



FOOD PRO

E-News Letter of All India Food Processors' Association

From the President's Desk

'New Year Greetings'

Dear Member,

On behalf of AIFPA, it is my privilege to send you heartiest greetings and best wishes for the New Year. Ushering in 2018, we look forward to a year full of promises for everyone. **All India Food Processors' Association** takes pleasure in wishing you success in all your endeavors in the year ahead.

2018 is a landmark year as All India Food Processors' Association completes 75 years of its journey, symbolizing an important milestone in its progress. Visionaries of Food Processing established the Association in 1943 as a platform to generate ideas for the development and growth of food processing industry in the country and to impart momentum to this sector. Food Processing Industry has come a long way from its nascent position to a thriving sector contributing admirably to nation building, employment and exports and providing sustenance for our 130 crore countrymen.

On this day, we recall the untiring efforts and passion of our pioneers, in the independence era, who committed themselves unconditionally to the task of building a robust foundation for the sector even when there were no facilities, infrastructure or technology. Having travelled the difficult path, food processing industry in India is now looking forward to global performance reaching out to the world as a reliable processed food supplier.

I wish to congratulate you for your determination to reach higher levels of accomplishment and hope we are able to soon put India on the global map as a major player in the sector. The Govt. is also keen on the development of this sector. All India Food Processors' Association takes pride in being part of this aspiration and would like to express gratitude for the confidence you have reposed in the Association. We seek your valuable suggestions for the further growth of Food Processing Industry in the country. The industry has the huge responsibility to bridge the two ends of the food chain, the grower and the consumer, and this depends on the contribution from each one of us.

Wishing You A Very Happy & Prosperous New Year-2018.

(Dr. Subodh Jindal)

Published by

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Up-coming Events

- Event : **Anfas FOOD Product Expo 2018**
Dates : 17-01-2018 to 20-01-2018
Place : Antalya Expo Center, Antalya Turkey
For information, contact : Mr. Thomas James
(M):- 7827202718
E-mail:- tradefair@wegvoraus.in
- Event : **Challenges and Opportunities in the Production & Marketing of Organic Foods**
Dates : 19-01-2018
Place : Press Club of Jammu, Jammu, (J&K)
For information, contact : Mr. Rameshwar Maurya
Tel:-011-41550860, (M):- 8744088116
E-mail:- maurya@aifpa.net
- Event : **Organics & Millets 2018 International Trade Fair**
Dates : 19-01-2018 to 21-01-2018
Place : Bengaluru Place Ground, Bengaluru
For information, contact : Organic Farming Division, Karnataka State
Tel:-080-22074111 / 22242746 / 22074101
E-mail:- organics.millets@gmail.com
- Event : **Post Harvest Handling, Ambient Controlled Storage & Supply Chain Management**
Dates : 02/02/2018
Place : Mumbai
For information, contact : Mr. Rameshwar Maurya
Tel:-011-41550860, (M):- 8744088116
E-mail:- maurya@aifpa.net
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ALL INDIA FOOD PROCESSORS' ASSOCIATION

Vacancy of Assistant Editor (Technical)

- Qualifications** : Degree/P.G. Degree in Science/Management preferably in Food Science & Technology or any allied subjects.
- Job Profile** : Collecting & compiling general/technical information on various aspects of Food Technology & Processing and a flair for writing articles to be published in the 70 years' old Bi-monthly technical Journal, "**Indian Food Packer**" and also for the monthly, '**E-Newsletter**'.
- Editing Research/Review articles related to various aspects of Food Science, Technology & Processing received from authors for publication in the Journal.
- Preference** : A balance of 'Food Tech' and 'Journalistic' knowledge will be important. Publishing & Media experience can be additional merits.

Food Technologists & Scientific persons recently retired may also apply.

Remuneration : Negotiable

Applications complete with all the required details may be sent to the Association at **E-mail: dvmalhan@aifpa.net/vishal@aifpa.net** within 10 days of the publication of this Ad.

73rd Annual Conference of AIFPA

The 73rd Annual Conference of AIFPA was held on 15th December 2017 at Kolkata during which a National Seminar on “**Vision 2025—Development of Food Processing Sector in Eastern India**” was held. The presentations made therein are being published in the bi-monthly Journal, “**Indian Food Packer**” of November-December 2017 issue of “**Indian Food Packer**”.

New office bearers for the year 2017-18 were elected. Dr. Subodh Jindal, current President of AIFPA will continue for the next year also.

Sh. R.N. Jadli, Managing Director of Jadli Foods (India) Pvt. Ltd. and Sh. Suraj Savalia, CMD of Patson Foods (India) Pvt. Ltd. were elected as Vice Presidents for 2017-18.



Dignitaries on the dias



Dr. S. Jindal, President, AIFPA delivering the Welcome Address



Sh. P.L. Kaul, former President, AIFPA addressing the theme of the Seminar



Sh. S.N. Mitra, Former President, AIFPA delivering the Special Address



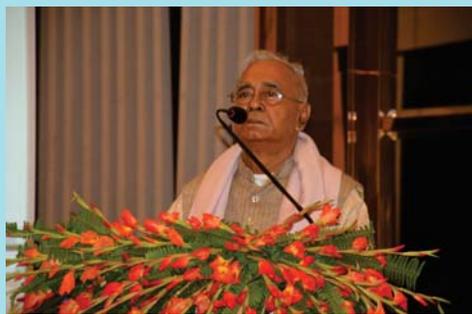
Sh. M.K. Jalan, Chairman, Keventer Group delivering his address



Smt. Nandini Chakravorty, IAS, Secretary, FPIs & Hort., Govt. of West Bengal delivering the Special Address



Sh. J.P. Meena, IAS, Secretary, MoFPI, GOI delivering the Keynote Address



Janab Abdur Rezzak Mollah, Minister-In-Charge, FPIs & Hortl., Govt. of West Bengal delivering the Inaugural Address



Sh. Rajesh Kumar Rustagi East Zone Chairman, AIFPA proposing the Vote of Thanks



FSSAI issues expression of Interest to set up National Reference Labs

The Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has invited Expression of Interest (EOI) to establish National Reference Laboratories (NRLs). "It is proposed to set up about 14 NRLs on product basis (milk and milk products, fish and fish products, meat and meat products, cereal and cereal products, fruits and vegetables, etc.), analyte basis (pesticide residues, mycotoxins, veterinary drug residues including antibiotics, heavy metals, etc.) or a combination of product and analyte [veterinary drug residues in fish products, pesticides in a specific agricultural commodity, food contact surfaces, genetically-modified organisms (GMOs), etc.]"

The reference lab would be to set up a countrywide standard for routine procedures and reliable testing methods, validate such standard procedures/testing methods, develop new methods and ensure proficiency in testing across the food labs with special reference to the risks or food categories.

Pawan Kumar Agarwal, chief executive officer, FSSAI, said, "Every country, for the purpose of method development, proficiency testing, training, etc., has reference labs."

"India, so far, has no concept of such a lab. We have developed this concept for the country, and now we are into the process of empanelling or recognising the reference labs. It could either be a private or public entity," he added.

Agarwal said that the creation of the reference laboratory would enhance the reliability of results and continuous adherence to international laboratory practices, result in greater availability of competent laboratories and proficient personnel, allow uniformity in protocols and procedures across the laboratory network, reduce litigations among the stakeholders or trade partners and allow effective utilisation of existing laboratory infrastructures.

According to the EOI, the vision of the Reference Laboratory is to ensure that (a) the laboratory system meets the national and international regulatory requirements and obligations; (b) the laboratory results on which the regulator(s) make decisions are valid and reliable, and (c) there is a greater availability of competent laboratories with best practices in line with the global trends, and (d) provide guidance and flexible but consistent solutions for the different stakeholders.

Further, the scope of work of a NRL - though not limited to these - would be as specified:

- It shall develop countrywide standards for routine testing procedures and reliable testing methods, develop and validate newer methods, provide proficiency testing in selected areas and provide training in the area of competence
- It shall be the resource centre for providing certified reference materials (CRMs) or standard reference materials (SRMs) in the specific domain
- It shall provide technical support in the area of competence
- It shall evaluate the performance of other notified laboratories in the area of competence
- It shall coordinate exchange of information amongst notified laboratories
- It shall collaborate and collate data generation for purposes of data banking related to their specific domain
- It shall carry out such other functions, as may be specified by the food authority from time to time in the related areas

Hotel Industry hails SC judgement on sale of packaged products above MRP

The Supreme Court, in its recent order has allowed hotels and restaurants to sell bottled water and other packaged products across the country in excess of the Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The apex court held that hotels and restaurants are not bound by the MRP while selling food and drinks at their premises and cannot be governed by Legal Metrology Act.

Leading hospitality industry association HRAWI (Hotel and Restaurant Association of Western Association) has expressed satisfaction over the judgement. Dilip Datwani, President, HRAWI, stated, "The judgement has come as a relief for the hotel industry. We wish to thank the Supreme Court for acknowledging our concern and making a just decision. Hotels do not sell packaged drinking water, aerated drinks or any such packaged commodity, hotels serve it. HRAWI congratulates its members on this win and assures them that the association will continue to serve in its interest."

The judgement was passed on a Special Leave Petition by Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) against the Union of India.

The bench stated that hotels and restaurants sell packaged food and water, they also render certain additional services, hence it becomes a composite transaction for which they should not be compelled to sell such items at MRP and provisions of the Legal Metrology Act would not be applicable.

The SC upheld that the customer does not enter a hotel or a restaurant for simple purchase of the bottled water and other packaged products. It further said that if a customer would order nothing beyond bottled water or a beverage for this, his direct purpose is very clear to travel to enjoy the ambience of the hotel.

The court confirmed the earlier judgement pronounced on March 5, 2007, by Single Bench of High Court of Delhi that charging price above MRP on bottle of mineral water and other packaged commodities while serving to the guest/customer, hotel & restaurant do not violate any provision of the Standard of Weights and Measures Act. (Now Legal Metrology Act)

Following INFOSAN alert, FSSAI warns against sale of contaminated food

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), the country's apex food regulator, has issued an order warning businesses and consumers against the sale and consumption of contaminated food after it received an alert from the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) with regards to the contamination of infant milk formula with Salmonella Agona.

The formula has been manufactured by France's Lactalis Group, and its symptoms include abdominal cramps, diarrhoea and fever. According to INFOSAN, French authorities recently advised the withdrawal and recall of 12 batches of the implicated product. A few days later, the recall was expanded to over 600 batches that were manufactured between February and December 2017.

They identified 40 countries to whom the affected product was imported and were being informed about the Salmonella infection. These include Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hong Kong SAR (China), Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Taiwan (China), Togo, the Netherlands, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam and Yemen.

As per the FSSAI notice, there was no report of any import of the contaminated infant formula product to India, yet there could be a possibility of this product reaching the consumers through online sales or by other means. Therefore, a notice has been issued to the public and various stakeholders, so that any inadvertent consumption of the infected products is avoided.

Action on sale of Creatine Monohydrate

Meanwhile, it has come to the notice of FSSAI that Creatine Monohydrate (used as a product or an ingredient) is being manufactured, imported and sold illegally by various companies and e-commerce platforms under different brand names with or without a valid FSSAI license number.

It is important to note that no standards has been prescribed so far under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 for Creatine Monohydrate. However, it had come to FSSAI's notice that some food business operators (FBOs) having valid food licenses issued by licensing authorities are selling food products containing creatine monohydrate, which is an illegal and unauthorised practice.

The regulator issued a letter mentioning the details of companies and sellers, including e-commerce sites to food safety commissioners of States and Union Territories (UTs) and authorised officers to keep a check on the sale of such products as food in their area of jurisdiction, by inspecting the premises of the firms and verify if any product having creatine monohydrate is being manufactured, stored or sold by firms.

The letter stated that if found guilty, appropriate action will be taken against the defaulting FBOs using the FSSAI license numbers on the labels of the products and selling them as food under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. FSSAI also decided to issue notices to such e-commerce sites wherein such products are available for sale.

FSSAI relaxes labelling norms for instant noodles for another 6 months

In a recent development on the labelling front, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has considered the request to further the use of print packaging material with respect to labelling for instant noodles for the next six months.

In September 2017, the country's apex regulator, through its gazette notification, prescribed new standards for instant noodles. The new regulation required a specific food category, instant noodles, to be printed on the label in place of the existing food product category, noodles (proprietary food).

As per the directive, FSSAI received various representations requesting the permission to continue the use of the current print packaging material for another six months. Thus, after due consideration, the apex regulator has allowed the use of the existing labels under proprietary food up to June 30, 2018.

However, it has instructed all the food business operators (FBOs) to comply with the standards prescribed for instant noodles specified in the gazette.

Extension in Due Dates of GSTR-1

Owing to the issues with GSTR online portal and much to the relief of tax payers, the due date for filing of FORM GSTR-1 has been extended vide *Notification No. 71/2017-Central Tax* and *72/2017-Central Tax* dated 29th December 2017. The previously announced due date of 31st December 2017 has been extended to **10th January 2018**. The relief has been provided to assessees with aggregate turnover upto 1.5 crore as well as those with aggregate turnover over 1.5 crore.

For assessees with aggregate turnover upto 1.5 crore, the period for which extension has been granted is July to September 2017. There is no modification in due dates for the quarter of October to December 2017 and January to March 2018. On similar lines, extension for assessees with aggregate turnover exceeding 1.5 crore is for the period July to October 2017 and no changes have been provided in due dates of subsequent months. Revised due dates for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 is summarized below-

For assessees with aggregate turnover **up to 1.5 crores**

S. No.	Months involved	Due Date for filing GSTR-1
1.	July - September 2017	10 th January 2018
2.	October – November 2017	15 th February 2018
3.	January – March 2018	30 th April 2018

For assessees with aggregate turnover **exceeding 1.5 crores**

S. No.	Months involved	Due Date for filing GSTR-1
1.	July - November 2017	10 th January 2018
2.	December 2017	10 th February 2018
3.	January 2018	10 th March 2018
4.	February 2018	10 th April 2018
5.	March 2018	10 th May 2018

Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) (Amendment) Rules, 2017 vide Notification No. GSR-629(E) dated 23rd June 2017 - advisory regarding extension of time etc.

The Gazette Notification No. 629 (E) dated 23rd June 2017 vide which Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2017 was amended to first come into effect w.e.f. 01st January 2018.

- All India Food Processors' Association(AIFPA)** requested for extension of time for the implementation of this Notification and **AIFPA** is thankful to the **Ministry of Consumers' Affairs** for issuing the advisory dated 19-12-2017 to extend the date of implementation w.e.f.31-03-2018.
- But there are two serious issues on this Advisory. **The first one** regarding the time of **three months is inadequate. It should have been/ should be minimum six months w.e.f.1st January 2017. The second one** is regarding the very difficult Rider i.e. usage of Stickers. Tags etc. That would be so manual /labor intensive and costly and would be so cumbersome to execute in the market. It is also practically not possible, as how one can be sure of the sticker or tag one has inserted in the plant remains stable in the market/shelves. With this clause, the extensions also does not have any meaning as the cost and risk would remain the same.
- It will be more difficult to use Sticker or Tag in respect glass bottles especially the Returnable Glass Bottles(RGBs) The inventory of RGBs in the country runs into a few thousand Crores of Rupees and loss to the food industry ultimately to the country on this account will be huge.

Following are also submitted for consideration:-

- Almost all food companies have old inventories and require minimum six months to liquidate/use the same through a **blanket exemption**.

- ii. Applying stickers or separately printing in the prescribed font size on finished products or existing label inventory is IMPOSSIBLE - because on high speed production lines usually there are no provisions for manual rework.
 - iii. Consequently, the risk of non-compliance by industry to revised **Legal Metrology Rules** w.e.f. 31-03-2018 will remain be real also poses food businesses continue to face challenges from the regulator.
 - iv. All law abiding Food-Business-Operators are apprehensive of the prosecution which will follow in the absence of blanket extension.
5. In view of the above following suggestions were submitted to Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Food & Public Distribution for consideration:-
- I. Remove the Clause **“with the requirement for affixing of a sticker or stamping or online printing or using a tag to make the declarations as per the font size indicated in the rules”** which is neither feasible nor practical to execute.
 - ii. The extension of time should be minimum **six months** w.e.f. 01st January 2018.

News Briefs

ITC to invest ₹ 10,000 crore to set up food processing units

Diversified conglomerate ITC on Friday has said that it plans to invest ₹ 10,000 crore to set up food processing facilities across the country. The Kolkata—based company is looking to have around 20 such units pan India.

“I am happy to say we are going to invest over ₹10,000 crore in setting up food processing facilities on a pan India basis,” ITC CEO Sanjiv Puri said. He was speaking at World Food India event. He said ITC over the past 2-3 years has already set up few such facilities. “Several such facilities have already been set up over the past 2—3 years and we hope to have pan India presence with about 20 more,” Puri said.

Besides, the company would invest in agriculture sector to empower around four million farmers. “Our aspiration is to take this number to 10 million farmers by 2019,” he added.

ITC is investing heavily in both agriculture and food segments as it sees huge potential in these two sectors. The company had earlier announced investment of ₹25,000 crore to enhance physical infrastructure and manufacturing capabilities.

“It (Rs. 10,000 cr) is a part of ₹25,000 crore capex. This amount would be spent on more than 20 integrated manufacturing units for food processing,” said an ITC spokesman.

He further said it is a fast—track investment and around three factories would be ready by January.

LT Foods & Kameda Seika to launch Kari Kari rice-based snacks in India

LT Foods, a global Indian food brand with a presence in over 65 countries, has, in partnership with the Japanese snack major Kameda Seika, launched the premium rice-based snack brand, 'Kari Kari' in India.

In the launch phase, it will be available in three cities - Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), Mumbai and Bengaluru - in exclusive tie-ups with modern trade and premium stores.

LT Foods will invest around \$5 million in the launch phase and plans to expand its presence across India in the coming months. The company aims to generate a revenue of \$15 million over the next five years from the Kari Kari brand.

With this launch, LT Foods will enter the premium healthy snacks market, which is growing at an exponential rate with rice-based baked snacks that have international flavours customised to suit the Indian palate.

One who fears failure limits his activities. Failure is only the opportunity to more intelligently begin again---Henry Ford

Herbalife Nutrition launches Active Fiber Complex

Herbalife Nutrition, a global nutrition company, has announced the launch of Active Fiber Complex in India. It is a combination of fibres from various fruits and vegetables which help support gastrointestinal health.

Changes in lifestyle, food processing and preparation and eating habits have led to increased instances of digestive disorders.

Sound health of the digestive system is essential for overall well-being. Active Fiber Complex is in powder form, as it complements the already existing Activated Fiber that is in tablet form.

Activated Fiber Complex contains fibre derived from a variety of fruits and vegetables. It includes citrus fibre, cellulose powder, inulin, soy fibre and maltodextrin to provide a good blend of soluble and insoluble fibres.

Dietary fibre is a key component in healthy eating and dietary habits. It provides several digestive health benefits, including support for regular bowel function, maintenance of gastrointestinal health and even potential benefits for weight management.

The inclusion of fibre in the diet promotes and prolongs satiety, aids long-term compliance with low energy diets, and encourages healthy food choices and eating habits.

BOOK FOR SALE

“A Practical Guide to Food Laws and Regulations”
Authored by: Kiron Prabhakar
Second Edition

Highlights:

- Comparison of the Food Safety and Standards Act-2006 with erstwhile repealed enactments and orders
- Section wise analysis of all important issues of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- Reader friendly presentation of topics through tables, examples and FAQs
- Complete coverage of the legal requirements of labeling of packaged food
- Clause wise commentary on Licensing/Registration Regulations

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Price:-
For Members of AIFPA **Rs. 556/- (Plus courier charges Rs. 50/-)**
For Non-members **Rs. 695/- (Plus courier charges Rs. 50/-)**

Book is available for sale with **All India Food Processors' Association, 206, Aurobindo Place Market, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016.**

Payment may be sent by cheque drawn in favor of **“All India Food Processors' Association”** or be transferred online to the **Association** as per following **Bank details:-**

Account Name	:	All India Food Processors' Association
Bank Name	:	Indian Bank, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016
Account No.	:	408329216
Account Type	:	Current Account
RTGS/NEFT/IFSC	:	IDIB000H019
PAN No.	:	AAATA7939A
Service Tax No.	:	AAATA7939ASD001

Kind Attention of Readers/Food Processors

The E-Newsletter is being sent to over 50,000 E-mail Ids every month for the last few years. We would welcome suggestions/comments from the readers to enable us to improve upon the contents.

Support for the effort with release of advertisements are also welcome (½ page/Full page) which carries nominal charges, which are as follows:-

Full Page in colour	:	Rs. 3000/- per insertion
Half Page in Colour	:	Rs. 1500/- per insertion
Full Page in Black&White	:	Rs. 2000/- per insertion
Half Page in Black&White	:	Rs. 1000/- per insertion

Print Area: - Full Page: 24cm(H) X17cm(W)&Half Page: 12cm(H) X17cm(W)

Note: - For twelve advertisements published in a year, only ten insertions will be charged for and two insertions will be treated as free. For six Ads in a year, five will be charged and one will be free.

Chief Editor