

NEWSLETTER

FSSAI ORDERS, ADVISORIES, NOTIFICATIONS & DIRECTIONS

MARCH ISSUE

Draft Food Safety and Standards (Vegan Foods) Amendment Regulations, 2025.

FSSAI has released a draft for amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Vegan Foods) Regulations, 2022. The amendments include an update to Regulation 5, Sub-regulation 3, replacing the phrase "the format as specified by the authority is accepted" with "FORM-I of these regulations." This ensures that no vegan food products shall be imported without a certificate from the recognized authorities of the exporting country in a specified format for Vegan logo endorsement. Additionally, a new section, FORM-I, shall be introduced, specifying the format for the certificate to be issued by the recognized authority of the exporting country for products seeking the Vegan logo endorsement under these regulations.

The draft is open for comments for sixty days from the date of notification, allowing stakeholders and the public to provide their feedback.

(28 FEBRUARY, 2025)

FSSAI Addresses Concerns Regarding Plastic Use in Idli Preparation in Karnataka, Directs Strict Action Against Violators.

FSSAI has directed the Karnataka State Food Safety Department to take immediate action against Food Business Operators (FBOs) and hotels using plastic for food preparation and to submit a report. This follows growing concerns over the practice of steaming idlis with plastic sheets, which poses significant food safety risks. Exposure to high heat can cause harmful chemicals to leach from low-quality plastics into food, presenting potential health hazards.

"The use of low-quality plastic in food preparation, especially under high heat, poses serious health risks," said Shri G. Kamala Vardhana Rao, CEO of FSSAI. The authority stressed the need to use only approved, food-grade materials to ensure consumer safety.

(01 MARCH, 2025)

**For more details contact us at support@moveahead.in or
call us at 011-41666016**

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

FSSAI has released a revised list of approved laboratories for testing fortificants such as Iron, Vitamin B9, and Vitamin B12 in Fortified Rice (FR), Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK), and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for Fortified Rice Kernel. Annexure-1 includes laboratories for Fortified Rice (FR), Annexure-2 for Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK), and Annexure-3 for Vitamin-Mineral Premix.

These laboratories shall only accept samples with valid accreditation, which can be verified on the NABL website. The updated list supersedes the previous order dated 04.02.2025.

(05 MARCH, 2025)



Ensuring Safe Festivities: FSSAI Directs States to Step Up Food Safety Checks on Dairy Analogues.

FSSAI has directed all States and UTs to intensify checks on Dairy Analogues throughout March to prevent adulteration and mislabeling during the festive season. This is part of its ongoing product-specific monthly surveillance drives. With increased dairy consumption, this month's focus remains on Dairy Analogues.

Dairy Analogues contain non-milk ingredients but resemble dairy products. As per FSSAI regulations, they must not be misrepresented as milk or milk-based items. Amid concerns over their labeling and standards, State authorities have been instructed to conduct rigorous testing and label verification to prevent consumer deception.

(11 MARCH, 2025)

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Direction under Section 16(5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding waiving of registration fee for Anganwadi [ICDS] Centers and introducing new 'KoB'.

FSSAI has introduced a new Kind of Business (KoB) category—'Anganwadi [ICDS] Centers'—under Food Services for Registration to ease regulatory access for Anganwadi Centers providing supplementary nutrition under the Integrated Child Development Services [ICDS] scheme. Since these centers are involved in catering to pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children up to six years old, including those suffering from malnutrition, they are also required to comply with FSSAI's mandatory licensing provision for anyone commencing or carrying out a food business. The Authority has waived both registration and renewal fees for Anganwadi [ICDS] Centers. Additionally, all new registrations will receive a five-year certificate by default, eliminating the option to choose between one to five years.

This waiver is effective from the date of the order, though fees for ongoing applications will not be refunded.



(12 MARCH, 2025)

Clarification regarding testing of In-shell Nuts by FSSAI notified Food Testing Laboratories.

FSSAI has observed that in-shell nuts, such as almonds, have been tested by notified laboratories against various standards, leading to confusion among stakeholders. To address this, all FSSAI notified laboratories, in accordance with sections 43(1) and 43(2) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, are instructed to test in-shell nuts solely against the standards for dry fruits and nuts specified under sub-regulation 2.3.47 (5), which explicitly covers in-shell nuts.

This measure aims to standardize testing practices and eliminate any confusion across laboratories.

(13 MARCH, 2025)

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Validity of FSSAI recognized Food Testing Laboratories.

FSSAI has released an updated list of NABL-accredited food testing laboratories, valid as of 18th March 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 MARCH, 2025)



Order regarding approval of NIFTEM, Kundli as NRL for Fortified foods.

FSSAI has granted approval to the National Institute of Food Technology and Entrepreneurship Management (NIFTEM), Kundli, Sonapat, Haryana, as a National Reference Laboratory (S.No.12) under Regulation 3 of the FSS (Recognition and Notification of Laboratories) Regulations, 2018, for the specified area of Fortified foods.

(25 MARCH, 2025)

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