



Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of India

New Delhi


Key Note On Regulatory Framework on Food and Food Additives in India.


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Introduction

- I would like to convey my sincere thanks to International Life Science Institute, Japan and India for conducting this International conference on “Regulatory Framework on Food and Food Additives in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri lanka”.
- With continuous innovation and research happening all over the world, a lot of new products and new ingredients can be seen coming into the food segment. A lot of food products imported into the country also contain ingredients as well as additives which are being introduced for the first time.

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- India has various food products in each state and food innovation is taking place at higher rate.
 - The consumer safety is of paramount importance. Main objective of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is to ensure all products which are placed in the market are having appropriate safety. I hope all the speakers of the conference will give us adequate knowledge on regulatory framework on Food and Food Additives.
 - India has more than 10,000 food products in trade.
 - The Food Safety & Standards Regulation 2011 has given quality/safety specifications for nearly 330 products. Rest all products come under the category of Proprietary food.

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- The Food Safety and Standards Act was enacted in 2006 in India. There are as many as 101 sections in the Food Safety And Standards Act, 2006.
 - The Food Safety Rules & Regulations was implemented in India on 5th August, 2011. Before that, we had eight different Acts to regulate different types of food processing industries in the country. These are :
 - 1) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954
 - 2) The Fruit Products Order, 1955
 - 3) The Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992
 - 4) The Meat Food Products Order, 1973
 - 5) The vegetable Oil Products (Control) Order, 1947

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- 6) The Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998.
 - 7) The Solvent Extracted Oil, De-oiled Meal and Edible Flour (Control) Order, 1967.
 - 8) Any other order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 relating to Food.


All these eight acts have been repealed in India from 5th August, 2011 and replaced by a single Act, The Food Safety And Standards Act, 2006.

Under Section 4 of the FSS Act, 2006 Government of India established 'Food Safety and Standards Authority of India' to exercise the powers conferred on and to perform the functions assigned to it under this Act.

Constitution of FSSAI

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority shall consist of a Chairperson and twenty-two members. There shall be a Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority , who shall be the legal representative of the Food Safety and Standards Authority and shall be responsible for the day to day administration of the Food Safety and Standards Authority.



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- The Food Safety and Standards Authority established eight scientific panels and one scientific committee.
 - The Food Safety and Standards Authority and State Food Safety Authorities shall monitor and verify that the relevant requirements of law are fulfilled by Food Business Operators at all stages of food business.

Special points under FSS Act 2006

- The unique thing in FSS Act, 2006 is Food Recall Procedures under Section 28.
- If a food business operator has reasons to believe that the food is not in compliance with this Act, or the rules or regulations, he/she shall immediately initiate procedure to withdraw the food from the market under the food recall procedure.
- There is a provision for emergency prohibition notices and orders under section 34 of this Act.
- Even the purchaser may have food analyzed under section 40 of this Act.

Provision for Penalty

- There are provisions relating to sub-standard food, misbranded food, food containing extraneous matter, food not of the nature or substance or quality demanded, unhygienic processing of food, possessing adulterant, unsafe food.
 - Even there is provision relating to penalty for misleading advertisement.
- Degree of penalty ranges from INR 100,000 to 10,00,000.



- The Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011 relates to enforcement structure and procedure, Adjudication and appeal to tribunal, various forms of appeal.





Important aspects of Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011

- Under the Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011 we have :
 - 1) Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses Regulations.
 - 2) Food Products Standards and Food Additives Regulations.
 - 3) Packaging and Labeling Regulations.
 - 4) Contaminants, Toxins and Residues Regulations.

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- 5) Laboratory and Samples Analysis Regulations.
 - 6) Prohibitions and Regulations on Sales Regulations.

Briefly, this is the regulatory framework on food in India. Detail Act, Rules and Regulations are available on our website: www.fssai.gov.in

FSSAI Detailed Website



Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
भारतीय खाद्य संरक्षा एवं मानक प्राधिकरण



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Simplifying procedures for Registration & Licensing

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 as a statutory body for laying down science based standards for articles of food and regulating manufacturing, processing, distribution, sale and import of food so as to ensure safe and wholesome food for human consumption.....

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Advice to Consumer

- Select fruits and vegetables without spots or necrosis (lesions) and any abnormality.
- Wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly with water (preferably running potable water before eating and cooking.

What's New

[Categorization of food products & development of Food Codes.\(11-05-2012\)](#)

- Suggestions Invited
- Food Codes

[New CEO takes over at FSSAI. \(10-05-2012\)](#)

[Affidavit for Product Approval. \(10-05-2012\)](#)

[Minutes of seventh Meeting of Central Advisory Committee of FSSAI held on 27th April, 2012. \(10-05-2012\)](#)


[Ad-hoc guidelines for Alcoholic Beverages related to Import Food Clearance Process by FSSAI's Authorized Officers-reg. \(03-05-2012\)](#)

[Corrigendum-Guidelines related to Food Import Clearance Process by FSSAI's](#)



Salient Features of Food Additives

- Use of food additives in food products is a major area of concern for the regulatory authority in India.
- The food products may contain additives as specified in the regulation.
- Use of food additives in traditional Indian foods, coloring matter, artificial sweeteners, preservatives, anti-oxidants, emulsifying and stabilizing agents, antifoaming agents in edible oils and fats, use of release agents in confectionary, flavoring agents and related substances, flavor enhancers, sequestering and buffering agents.

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- Use of glycerol esters and wood resins, use of sucrose acetate Iso-butyrate, use of lactulose syrup, use of Dimethyl Dicarboxylate and other substances to be used in specified limits have been elaborated in Food Additives Regulations.
 - Maximum permissible limit for the additives has been expressed mostly in parts per million i.e. mg/kg or in percentage % or in GMP.



Good Manufacturing Practices

- Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) means the food additives used under the following conditions namely :
 - 1) The quantity of the additive added shall be limited to lowest possible level necessary to accomplish its desired effect.
 - 2) The quantity of the additive becomes a component of food and not intended to accomplish any physical or other technical effect.
 - 3) The additive is prepared and handled in the same way as a food ingredient.



Summary of list of Food Additives

Table 1:

- List of food additives for use in bread and biscuits have been specified in table 1 of the Food Additives Regulations.

Table 2:

- In table 2, permitted food additives for use in foods like snacks, sweets, instant mixes, rice and pulses based papads, ready to serve beverages, chewing gum, sugar based/ sugar free confectionary, chocolates, synthetic syrup, lozenges, have been specified.



Table 3:

- In table 3, food additives in foods not specified in table 2 like dairy based drinks, soups, custard powder, sausage etc have been specified.

Table 4:

- In table 4, list of food additives for use in edible oils and fats have been specified.



Table 5:

- List of food additives for use in fish and fish products have been specified in table 5.

Table 6:

- List of food additives for use in thermally processed fruits have been specified in table 6.

Table 7:

- In table 7, list of food additives in thermally processed vegetables have been specified.



Table 8:

- In table 8, list of food additives for use in food products like tamarind pulp, synthetic syrups, tomato puree and vinegar have been specified.

Table 9:

- In table 9, list of food additives for use in food products like Murrubba, squashes, fruit/vegetable juice, pulp etc have been specified.



Table 10:

- In table 10, list of food additives used in food products like jam/jellies, fruit marmalades, fruit drink etc have been specified.

Table 11:

- In table 11, list of food additives used in food products like dates, dry fruits and nuts have been specified.



Table 12:

- In table 12, list of food additives for use in sugars and salts have been specified.

Table 13:

- In table 13, list of food additives for use in cocoa powder, chocolate, sugar boiled confectionary, chewing gum/bubble gum have been specified.




Table 14:

- In table 14, list of food additives for use in milk products have been specified.

Table 15:

- In table 15, use of food additives in individual variety cheeses have been specified.

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- As many as 555 food additives with International Numbering System (INS) have been listed in the food additives regulations only for identifying the food additives and their synonyms as published by the codex on 23/11/2005 Codex.
 - In spite of specifying so many additives in 15 tables, lots of additives have not been specified in Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011
 - In the absence of list of additives, we follow table 3 of GSFA published by the codex.
 - Regulations on foods for special dietary uses, functional foods, nutraceuticals, health supplements is under draft stage.


- Nowadays, a lot of health supplements are being imported to India which contains a number of additives. We follow table 13.6 of GSFA which contains approved list of additives for health supplements.





Conclusions

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is in the process in reviewing various regulations including regulations for food additives
- However, harmonization with Codex Alimentarius Commission is under active consideration.
- We must have an uniform policy to permit food additives at least in Asian countries.

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- Success of this conference lies on harmonization of food additives among India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal as food habits of the population of these countries are similar to some extent.
 - This conference provides a platform where the representatives of these countries can interact amongst each other and coordinate the policies which will guide the future of the industry.
 - It is a great honor and responsibility to be present in this conference and it is indeed a great learning chance for the participants by considering various perspectives offered by representatives of various countries.



Thank
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