## **NEWSLETTER**

FSSAI ORDERS, ADVISORIES, NOTIFICATIONS & DIRECTIONS

#### **NOVEMBER ISSUE**

FSSAI 45<sup>th</sup> Central Advisory Committee Meeting Highlights Importance of Enhanced Food Safety for Tourist Destinations in light of Tourist Season

The 45<sup>th</sup> CAC meeting of the FSSAI focused on enhancing food safety ahead of the peak tourist season from November to March. States and UTs were urged to increase surveillance at popular tourist spots and use Food Safety on Wheels Mobile Labs. FSSAI CEO, Shri G Kamala Vardhana Rao, called for tighter surveillance on warehouses and delivery facilities used by e-commerce platforms, along with standard operating procedures (SOPs) for them. The committee emphasized training 25 lakh food handlers by March 2026, including those in academic institutions. Moreover, States were encouraged to boost food safety awareness through Eat Right India movement and outreach activities like walkathons and street plays. The meeting had over 60 participants, including food safety officials, food industry members, and stakeholders.

(08 NOVEMBER 2024)

Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 07/05/2024 passes in WPC No. 645 of 2022-Indian Medical Association(IMA) & Anr. Vs. Union of India & Ors. aimed at curbing misleading advertisement and protecting consumer interest

FSSAI released an advisory to inform FBOs about the Supreme Court's directive stating that before an advertisement is printed/aired/displayed, advertisers / advertising agencies must submit a self-declaration on the designated portal (Broadcast Seva Portal for TV & Radio, Press Council of India portal for print/digital ads) certifying that the advertisement complies with the Advertising Code under the Cable Television Networks Rules 1994. proof of submission must be provided to the relevant broadcaster, publisher, or media. The portal has been operational since June 4, 2024.

(11 NOVEMBER 2024)

### Testing of prohibited substances declared by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for 'Food for Sportsperson' under FSSAI license-reg.

Regulation 8 of the FSS (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Food, and Novel Food) Regulations, 2016 mandates that food products intended for sportspersons, categorized as "Food for Special Dietary Use," must not contain substances prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). In accordance with this requirement, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has accredited the Analytical Testing Laboratory at the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Balanagar, Hyderabad with the scope of 'Chemical'. This laboratory is equipped to test for the presence of 64 WADA-listed substances and is authorized by FSSAI for use by enforcement authorities to ensure compliance with WADA's regulations on prohibited substances in 'Food for Sportspersons'.

(11 NOVEMBER 2024)

### FSSAI Reinforces Food Safety Compliance amongst E-commerce Food Business Operators (FBOs)

FSSAI held a meeting with FBOs to reinforce compliance with food safety regulations. The CEO marked the importance of ensuring that food products have at least 30% shelf life or 45 days before expiry at the time of delivery. He also warned FBOs against making unsupported claims online, urging transparency and accuracy in product information. The CEO emphasized that product claims on e-commerce platforms must align with FSSAI's Labelling and Display Regulations. Additionally, he highlighted the need for proper training for delivery staff on food safety and hygiene, as well as the separation of food and non-food items during delivery to prevent contamination. The session saw over 200 participants, both in-person and online.

(12 NOVEMBER 2024)

#### FSSAI releases Gazette Notification of amendment in The Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011

FSSAI has notified about the amendments to be made in the Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011. Hereafter, these rules would be called as the Food Safety and Standards (Amendment) Rules, 2024.

The Amendments to be made are mentioned as under-

In the Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011, in rule 3.1, in sub-rule 3.1.1, in clause (5), after figure "58", the figures "61, 63" shall be inserted.

The clause (5) is attributed to the powers of the Adjudicating Officer to hold an inquiry for the purpose of adjudicating offences punishable under various sections mentioned therewith. The amendment now incorporates penalties for submitting false information and for conducting business without a valid license.

(12 NOVEMBER 2024)

#### Mandatory PAN Compliance for FSSAI Licensing/Registration

FSSAI released an order stating that linking the PAN with FSSAI Licenses and Registrations is mandatory through the FoSCoS portal for all new applications, renewals, or modifications with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024. Existing Food Business Operators (FBOs) are required to update their PAN details in the FoSCoS User Profile. FBOs without a PAN must submit a declaration of non-possession. Additionally, businesses are advised to ensure their contact details, including email and mobile number, are kept updated.

(13 NOVEMBER 2024)

# Revised list of FSSAI notified laboratories for testing of fortificants in Fortified Rice (FR), Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for Fortified Rice Kernel

FSSAI released a revised list of approved FSSAI notified laboratories capable of testing fortificants (Iron, Vitamin B9 and Vitamin B12) in Fortified Rice (FR)-Annexure -1, Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK)-Annexure-2 and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for Fortified Rice Kernel (Annexure-3) for the purpose of carrying out analysis of samples of FR, FRK and Vitamin-Mineral premix for FRK. The recognition and validity of these laboratories will follow FSSAI guidelines and orders. Refer to the NABL website for the latest accreditation validity of the laboratories before sending the samples. Also, this order superseded the previous order dated 09.10.2024.

(18 NOVEMBER 2024)

## Addition of Food Products under 'High Risk Food Categories' subsequent to the omission of Mandatory BIS Certification-reg.

FSSAI released an order regarding the recent amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibitions and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011, and the Risk-Based Inspection Scheduling (RBIS) policy by the FSSAI reclassifying 'Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water' as 'High Risk Food Categories'. This follows the omission of certain sub-regulations related to mandatory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification for these products, as per the Gazette notification dated 17th October 2024. Under the updated RBIS policy, these products are now included under "Non-alcoholic ('soft') beverages" in the inspection categories. Manufacturers or processors of these products are required to undergo mandatory inspections before receiving licenses or registrations. Additionally, these products will now be subjected to annual inspections, and all centrally licensed manufacturers must have their business audited by an FSSAI-recognized third-party food safety auditing agency every year.

(29 NOVEMBER 2024)