of the 225 Primary laboratories, 6 public institutional & other Govt. laboratories and 1 SFTL are also notified as Referral Laboratories. So, the total number of laboratories under the network of FSSAI is 246 with 7 laboratories falling under both the Primary and Referral Lab category.

Action Points:

All approved SFTLs are requested to upload analysis report on INFoLNET.

(Action required by: SFTLs)

Agenda 11.1 (2): Status of NABL Accreditation of State Food Testing Laboratories (SFTLs)

- Out of the total 79 SFTLs (including 5 Municipal Labs), 59 SFTL have received NABL Accreditation and 20 SFTLs are yet to apply for NABL Accreditation.

Action Points: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Sikkim are requested to ensure NABL Accreditation of all Food Testing Laboratories.

(Action required by: concerned SFTLs and States)

Agenda 11.1 (3): Status of SFTLs under the ambit of section 98 of the FSS Act,2006

- Out of the 39 SFTLs, 20 SFTLs under the ambit of Section 98 of the FSS Act are still under discontinuation. Further, out of the 20 SFTLs, labs at Aurangabad, Mysore and Belagavi have obtained NABL accreditation and are under the process of recognition and notification under section 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006. Whereas, 17 SFTLs [Andhra Pradesh-1, Karnataka-2, Maharashtra-12, Puducherry-1 and Sikkim-1] have not applied for NABL accreditation till date.

Action Points: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Sikkim are requested to ensure NABL Accreditation of all Food Testing Laboratories and submit application for FSSAI notification under section 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006.

(Action required by: concerned SFTLs and States)

Agenda 11.1 (4): Status of SFTLs with respect to Integrated Assessment

- Two labs in Kerala (RFL, Ernakulum and GAL, Thiruvananthapuram) and 1 lab in Gujarat (RFL, Rajkot) obtained NABL accreditation under FSSAI-NABL integrated system for Salt. However, those labs are required to apply for scope extension in other food group categories as per FSSR requirements as only a very few samples of salt are lifted by the Enforcement machinery.
- Advisor (QA) informed that all SFTLs notified by FSSAI u/s 43 (1) and having HEE should complete the process of FSSAI- NABL Integrated Assessment (IA) in at least one food group category by 30th June 2023.
- Labs which are unable to obtain IA within prescribed time limit shall be de-notified by FSSAI.
- To assess the preparedness of SFTLs for obtaining accreditation under ISO 17025-FSSAI (Integrated Assessment), four teams of FSSAI officials visited 15 SFTLs in 13 states. Major issues observed in the SFTLs are as follows:
 - Shortage of trained and experienced manpower.
 - Method validation for HEE according to the proposed scope is not done.
 - Chemicals, CRMs not available.

- Labs have not participated in PT/ILC for horizontal and vertical parameters as per proposed scope.
- Documentation/record keeping as per ISO 17025 is not done.
- After assessing the readiness of the SFTLs, it is inferred that following 13 SFTLs may apply for IA in at least one food group category before March 2023.
 - Bambolim (Goa), Bhubaneswar(Odisha), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Jodhpur (Rajasthan), Kolkata (West Bengal), Lucknow (UP), Nacharam (Telengana), Raipur (Chattisgarh), Rajkot- for enhancement (Gujarat), Rudrapur (Uttarkhand), Udaipur (Rajasthan), Vadodara (Gujarat)
- On the basis of available infrastructure in SFTLs, Advisor (QA) has broadly classified SFTLs and has suggested Food Category/Sub-Category for Integrated Assessment as below
 - a. Food Category/Sub-Category applicable for IA in the SFTLs having HEEs (ICP-MS, GC-MSMS, LC-MSMS) but no Microbiology facility.

Sr. No.	Name of SFTLs	Food Category/Sub-Category for Integrated Assessment
1	SFTL, Patna	1.Sugar, Jaggery, other Nutritive sweeteners 2.Sweets & Confectionary except Ice candy 3.Salt & Salt Substitutes 4.Fats, oils & Oil emulsions 5.Fresh fruits & Vegetables 6.Tea, Coffee & Chicory 7.Health Supplements/Nutraceuticals
2	SFTL, Raipur	
3	SFTL, Ranchi	
4	RFL, Agartala	
5	SPHL, Guwahati	
6	SFTL, Lamphel	
7	SFDTL, Rudrapur	
8	SFTL, Lucknow	
9	SFTL, Delhi	
10	CTL, Solan, Kandghat	
11	SFDL, Kharar, Mohali	
12	SFTL, Chandigarh	
13	SFTL, Bengaluru	
14	SFTL, Hyderabad, Telangana	
15	PHL, Rajkot	
16	SFTL, Bhopal	
17	PHL, Jodhpur	
18	FDA, Mumbai	

- b. Food Category/Sub-Category applicable for IA in the SFTLs having HEEs & Basic Microbiology Facility.

Sr. No.	Name of SFTLs	Food Category/Sub-Category for Integrated Assessment
1	WBPL, Kolkata	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sugar, Jaggery, other Nutritive sweeteners. 2. Sweets & Confectionary. 3. Salt & Salt Substitutes. 4. Fats, Oils & Oil emulsions. 5. Fresh fruits & Vegetables. 6. Tea, Coffee & Chicory. 7. Alcoholic Beverages. 8. Non- Alcoholic Beverages. 9. Health Supplements/Nutraceuticals
2	SPHL, Bhubaneshwar	
3	SPHL, Kohima	
4	SFTL, Shilong	
5	PHL, Jammu	
6	PHL, Kashmir	
7	RAL, Kozhikode	
8	SFTL, Goa	
9	PHL, Gorimedu, Puducherry (<i>not having NABL</i>)	
10	FAL, Guindy, Chennai	
11	FAL, Madurai	
12	SFTL, Vadodara	
13	PHL, Udaipur	
14	PHL, Jaipur	
15	RAL, Ernakulum	

- c. Food Category/Sub-Category applicable for IA in the SFTLs having HPLC, GC & AAS / ICP but no HEE.

Sr. No.	Name of SFTLs	Food Category/Sub-Category for Integrated Assessment
1	FAL, Salem	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sugar, Jaggery, other Nutritive sweeteners 2. Sweets & Confectionary 3. Salt & Salt Substitutes
2	FAL, Thanjavur	
3	FAL, Palayamkottai	
4	Ahmedabad Municipal lab	
5	Surat Municipal lab	
6	FDA, Aurangabad	
7	PHL, Aurangabad (not having NABL)	

Action required from State with respect to IA:

1. SFTLs with NABL accreditation need to identify Food Category/Sub-Category for Integrated Assessment and share the roadmap along with timeline.
2. States to hire NABL consultants (for IA) immediately and start the process for IA.

3. States to ensure the training of all technical personnel according to the opted scope for IA.
4. States to ensure the records management in accordance to ISO 17025.

Agenda 11.1 (5): Status of INFoLNET 2.0 & LIMS

All the notified State Food Testing Laboratories have updated their profile on Infolnet 2.0. except Bihar and Jharkhand. Further, the laboratories from J&K, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura have initiated the process of sample registration & uploading of few Test reports. However, very few reports are being uploaded on INFoLNET.

LIMS would be implemented in SFTLs having HEE in the first phase. States/UTs were asked to provide details of 10 instruments (ICP-MS, LC-MSMS, GC-MSMS, HPLC, GC, AAS, Ion Chromatograph, FT-IR, UV-Vis Spectrophotometer and Lovibond tintometer) to integrate on LIMS. As on date, details from 24 SFTLs have been received.

SFTL Meghalaya, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Puducherry have not submitted details of instruments to be shared with the LIMS service provider.

Action required from SFTLs:

1. All the approved State Food Testing Laboratories on INFoLNET 2.0 are requested to upload the analysis report on INFoLNET.
2. State Food Testing Laboratories of Bihar (Patna) & Jharkhand (Ranchi) are required to expedite the process of registration on the INFoLNET 2.0 portal for approval at the earliest.
3. SFTL Meghalaya, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Puducherry are requested to submit the details of instruments to be shared with the LIMS service provider

Agenda 11.2: Review of progress of Central Sector Scheme-Upgradation of State Food Testing Laboratories(SFTL)

- Advisor, (QA) mentioned that, as on date, total grant of Rs. 391.77 Crore has been released to the states under Central Sector Scheme. He also apprised that High End Equipment (HEEs) are operational in 27 SFTLs. However, SFTLs at Patna (Bihar), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Bengaluru (Karnataka), Gorimedu (Puducherry) have not operationalized their HEEs.
- He suggested that SFTLs should calibrate the equipment immediately and make them operational.
- State of Bihar informed that SFTL at Patna will be inaugurated by December end and will be made operational.
- Equipment procurement is still awaited in Maharashtra.
- Shri Chandan Kumar, Joint Secretary, Jharkhand highlighted that, there is no functional and financial autonomy to SFTL, Namkum, Ranchi. Therefore, in case of any purchase of more than Rupees Ten Thousand, the laboratory head of SFTL

Namkum, Ranchi has to obtain approval from the Department. All procurement for the SFTL is being carried out through Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Ltd. (JMHDPC). This agency has multiple responsibilities for various other procurements also and has very little time to look after the timely procurement of items for SFTL. Due to this procurement of equipment /consumables for food testing laboratories gets delayed. This has also resulted in delayed/non-utilization of grants released under CSS and under MoU.

- Advisor (QA) reaffirmed the discussion of the meeting held on 28.07.2021 with State Food Safety Commissioners and NABL accredited State Food Testing Laboratories and reiterated the need of functional and financial autonomy to the State Food Testing Laboratory in all State/UTs.

Action required:

1. SFTLs from Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Puducherry are requested to operationalize HEE.
2. SFTL Mumbai (Maharashtra) is requested to expedite the procurement of HEE.
3. Andhra Pradesh, to expedite the process of NABL accreditation of RPHL, Visakhapatnam as it is being taken up under the Basic Lab category.
4. Manipur (Moreh) is requested to provide the updates on setting up of food testing laboratory and expedite the procurement of equipment. State to provide the roadmap and timelines for the same.
5. States/UTs to utilize the grants for consumables and contingency and to provide the hard copy of UCs in the prescribed format against the grants released for specific purposes.
6. SFTLs where the microbiological testing facilities are in place are requested to utilize microbiology facilities and to send the MPRs to FSSAI from time to time.
7. SFTL, Madurai and SFTL, Telangana are requested to expedite the process of setting up of Microbiology laboratory (standalone) and to initiate the process of procurement, install the equipment, carry out calibration and method validation and apply for NABL accreditation.
8. 40 SFTLs have been taken up for setting up of Microbiology Laboratory on Turnkey Basis. Layouts for 12 laboratories have been received for vetting, 11 layouts have been vetted by FSSAI vetting committee. Work orders for 7 laboratories have been issued to the vendor. State of Bihar (Patna), Delhi and Maharashtra (Mumbai, Aurangabad) are requested to place the work order to the vendor in prescribed format and share the copy with FSSAI. Other states which have not shared layout for vetting with FSSAI are requested to share the layouts for Vetting by FSSAI vetting committee latest by 31 December 2022. All states are requested to obtain permissions from State PWD, Electrical Departments etc. (in accordance to vendor site visit report) and share the roadmap to complete the project in time bound manner.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs, QA Division)

Agenda 11.3: Food Safety on Wheels/Mobile Food Testing Labs

Advisor, QA appraised the state-wise position of the sanctioned Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs). So far, 335 Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs) have been sanctioned out of which 160 vehicles have been delivered and one vehicle has been procured by Ladakh. Out of all delivered/procured vehicles, 89 FSWs are functional and 72 FSWs are not operational. FSW's are not being used optimally for all the three activities. He requested the States/UTs to make all the FSWs operational and also emphasized on procurement of dongle specifically to the States/UTs of Tripura, Uttarakhand and Puducherry.

Action required:

1. All CFS are requested to visit FSW portal and monitor the movement of the vehicle and the progress made in the three activities in their respective State/UTs. It was also requested to utilize FSWs for Testing, Training and Awareness activities effectively.
2. States/UTs to recruit dedicated manpower for FSW from the grants released towards operational expenses and utilise the grants.
3. States/UTs to complete procurement FSW's.
4. States/UTs (especially Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh) to submit the MPRs within stipulated time and upload the same on FSW web portal.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, QA Division)

Agenda 11.4: Training and Capacity Building

FSSAI conducted 10 Physical training programs for laboratory personnel of States/ UTs during Quarter 2. The training programmes focused on areas of safety parameters such as Pesticide Residue, Heavy Metals, Mycotoxins, Microbiological, Contaminants, Antibiotics in different food commodities and Sensitization on Method Verification for Rice Fortificants Testing. 108 laboratory personnel attended these training programs.

Advisor, QA also apprised that Proficiency Testing Programme (PTP) has been rolled out for laboratories for testing of three fortificants in rice. He also stated that SFTL personnel would undergo a two days' rigorous hands-on training at EFRAC, Kolkata for the rice fortification programme. As of now, eight batches of training were scheduled for the participants across 29 SFTLs at E-FRAC from July 2022 onwards. However, there were no attendees from the States/UTs of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Puducherry, Uttarakhand and Telangana.

Action Required:

1. SFTLs to indicate their specific training requirements on regular basis in the Google form link and to encourage laboratory personnel for all types of trainings. The States/UTs to submit the training requirements of laboratory personnel in accordance with training calendar for physical training programmes.
2. SFTLs to undergo Proficiency Testing Programme (PTP) and also attend hand-on training on rice fortificants.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs, FSSAI, HQ, QA Division)

Agenda 11.5: Providing 3 Basic Equipment (HPLC, GC, UV-VIS) to States/UTs

Advisor, QA apprised the current status of the grants sanctioned/released to States/UTs and informed that in 05 SFTLs from States/UTs such as Ranchi (Jharkhand), Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Tripura, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Meerut, Agra, Jhansi (UP) equipment is not yet procured.

Action Required:

1. States/UTs to remit the balance grants (non procurement/ partial procurement till 31.03.2022) and to submit fresh proposal (if any) under supplementary Work Plan 2022-23 for procurement of these equipment through MoU.
2. States/UTs are requested to submit the Utilization Certificates of grants utilised towards the procurement of Basic Equipment.

(Action required: Respective States/UTs, SFTLs, QA Division)

Agenda 11.6: Procurement of equipment required for fortified rice testing

State/UTs of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya are requested to nominate officials for hands-on training for fortified rice testing. Advisor, QA also informed that in 03 States/UTs equipment have been partially procured and in 11 States/UTs it is still under process.

Action Required:

1. States/UTs where procurement is pending/under process are requested to complete the procurement process.
2. State/UTs of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya are requested to nominate officials for hands-on training.

(Action required: States/UTs, QA Division)

Agenda 11.7 Utilization of Hand-held devices/Rapid Kits by States/UTs

Advisor, QA stated that 83 Rapid Test Kits have been approved by FSSAI and are available at FSSAI website. Hand Held Devices (Raptor diagnostic readers, Spectrophotometers, Frying Oil Monitors, Microbial Identification Kits) have been already provided, States/UTs are requested to share the details of tests carried out through these devices on monthly basis in a specified format.

Till now, only 10 States/UTs viz. Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Nagaland, Sikkim, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir have sent the test reports since January 2022.

The States/UT are requested to complete procurement of RAFT kit from GeM portal and use these kits only for surveillance purpose and in FSWs.

(Action required: States/UTs, QA Division)

Agenda 11.8: PAN-India Surveillance

Advisor, QA, highlighted the key updates on PAN India surveillance on Pulses, Milk and Edible Oil. The result and findings of Pulses, Milk survey will be shared after compilation of data.

With regard to edible oil survey, non-compliance report was shared with 28 States/UTs. The Commissioner of Food Safety are again requested to lift the sample and share the action taken report to QA and RCD division of FSSAI.

Action Required:

28 States/UTs are requested to lift the regulatory sample of edible oil and share the action taken report to QA and RCD division of FSSAI.

(Action required: States/UTs, QA division)

Agenda 11.9: Support for strengthening of Sample Management System (SMS)

Advisor, QA informed that some of the components of SMS kit are either not in use or never installed. States/UTs were requested to fill the data in Google form and also to send email with the pictures in case any of the component of SMS kit are not working/not installed/not in use. He also stated that installation is pending in Karnal and Yamunanagar (Haryana) and Jalore (Rajasthan).

Action decided:

States/UTs of Haryana and Rajasthan are requested to co-ordinate with the vendor and get the installation expedited.

(Action required: States/UTs, QA division)

Agenda 11.10: Other items with permission of the Chair

Advisor, QA highlighted on the following points:

1. States/UTs to nominate all technical personnel (on rotation / as per feasibility) of SFTLs for the hands-on training programme being organised by FSSAI. Travel arrangements for the nominated lab personnel may be made either by the respective State/UT as per their entitlement or as per the budget document made by QA Division of FSSAI for training purpose and the bills may be submitted to FSSAI for reimbursement. States/UT's shall be liable to pay the difference in fare if the claimed amount is more than that permitted in the FSSAI budget document.
2. States/UTs to utilize the facilities and infrastructure developed for testing of regulatory samples in their own laboratories. Whenever, there is any special drive or requirement, the States can use the facility of NFLs/ Private Labs for testing of surveillance samples.
3. All States/UTs are requested to abide by the Food Safety and Standards (Recognition and Notification of Laboratories) Regulation, 2018, sub regulation- 9. Obligations of food laboratory, clause (n) "the laboratory shall adhere to the testing charges as fixed by the Food Authority".
4. States/UT's to uniformly allocate the target for picking up samples in every month rather than sending huge number of samples to laboratory at the end of every quarter.

5. States/ UTs shall ensure that Referral Laboratories notified by FSSAI u/s 43 (2) shall test all the safety parameters of the sample in addition to the parameter (s) in which the sample has been declared as non-compliant by the primary laboratory.

(For information and necessary action: States/UTs)

Agenda Item 12: Any other agenda with the approval of Chair

An open discussion on appointment of CFS was taken up in the meeting. It was proposed that for 2.1.1 of FSS Rule, 2011 suitable modifications maybe made so that, the States/UTs may appoint an appropriate senior level officer as Commissioner of Food Safety. States/UTs were requested to give their comments on the same.

(Action required: States/UTs)

Chintan Shivir

“Chintan Shivir” was held on 06.12.2022 (Day 2) of the CAC meeting. CFS and other CAC members were divided in three groups and 3 broad topics viz., on ‘Quality Assurance and Testing Infrastructure’, ‘Eat Right Initiatives and FoSTaC training’ and ‘Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Grievances’ were shared with the group for further deliberation.

The members were allowed to find out their area of concern based on their experiences in States/UTs and share their best practices.

First group deliberated on ‘Financial autonomy of Laboratories’, the second group discussed on ‘Use of newspaper/plastic bags as packaging material for food’ while the third group stressed on the matter related to ‘Increase in registration fees and sampling of food by FSOs during VVIP visits’.

CEO, FSSAI concluded the meeting by emphasizing that the learning from the ‘Chintan Shivir’ need to be taken down to the field and institutionalize it. He thanked the Madhya Pradesh team for their wholehearted effort in organising the CAC meeting and confirmed holding 39th CAC meeting and “Chintan Shivir” physically in the State of Goa on 09th and 10th of March, 2023.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members of States/UTs, other CAC members.


(G. Kamala Vardhana Rao)
Chief Executive Officer, FSSAI

List of Participants

1. Shri S Gopalakrishnan, CEO, FSSAI- In Chair

Representatives of Ministries/ Departments: -

1. Dr. K. Sridhar, EDHG, M/o Railways
2. Sh. Ajith Kumar K, Assistant Commissioner, D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying
3. Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta, Deputy Secretary, M/o Food Processing Industries (Attended Online)

Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs:

1. Ms. Jyoti J. Sardesai, Commissioner of Food Safety, Goa
2. Dr. H. G. Koshia, Commissioner of Food Safety, Gujarat
3. Sh. Shakeel-UI-Rehman, Commissioner of Food Safety, Jammu and Kashmir
4. Sh. V.R. Vinod, Commissioner of Food Safety, Kerala
5. Dr. Sudam Khade, Commissioner of Food Safety, Madhya Pradesh
6. Sh. Abhimanyu Kale, Commissioner of Food Safety, Maharashtra
7. Dr. Abhinav Trikha, Commissioner of Food Safety, Punjab
8. Sh. Pukhraj Sen, Commissioner of Food Safety, Rajasthan
9. Sh. Tapan Kanti Rudra, Commissioner of Food Safety, West Bengal
10. Dr. Shamlal Iqbal, CFS, Karnataka (Attended Online)
11. Sh. Shubhasish Panda, CFS, Himachal Pradesh (Attended Online)

Members from various fields (Private Members):

1. Sh. Chinnusamy C, Retd. Professor, Agriculture
2. Ms. Gunjan Jha, Subject Matter Specialist, Agriculture
3. Sh. Manoj Pareek, Head R&D, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Food Industry
4. Dr. Devinder Dhingra, Principal Scientist (PE), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Research Bodies
5. Ms. S. Saroja, Executive Director, Citizen Consumer and Civic action group (CAG), Consumers
6. Dr. S. P. Vasireddi, Chairman, Vimta Labs, Food laboratories
7. Dr. Balwinder Bajwa, Director & CEO, EFRAC Lab, Food laboratories
8. Sh. George Cheriyan, Director Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS), Consumer (Attended Online)

Representatives from States/UTs (on behalf of their CFS):

1. Sh. Chandan Kumar, IAS, Joint Secretary, Jharkhand
2. Dr. Radha Debbarma, Joint CFS, Tripura
3. Dr. S. Rajen Singh, Joint CFS, Manipur (Attended Online)
4. Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Joint CFS, Jammu (Attended Online)
5. Sh. Ganesh Chandra Kandwal, Deputy CFS, Uttarakhand
6. Sh. Hari Shankar Singh, Deputy CFS, Uttar Pradesh
7. Sh. Lokam Mangha, Deputy CFS, Arunachal Pradesh
8. Dr. R K Shukla, Deputy CFS, Chhattisgarh
9. Sh. O. D. Sangma, Deputy CFS, Meghalaya (Attended Online)
10. Sh. Lalsawma Pachau, Deputy CFS, Mizoram (Attended Online)
11. Sh. T Vijaya Kumar, Deputy Food controller, Telangana (Attended Online)
12. Sh. Akhil Kumar, Additional Secretary Health, Chandigarh

13. Sh. Thamchos Gurmeet, Assistant Commissioner, Food Safety, Ladakh
14. Sh. Sendongkaba Jamir, Asst. CFS, Nagaland (Attended Online)
15. Sh. Mangesh Mane, Asst. CFS, Maharashtra (Attended Online)
16. Dr. Vijaya, Asst. CFS, Himachal Pradesh (Attended Online)
17. Dr. Yudok Bhutia, Director Health Services, Sikkim
18. Dr. T.A Devaparthasarathy, Director & Additional Commissioner of Food safety, Tamil Nadu
19. Sh. Purnachandrarao, Director IPM and Food Safety, Andhra Pradesh (Attended Online)
20. Dr. C. Sivaleela, Director IPM, Telangana (Attended Online)
21. Sh. Ashok Kumar Singh, DO, Delhi
22. Sh. Mukesh Jee Kashyap, DO, Bihar
23. Sh. Prithvi Singh, DO, Haryana
24. Dr. S.D. Balakrishnan, DO, Puducherry
25. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, DO, Chandigarh (Attended Online)
26. Sh. N Ramadasan Nair, DO, Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Attended Online)
27. Sh. G Laxminarayan Reddy, SSO, Telangana (Attended Online)
28. Sh. Chandrakant Kambli, SSO, Goa (Attended Online)
29. Sh. Anupam Gogoi, Food Analyst, Assam
30. Sh. Ch Sanajaoba Meitei, Food Analyst, Manipur (Attended Online)
31. Dr. Murugananth, Health Officer, Tamil Nadu
32. Shri Brijendra Bharti, Food Safety Officer, Chhattisgarh
33. Sh. Raveendra Reddy, FSO, Andhra Pradesh (Attended Online)
34. Sh. Nayeem Ahmad Lone, FSO, Ladakh (Attended Online)
35. Ms. Priti Thakur, FSO, Dadar & Nagar Haveli (Attended Online)
36. Ms. Pratikshya D Mahapatra, FSO, Odisha (Attended Online)

FSSAI Officials: -

1. Ms. Inoshi Sharma, ED (CS)
2. Sh. Rajeev Kumar Jain, ED (HR)
3. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Advisor, QA
4. Ms. Lily Prasad, CTO (Attended Online)
5. Sh. Rakesh Yadav, Director, QA
6. Sh. Sanu Jacob, Director, FSSAI (Attended Online)
7. Ms. Pritee Chaudhary, Director -Western region
8. Lt. Col. L J John, Director-Northern region
9. Sh. Sidhartha Roy, Principal Manager (Attended Online)
10. Sh. Parveen Jargar, Joint Director, RCD
11. Sh. S Sharad Rao, Joint Director, RCD
12. Dr. K A Arul Anand, Joint Director, Southern region
13. Sh. I.S.Hura, Joint Director (Attended Online)
14. Sh. Nilamani Biswal, Joint Director (Attended Online)
15. Sh. Shubhashish Mallick, Senior Manager (Attended Online)
16. Sh. Ambuj Dubey, Senior Manager (Attended Online)
17. Ms. Apoorva Srivastav, Assistant Director
18. Ms. Ritu Saxena, Assistant Director
19. Dr. Rahul Warahpande, Assistant Director
20. Ms. Arkalina Dwibedi, Technical Officer
21. Sh. Aniket Kumar, Assistant

Regrets:

1. Ms. Indrani Kar, Principal Advisor, Food Industry (Member)
2. Dr S Ayyappan, Chairperson, Scientific Committee and Chancellor (Member)
3. Commissioner of Food Safety, Lakshadweep
4. CFS of States/UTs (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Puducherry, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh). However, representative of these CFS of States/UTs have attended the meeting on their behalf and are indicated in the participant list above.

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

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GROUP 1: LEADERSHIP PURPOSE

The purpose of leadership is to:

1. Provide a Vision
2. Set Goals
3. Create and Implement Strategy
4. Motivate and Inspire Team Members
5. Help team members synergise and work together harmoniously
6. Be A Mentor
7. Care for the success of your team members. Put team above self
8. Create engagement and commitment
9. Provide Direction
10. Lead By Example

GROUP 2: SELF LEADERSHIP

Self Leadership is about:

1. Self Management
2. Having the courage to lead self and team
3. Practicing Self Discipline
4. Inculcating and showcasing core values
5. Displaying Perseverance
6. Practicing and preaching excellence
7. Being efficient as well as effective
8. Knowing that leadership is a leverage – the ability to do more with less
9. Being adaptable and versatile
10. Being empathetic

GROUP 3: LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION

1. A good leader is a good listener
2. Communication thus must be two way
3. A good leader needs to be open to receiving feedback
4. The language chosen to communicate must be known to the person / group
5. Good communication is about having a dialogue or convincing, not imposing ideas
6. A leader's communication must critique, not be critical
7. Leaders must inspire through their communication
8. Leaders must check understanding of whether the team has received the communication in the same way that they intended that they should receive
9. Public Speaking skill is an essential aspect of a leader's communication toolkit
10. A leader must also be good at communicating effectively through the written word

GROUP 4: LEADERSHIP CHARACTER

1. Character is what you do when no one is watching you
2. Leadership with skills but without character is like contaminated water
3. Leaders must have the courage to do what is right, not what is convenient
4. Leaders must not be self obsessed
5. Thus they must look to create more leaders, not followers
6. Leadership character is about being humble. Simply telling is not leadership. Mentoring is true leadership.
7. Leaders should not practice favouritism and they must be unbiased
8. Team is a reflection of the leader
9. Team does not do what the leader says, but does what the leader does
10. Leaders must not shy away from owning their mistakes. After all, they too are human.

GROUP 5: LEADING AND MANAGING TEAMS

Leading and managing teams is about:

1. Knowing your team members individually as well as collectively
2. Connecting with your team members emotionally and possessing high Emotional Quotient
3. Balancing team and task
4. Having meaningful and frequent communications
5. Making yourself dispensable by creating ownership and accountability in each team member
6. Delegation and Trust
7. Taking the blame for team errors and giving credit to team members for accomplishments
8. Making team members aware about the Big Picture
9. Training and capacity building
10. Praising in public and reprimanding in private

GROUP 6: LEAVING A LEGACY

1. Leadership legacy is about setting the right examples
2. It is about what people remember you for
3. Legacy is what you leave for the world when you leave this world
4. Leadership legacy thus is about the number of inspiring leaders you leave behind at the end of your stint
5. Leadership legacy is about consciously creating a pipeline of leaders for the future
6. Good leaders recognise their impermanence and work with a futuristic vision
7. Great leaders set high standards and benchmarks
8. Great parenting can also be considered as creating a leadership legacy
9. Leaders must be conscious of the legacy they are creating
10. Leadership legacy is also about the path that people feel inspired to follow. Leadership thus is not just about what happens when you are there, but also about what happens when you are not there.

2.1.3: Food Safety Officer

1. **Qualification:** Food Safety Officer shall be a whole time officer and shall, on the date on which he is so appointed possess the following:

(i) a degree in Food Technology or Dairy Technology or Biotechnology or Oil Technology or Agricultural Science or Veterinary Sciences or Bio-Chemistry or Microbiology or Masters Degree in Chemistry or degree in medicine from a recognized University, or

(ii) any other equivalent/recognized qualification notified by the Central Government, and

(iii) has successfully completed training as specified by the Food Authority in a recognized institute or Institution approved for the purpose.

Provided that no person who has any financial interest in the manufacture, import or sale of any article of food shall be appointed to be a Food Safety Officer under this rule

2. On the date of commencement of these Rules, a person who has already been appointed as a Food Inspector under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, may perform the duties of the Food Safety Officer if notified by the state/Central government if the officer fulfils such other conditions as may be prescribed for the post of Food Safety Officer by the State Government.

3. State Government may, in cases where a Medical Officer of health administration of local area has been performing the function of food Inspector under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, assign the powers and duties of Food Safety Officer to such Medical Officer in charge of health administration of that area.

Provided further that the persons appointed under clauses 2 and 3 above, shall undergo a specialized training laid down by the Food Authority within a period of two years from the commencement of these rules.

A. List of 67 cities/ districts who haven't submitted the UC

S.no	State	District
1	Assam	Jorhat, Sonitpur
2	Gujarat	Ahmedabad rural, Surat, Rajkot, Panchmahal, Banaskantha
3	Haryana	Charkhi Dadri, Rohtak
4	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi, Solan, Kinnaur
5	Jammu & Kashmir	Pulwama, Baramula, Reasi
6	Jharkhand	Purbi Singhbhum, Ramgarh, Lohardaga, Anantnag, Sahibganj, Garhwa, Simdega, Godda, Khunti, Saraikela, Bokaro, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Palamu, Dhanbad, Kodarma, Gumla, Jamtara, Latehar, Pakaur, Deoghar, Ranchi, Giridih
7	Karnataka	Ramanagara, Bidar, Tumkur, B.B.M.P, Dharwad, Hubli-Dharwad, Belgaum, Bellary, Davanagere, Gulbarga
8	Kerala	Kozhikode
9	Odisha	Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur, Cuttack
10	Puducherry	Puducherry
11	Sikkim	Gangtok
12	Tamil Nadu	Tirupur, Sivaganga, Thanjavur
13	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar, Moradabad, Mathura, Saharanpur, Meerut, Agra, Bareilly, Jhansi, Allahabad

B. List of 58 Districts have submitted the UC but have not transferred back the unutilized money

S.no	State	District
1	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
2	Gujarat	Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Ahmadabad, Anand, Kheda, Gandhinagar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Kutch, Navsari, Gir Somnath, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Tapi, Amreli, Dahod, Morbi, Vadodara, Sabarkantha, Jamnagar, Valsad
3	Haryana	Panchkula, Ambala, Jhajjar, Gurgaon, Mewat
4	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Shimla Municipal Corporation, Chamba, Kangra, Bilaspur, Hamirpur
5	Jammu & Kashmir	Doda, Rajauri
6	Karnataka	Mysore
7	Kerala	Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram
8	Madhya Pradesh	Indore, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Bhopal, Ujjain, Sagar, Satna, Sahdol
9	Meghalaya	West Garo Hills
10	Odisha	Gajapati, Balasore
11	Sikkim	South
12	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
13	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi, Azamgarh, Faizabad, Aligarh, Basti

C. List of 4 Districts have received the Double payment which they have not surrendered back to FSSAI Account. Also they have not shared the UC.

S.no	State Name	District Name
1	Gujarat	Ahmedabad rural
2	Jammu & Kashmir	Pulwama
3	Jammu & Kashmir	Doda
4	Jammu & Kashmir	Baramulla

D. Cities/ districts who have not organized the 'Eat Right Mela and Walkathon' event till 15 Nov 2022, but funds are already transferred. These States/UTs are requested to return the funds to FSSAI on or before 31.12.2022 for final adjustment.

S.no	State	City	Fund Transferred Details	Amount in (Rs)
1	Assam	Guwahati	SO/ED(CS)/36/2022-23 Dt 4 Aug 22	2,00,000
2	Gujarat	Anand	SO/ED(CS)/29/2022-23 Dt 15 July 22	2,00,000
3	Gujarat	Mehsana	SO/ED(CS)/29/2022-23 Dt 15 July 22	2,00,000
4	Gujarat	Narmada Valley	SO/ED(CS)/29/2022-23 Dt 15 July 22	2,00,000
5	Madhya Pradesh	Datia	SO/ED(CS)/36/2022-23 Dt 4 Aug 22	2,00,000
6	Madhya Pradesh	Morena	SO/ED(CS)/36/2022-23 Dt 4 Aug 22	2,00,000
7	Manipur	Noney	SO/ED(CS)/02/2022-23 Dt 2 May 22	2,00,000
8	Manipur	Pherzawl	SO/ED(CS)/02/2022-23 Dt 2 May 22	2,00,000
9	Manipur	Ukhrul	SO/ED(CS)/02/2022-23 Dt 2 May 22	2,00,000
10	UT Puducherry	Puducherry	SO/ED(CS)/28/2021-22 Dt 17 Nov 21	2,00,000
11	Uttarakhand	Srinagar UK	SO/ED(CS)/35/2021-22 Dt 20 Dec 21	2,00,000
12	Karnataka	Bangalore	SO/ED(CS)/04/2022-23 Dt 14 May 21	2,00,000

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