

# NEWSLETTER

FSSAI ORDERS, ADVISORIES, NOTIFICATIONS & DIRECTIONS  
**DECEMBER ISSUE**

## **Compliance of Scheme of Testing for Packaged Drinking Water & Mineral Water.**

FSSAI had officially removed the requirement for mandatory BIS certification for Packaged Drinking Water (PDW) and Mineral Water (MW) through a Gazette notification dated 17th October 2024. However, to maintain quality and safety standards in the absence of BIS certification, FSSAI has introduced a new “Scheme of Testing” for both PDW and MW.

This scheme aims to ensure that these products continue to meet safety, hygiene, and compositional requirements under FSSAI norms. All Food Business Operators engaged in manufacturing or marketing PDW or MW must implement and comply with this testing scheme mandatorily from 1st January 2026.

(17 DECEMBER, 2025)

## **Validity of FSSAI recognised Food Testing Laboratories.**

FSSAI has released an updated list of NABL-accredited food testing laboratories, valid as of 18<sup>TH</sup> December, 2025, for conducting sample analysis under Section 47 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. This list includes laboratories authorized for carrying out tests on food samples as part of regulatory compliance and food safety monitoring.

The enclosed Annexure-1 provides the details of the approved laboratories along with their valid NABL accreditation status and contact information.

(18 DECEMBER, 2025)

**For more details contact us at [support@moveahead.in](mailto:support@moveahead.in) or  
call us at 011-41666016**

## **Implementation of Standardized Format for submission of representation seeking risk assessment.**

FSSAI has introduced a standardized format for submitting representations seeking risk assessment to ensure complete, harmonized scientific data and improve transparency and tracking within the Science and Standards Division. Effective 1 January 2026, all such submissions must be made exclusively through the NSC portal under the “Submit Representation” section, replacing earlier modes.

Stakeholders including FBOs, industry associations, and research institutions are encouraged to share monitoring and R&D data relevant to food safety and nutrition in this format. All data will be treated as confidential and used solely for scientific evaluation, standard-setting, and policy development.

(24 DECEMBER, 2025)

## **Clarification regarding the use of the word "Tea".**

FSSAI has clarified that the term “Tea” can be used only for products derived from *Camellia sinensis*, as per the Food Product Standards Regulations, 2011. Products such as herbal, flower, or plant-based infusions not obtained from *Camellia sinensis* must not be marketed as “Tea”, as this is misleading and amounts to misbranding under the FSS Act, 2006.

Such products may instead fall under proprietary foods or require approval under the Non-Specified Food Regulations, 2017, depending on their ingredients. All FBOs, including e-commerce platforms, have been directed to comply, and State/UT authorities have been instructed to monitor and take action in case of non-compliance.

(24 DECEMBER, 2025)

**For more details contact us at [support@moveahead.in](mailto:support@moveahead.in) or  
call us at 011-41666016**