

Press Release

FSSAI Northern Regional Office Deepens Stakeholder Engagement with FBOs to Strengthen Compliance and Ease of Doing Business

New Delhi, June 13, 2026: In an effort to strengthen stakeholder engagement and promote greater compliance with food safety regulations, the FSSAI Northern Regional Office organized an interactive conference with Food Business Operators (FBOs) on Tuesday, 9th June 2026, in Shimla. The session brought together food manufacturers, processors, traders and start-ups from across the regions of Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and Punjab to discuss regulatory requirements, address operational challenges and strengthen awareness on food safety compliance.

Chairing the session, Shri Devesh Kumar Mahla, Director, FSSAI Northern Region, emphasized that FSSAI remains committed to facilitating ease of doing business for compliant food businesses while ensuring that food safety standards are upheld without compromise. He reiterated that FSSAI is not only a regulator but also a partner in enabling the growth of a safe and responsible food ecosystem.

The interaction focused on key issues faced by FBOs, including licensing, product approvals and import-related procedures. Participants were provided guidance on expediting licensing applications through complete documentation and timely responses to regulatory requirements. Clarifications were also provided on product approval processes, proprietary food norms and documentation requirements, as well as procedures relating to imported food consignments. Queries regarding licence renewals and the FoSCoS portal were also addressed during the session.

FBOs welcomed the opportunity for direct engagement with the regulator, noting that such interactions help improve understanding of regulatory requirements and facilitate timely resolution of compliance-related concerns. During the session, it was announced that similar interactions will be organized on a quarterly basis, with the next session expected to focus on compliance audits and food safety management systems.

To further enhance stakeholder engagement, FBOs were encouraged to send their specific queries, licensing grievances, or product approval doubts directly through the official email ID of the Director, Northern Region (director-nr@fssai.gov.in). They were also advised to stay updated on regulatory developments through the FSSAI website and social media platforms. Participants were encouraged to actively support FSSAI's efforts to build a culture of food safety and compliance across the food value chain.

The conference concluded with a reaffirmation of FSSAI's commitment to facilitating a robust food safety ecosystem through partnership, transparency and shared responsibility between regulators and food businesses.
