

No. 1-57/FSSA/Meeting/2008
Food Safety and Standard Authority of India
(A Statutory Regulatory Body under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)
3rd & 4th Floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi - 110002

Date: 17.06.2009

Corrigendum

Sub: - Minutes of the Second Meeting of Food Safety and Standard Authority of India held at its Head Office at FDA Bhawan on 8th May, 2009 at 11.00 hrs.

Reference this Authority's letter of even number dated 21.05.2009 enclosing the Minutes of the second Meeting of the Authority held on 8th May, 2009. In this regard, based on the feedback received from Members, the following corrections have been carried out:

Item No. 13, Page 6: The words "Director (NDDB)" be read as "Advisor (NDDB)".

The revised Minutes as above is enclosed for your kind perusal.


(R. Vijay)
Director (Admn & Finance)

**Minutes of the Second Meeting of FSSAI held on 8th May, 2009 at 1100 Hrs
at its Headquarter at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi.**

Shri P. I.Suvrathan, Chairperson extended a warm welcome to all the members to the second meeting of the Food Authority. List of participants who attended the meeting is at Annexure-I. Leave of absence was granted to Shri Gibson G. Vedamani, Shri Dinesh Sharma, Dr. (Mrs.) T.A. Kadarbhai, Shri V.K.Bhasin, Smt. Navraj Sandhu and Dr. S. Girija, who could not attend the meeting.

Item No.1:

Shri P.I.Suvrathan, Chairperson, administered the oath of Office and Secrecy to Shri Debasish Panda and Shri Anshu Prakash, as members of Food Authority. Shri Anshu Prakash has been nominated by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in place of Shri Tape Bagra. However notification in this regard has not yet been issued. Shri Debasish Panda, JS, MOHFW, confirmed that the Ministry would be issuing notification in due course. It was also discussed that member nominees from State Governments may be notified in terms of designations/post so as to avoid further notification in the event of transfer/retirement of the nominated member. It was agreed that while the nominees of Central Ministries could be by designation, State governments may be requested to identify and intimate designation of nominee so that a proposal in this regard can be sent to the Ministry. As regards, non-government members, proposals for changes, if any, may be sent by the Authority to the Ministry.

Item No.2:

Noted appointment of Shri V.N.Gaur as Chief Executive Officer and Member - Secretary of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India w.e.f. the forenoon of the 10th February, 2009.

Item No.3:

Shri Debasish Panda and Shri Anshu Prakash taking their office in the Food Authority first time after their appointment as members declared/filed their Annual Declaration of Interest (Annexure 2). All the members present also declared/filed

Specific Declaration of Interest (Annexure 3) in relation to items on the agenda of the meeting in terms of section 16(4) (b) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Item No.4:

Confirmed the minutes of first meeting of the Food Authority held on 19th December, 2008 subject to corrigendum on the following points:

- (i) Item No.14 of the minutes of first meeting may be read as:
“It was also decided that auditors will also examine/audit accounts for the period from 18.02.08 to 31.03.08 within the same remuneration.”

Action Taken Report was noted and confirmed with the following observations:

- (i) Item No.14 of ATR read “Auditor appointed and copy of order attached”. However, no copy of order was found enclosed (A copy of letter regarding appointment of Internal Auditors was circulated to the members during meeting).
- (ii) Vision statement of Food Authority may be drafted in the light of the need to encourage Self regulation, diversity of stakeholders in food sector, need for a Code of Ethics for Industry and development of a Food Safety Plan and Models to incentivize consumer behaviour.
- (iii) Mission statement should be indicative of the need to encourage transparent and fair trade systems and providing science based information in simple and understandable language.

Chairperson mentioned that Vision and Mission document would be finalized after detailed deliberations with various stakeholders and observations of the members would also be taken care in the process. Authority has also initiated consultations to develop standards of service delivery and a Citizens’ Charter.

Item No.5:

Considered the report presented by Shri V.N. Gaur, Chief Executive Officer, highlighting the developments since the last meeting of the Food Authority.

Item No.6:

Approved Annual Report and Expenditure Statement of Food Authority for the year 2008-09 with the following modifications/suggestions:

- (i) First line under para 3 at page 1 of Annual Report may be read as “Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India is the administrative ministry for FSSAI”
- (ii) Updated details up to 2008 regarding FPO licenses granted, Installed capacity and Production of fruits and vegetable products and Sweetened Aerated Water may be given.
- (iii) If available, details of Numbers of licenses granted under PFA, Licensing Authority in each State, Number of court cases pending under PFA may be included in the report.
- (iv) The notifications issued may be disseminated and guidelines developed regarding labelling and other issues.
- (v) In page 45 of Annual Report, under ‘Note’ it may be read as “Department of Food & Public Distribution are having 13 posts under three orders”.
- (vi) CEO was authorized to make editorial changes or correction of errors.

Item No.7:

Approved the Rules and Regulations for the employees of FSSAI with the following modifications/suggestions:

- (i) Approval and D.A. on International Travel has not been reflected under T.A./D.A. rules. The provision for the same may be included in the rules.
- (ii) It may be ensured that rules framed under FSSAI are in no way disadvantageous to the employees coming from various Government Departments in terms of section 90 of the Act.
- (iii) The services of the employees transferred from various food related orders/Act to Food Authority in terms of section 90 of the Act should be governed by same terms & conditions as they were having in the service of Government of India. This may be clearly mentioned while framing the Recruitment Rules (RR) of the FSSAI and it may be ensured that RRs are not contradictory to section 90 of the Act.

Chairperson and CEO further clarified that Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) is being consulted on the scope “service conditions” of the employees which as per the Act will remain same as applicable to the employees in Government of India.

Item No.8:

Shri S.S.Chahal made a brief presentation regarding the procedure adopted for the constitution of Central Advisory Committee, Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels. Food Authority approved the composition of Central Advisory Committee, Scientific Committee and eight Scientific Panels constituted in terms of sections 11, 14 and 13 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 with the suggestion that if necessary, experts from the field of Pharmacology and Microbiology may also be included in the scientific panel related to nutraceuticals. Chairperson further mentioned that experts from other relevant fields may also be contacted depending on the requirements. It was agreed that Chairperson and CEO of Food Authority will have authority to make changes in the composition of scientific panels and scientific committee depending on the requirements of the Food Authority and in line with the procedure already approved by Authority.

Considered and approved the changes suggested by Central Government in the rules of procedure of transaction of business of the Food Authority, procedure for regulations governing operations of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) and procedure for establishment and operations of the Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels, as indicated in the Agenda note.

Item No.9:

Considered and approved the guidelines for the scheme for undertaking Research & Development for Food Quality and Safety with the following suggestions:

- It may be ensured that there is no duplication of study/ R&D work.
- There should be prompt release of funds to enable smooth implementation of projects.
- Experts from DST, ICAR, ICMR etc. may be associated, wherever required, in the Assessment Committee for assessing the requirement of any R&D work/ study.
- Scientific Committee and respective Scientific Panel may also be consulted periodically regarding research priorities.

Item No.10:

Considered and approved the revised proposal for creation of number of posts in FSSAI as per the structure approved in the last meeting of the Food Authority with the following observations:

- Provision of an independent Codex Cell with suitable composition should be kept in the organization structure. It was also suggested that Food Authority should now take up the work relating to drawing up and consultations regarding the national position on various codex issues before proposals are sent to the Government.
- There should be a Training and Skill Development Cell for capacity building
- A legal cell of the FSSAI should be set up.
- Functions and Duties of the Zonal Offices of the Food Authority versus State Food Safety Commissioners should be clearly defined.
- Steps to appoint FSSAI Officers at all ports of entry may be initiated to check safety of imported food.
- The number of posts should be revised keeping in view the above suggestions.

Item No.11:

Considered and approved the procedure for carrying out Studies/Surveys/Promotional events and accessing external expertise to support the work of the Food Authority.

Item No.12:

Adopted the Action Plan of Food Authority for the year 2009-10 with the following suggestions:

- Steps should be taken to develop a practicable Food Safety Plan up to the Panchayat and Municipality level with clearly identified deliverables.
- The responsibilities of Food Safety Officer may be clearly defined within his jurisdiction.
- Priority should be given to launch a pilot initiative to sensitize the Panchayats/ Municipalities about the need for a Food Safety Plan and the details of implementation.

- FSSAI should work with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and other agencies to develop feasible standards for water as an ingredient of food.
- The requirements of accommodation in line with the expanding functions of the Authority were discussed and it was decided that government may be requested to allot the plot of land on Aiwan-E- Galib Marg, Kotla Road, New Delhi-02, to enable a suitable structure and facilities to be set up to fulfil the mandate of the Authority.

Item No.13:

Dr. N.N.Varshney, Advisor (NDDB) and Member of Food Authority, made a presentation on Food Safety in the Milk Sector. The presentation mainly focussed on the aims and objectives of Food Safety in the Milk Sector, existing scenario in the country and what could be the responsibilities of FSSAI in achieving these objectives. It was decided that FSSAI will propose draft regulations in line with the suggestions contained in the report. The report may also be put on the website for generating comments.

Vote of thanks: The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

Following were present during the second meeting of the FSSAI held on 8th May, 2009 at 1100 Hrs at its Headquarter at FDA Bhawan, New Delhi.

Members of Food Authority:

1. Shri P.I.Suvrathan, Chairperson
2. Shri V.N.Gaur, Member- Secretary
3. Smt. Upma Chaudhry
4. Smt. Vasundhra Pramod Deodhar
5. Shri V. Balasubramaniam
6. Shri Anshu Prakash
7. Shri Debasish Panda
8. Shri Bejon Mishra
9. Shri Swapan Kumar Pal
10. Shri Shiv Narayan Sahu
11. Dr. P. Sucharitha Murthy
12. Shri Goutam Sanyal
13. Shri Sanjay Singh
14. Dr. N.N.Varshney
15. Shri K.S.Ludu
16. Ms. Mona Malhotra Chopra
17. Dr. Indira Chakravarty
18. Dr. Indrani Kar

FSSAI Staff:

1. Shri S.B.Dongre, Director (F&VP)
2. Shri R. Vijay, Director (Admin. & Finance)
3. Shri Anil Mehta, Deputy Director
4. Smt. Sudha Jose, Assistant Director
5. Shri S.K.Sharma, SIO
6. Shri P. Kartikeyan, JIO
7. Shri Parmod Siwach, JIO