

Visit of Delegation to FSSAI from Belgium

A Delegation from International Alliance of Dietary / Food Supplements Association (IADSA), Belgium along with the bureau of HADSA visited Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 22nd November, 2011 and called on Shri V.N. Gaur, CEO, FSSAI.

IADSA is the leading International Expert Association regarding the globalization of food supplement markets and increasing regulatory challenges. IADSA aims to build an International platform for debate and sound legislative and political environment for the development of the food supplement sector worldwide.

The Regulatory bodies and the Industry association face challenges requiring scientific solution, with the globally increasing Food supplements. In this perspective Mr. Simon Pettman, Executive Director, IADSA, expressed their Alliance with regulators, scientists, industrialists and technical experts across the world on issues and policies related to food supplementation. He also discussed the scientific forum held in different countries on the challenging issues in the scientific regulatory interface regarding nutrition and supplementation and informed that the next such meeting will be held in India.

CEO shared that FSSAI was in the process of developing regulation for novel foods, Functional foods and Food supplements and will be released for Public consultation after its approval by the Food Authority.

He observed that Food supplements can combat malnutrition if it is affordable and freely available. Hence there is a need for more and better intake data, targeted research, the importance of risk assessment; the risk of over consumption, assurance of safety and enough scientific evidence should be documented. He also sought industry cooperation in checking the practice by some members of migrating drugs to food supplement category with minor changes and hiking its price. He emphasized that the responsibility of safety of the food lies with the Food Business Operators.