

NEWSLETTER

FSSAI & CDSCO (COSMETICS AND MEDICAL DEVICE) ORDERS, ADVISORIES, NOTIFICATIONS, DIRECTIONS.



ABOUT US

Move Ahead is a trusted regulatory compliance partner with over a decade of expertise in delivering strategic, end-to-end solutions across the Food, Nutraceuticals, Cosmetics, and Medical Devices sectors. With a strong focus on precision, efficiency, and industry insight, we enable businesses to seamlessly navigate complex regulatory landscapes.

From import assistance to customs clearance support, Move Ahead offers integrated solutions designed to accelerate approvals and build compliance confidence empowering brands to enter and expand in the market with clarity and assurance. We help organizations simplify and accelerate market entry through comprehensive services, streamline business operations, and ensure adherence to applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

THIS MONTHS HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL UPDATES 14

ORDER/ DIRECTIONS 8

PRESS RELEASE 2

GAZZETTE 2

DRAFT 2



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Draft Notification on Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2026

FSSAI has issued a draft notification proposing the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Amendment Regulations, 2026 under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The draft introduces new definitions including food contact material, food grade contact material, modified atmosphere packaging, food packaging, non-intentionally added substances (NIAS), and aseptic packaging. The draft has been published for public consultation, and objections or suggestions may be submitted within 60 days from the date the Gazette is made available to the public.

Date of Notification: 26 February, 2026

Last Date for Comments: Within 60 days of Publication

Draft Notification on Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2026

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued a draft notification proposing amendments to the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The draft primarily aims to replace the term “labelling” with “labelling and packaging” across multiple provisions and update regulatory references in line with the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018 and the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020.

Date of Notification: 26 February, 2026

Last Date for Comments: Within 60 days of publication



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FSSAI CEO Calls for Nationwide Crackdown on High-Risk Food Commodities at 49th CAC Meeting

At the 49th CAC meeting, the CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India emphasized strengthening the food safety workforce in States/UTs and urged faster recruitment of Food Safety Officers and technical staff for effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. States were also directed to ensure time-bound resolution of consumer complaints and periodic reviews.

Discussions covered strengthening surveillance systems, data-driven decision-making, better coordination between FSSAI and States, and streamlining licensing and registration processes. The meeting saw participation of around 110 officials and stakeholders, reaffirming the commitment to a stronger, enforcement-led and consumer-centric food safety ecosystem.

Date of Notification: 2 March, 2026

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.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has released an updated list of notified laboratories authorized to test Iron, Vitamin B9, and Vitamin B12 in Fortified Rice (FR), Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK), and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for FRK . Laboratories will accept samples only if they have valid accreditation, which can be verified on the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) website. This order replaces the previous order dated 17 December 2025.

Date of Notification: 3 March, 2026



Gazette Notification on Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2026

FSSAI has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2026 under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The amendment revises the definition of Petty Food Business Operator to include street vendors, hawkers, food trucks, and similar businesses, and allows instant registration upon submission of required documents.

Street vendors registered under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 will be deemed registered under the Act, subject to hygiene requirements. It also provides for turnover-based classification, eligibility conditions, deemed suspension for non-payment of fees or non-filing of returns, mandatory notice of business closure within 30 days, and risk-based inspections and third-party food safety audits.

Date of Notification: 10 March, 2026

Last date for Comments: Immediately effective

FSSAI Advisory on Mandatory Registration/Licensing for Milk Producers and Milk Vendors

FSSAI has issued an advisory directing milk producers (who are not members of dairy cooperative societies) and milk vendors to mandatorily obtain FSSAI registration or license before carrying out food business activities.

The advisory comes amid concerns over milk adulteration incidents, urging enforcement authorities across States/UTs to verify compliance. Officials have also been directed to periodically inspect milk chillers to ensure proper storage conditions and initiate action in cases of non-compliance. Additionally, States/UTs have been asked to conduct special registration drives and enforcement campaigns to ensure all such operators possess valid FSSAI registration or licenses.

Date of Notification: 11 March, 2026



Suspension of four FSSAI notified Laboratories- reg.

FSSAI has suspended four notified laboratories from carrying out analysis of food samples under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Food Safety and Standards (Recognition and Notification of Laboratories) Regulations, 2018 for a period of six months with immediate effect.

The action has been taken under the relevant provisions of the regulations governing recognition and notification of laboratories. The concerned laboratories may file an appeal within 30 days from the date of the order as per the prescribed regulatory provisions.

Date of Notification: 11 March, 2026

Date of Implementation: Immediately Effective

MoHFW Approves Major Regulatory Reforms to Promote Ease of Doing Business and Strengthen Food Safety Framework

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has approved key reforms through the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to improve ease of doing business while maintaining food safety standards.

From 1 April 2026, FSSAI registrations and licences will have perpetual validity, and revised turnover thresholds will apply: Registration (up to ₹1.5 crore), State licence (up to ₹50 crore), and Central licence (above ₹50 crore). The reforms also introduce simplified compliance, instant registration, risk-based inspections, and recognize vendors registered under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 as deemed registered under FSSAI.

Date of Notification: 13 March, 2026

Date of Implementation: 1 April, 2026



Compliance obligations of E-commerce FBOs in the context of Open Network for Digital Commerce model

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued an order clarifying compliance requirements for e-commerce food business operators under the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), effective 1 April 2026.

Key provisions include a clear division of responsibilities between Buyer Apps and Seller Apps, mandatory Central FSSAI License for both entities, and enhanced traceability and accountability across transactions. The FoSCoS portal has also been updated to capture details of Buyer Apps and Seller Apps.

Date of Notification: 18 March,2026

Date of Implementation: 1 April,2026

Implementation of 'Food Recall' functionality under Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS)-reg.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has introduced a 'Food Recall' functionality in the Food Safety Compliance System under the Food Safety and Standards (Food Recall Procedure) Regulations, 2017 to streamline monitoring of food recalls. The system assigns a unique ID to each recall and enables DOs/CLAs and FBOs to create and update recall details through their FoSCoS login, while stakeholders and consumers can access recall information on the FoSCoS homepage. State/UT authorities and FSSAI Regional Directors have been advised to ensure timely updates of recall information in the system.

Date of Notification: 18 March 2026



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Gazette Notification of Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) First Amendment Regulations, 2026 relating to exemption of RDA in case of Infant nutrition products, Non-retail containers etc

The amendment updates provisions related to infant nutrition labelling, exemptions for small packages, and definitions of minimally processed foods. It also strengthens requirements for non-retail packaged foods by mandating key information such as product name, FSSAI logo and license number, batch details, and manufacturer information.

Additionally, the regulation provides flexibility for certain information (like ingredients and net quantity) to be included in accompanying documents for non-retail containers, while ensuring traceability. Clear identification of non-retail packs and improved visibility and legibility of labels have also been emphasized. Further, changes have been made to fortified food labelling, sweetener-related declarations, and advertisement requirements for specific products like pan masala.

Date of Notification: 24 March, 2026

Effective Date: 1 July, 2027

Medical Device

Strengthened CDSCO Oversight on Medical Devices Used in Assisted Reproductive Technology Procedures

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has issued a circular regarding the import, manufacture, sale, and distribution of medical devices used for Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) procedures, including IUI kits and centrifuges for sperm washing.

CDSCO clarified that such products fall under the definition of medical devices and are regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Medical Devices Rules, 2017. Except for Class A non-sterile and non-measuring devices, appropriate licenses are mandatory for import, manufacture, sale, and distribution. CDSCO has observed that certain firms are marketing these products without valid licenses and has directed authorities to ensure strict regulatory compliance and enforcement.

Date of Notification: 27 March, 2026



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MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT

FSSAI Revises Turnover Thresholds for FBOs

FSSAI has revised turnover thresholds for categorizing Food Business Operators (FBOs) under the Licensing and Registration Regulations, 2026.

These changes will be effective from 1 April 2026.

Category	Annual Turnover Criteria
Registration	Upto ₹1.5 crore
State license	Above ₹1.5 crore to ₹50 crore
Central license	Above ₹50 crore

In addition to the revised turnover criteria, the amendment provides for perpetual validity of FSSAI licenses and registrations, subject to risk-based inspections. It also addresses dual compliance requirements for street food vendors.

Further, FSSAI has issued FAQs to support the implementation of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Amendment Regulations, 2026. The authority has highlighted that the amendment introduces key reforms, including perpetual validity of licenses and registrations, deemed registration for street food vendors, a risk-based inspection framework, and revisions to turnover thresholds.

