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Bread-makers say won't use carcinogens

The bread-maker's body has asked FSSAI to verify CSE's findings on two chemicals

Following a CSE study, the All-India Bread Manufacturers Association on Thursday said its members would stop using potassium bromate and potassium iodate as additives with immediate effect.

The association, which represents over 90 organised bread manufacturers, has, however, asked Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) to verify the findings of the study carried out by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).

CSE welcomed the manufacturers' decision to stop the use of the chemicals, saying this would reduce public health risk from cancer-causing chemicals. "We are happy that the bread-making association has decided to stop using these chemicals within two-three days," said Chandra Bhushan, deputy director-general of CSE. Potassium bromate is classified as a possible carcinogen and the use of potassium iodate in bread-making can lead to excess intake of iodine that could affect thyroid functions, he added.

CSE said the food safety regulator FSSAI had already announced a ban on the use of potassium bromate.
