



INDIAN FOOD LAWS

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1. Introduction

- Food is an essential commodity to survive.
- Consumers have the right to safe and affordable food without being misled.
- Food laws are a **set of regulations** created to protect food in all stages of production, distribution, and consumption.
- The food sector has many categories, each with specific rules and regulations.
- All food Laws, rules, or regulations are managed by **FSSAI** in India starting from the year **2008**, and
- **Codex Alimentarius** is a government body regulating food laws and regulations worldwide.



1.1 Cause of Food Laws existence

Protection of food safety

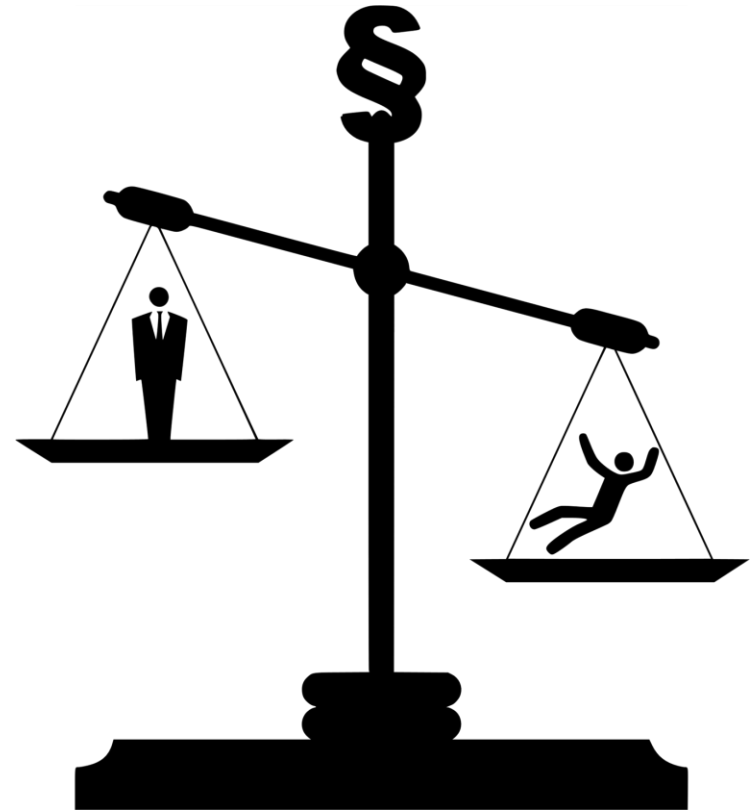
Facilitates easier hazard analysis and removal

Ensure consistent food quality

Prevention of consumer exploitation

Create transparency between manufacture and consumer

Promote branding/fair trade practices



1.2 National Food Control system

The primary responsibility to maintain food safety and ensure consumer safety is:

- i. **Single competent authority:** Single authority to monitor each category of food at any stage- **FSSAI**
- ii. **Multiple competent authorities:** Many authorities aim to monitor each category of food at any stage including FSSAI, EIC, APEDA, MPEDA, Spice Board, Tea Board, Coconut board, etc.
 - At Import: FSSAI
 - At Export: **EIC (Export Inspection Council)**
 - At Domestic level: **FSSAI**



1.3 List of Food Laws and Regulations before FSSAI

- Before FSSAI, laws were framed by different ministries/ departments with different perspectives and enforcement approaches.
- A total of 9 different laws were made by 8 different ministries governing the food sector which creates overlapping of quality and safety requirements and confusion amongst food business operators and consumers.

#	Acts/ Order	Year
1.	The Prevention Of Food Adulteration Act	1954
2.	Fruit Product Order	1955
3.	Meat Food Product Order	1973
4.	Vegetable Oil Products (Control) Order	1947
5.	Solvent Extraction Oil, De-oiled Meal, And Edible Flour (Control) Order	1967
6.	Milk and Milk Products Order	1992
7.	Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order	1998
8.	Any other order under Essential Commodities Act	1955

2. FSSAI

- FSSAI was **established in 2008** as per the Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006.
- It came into **enforcement in 2011**, being responsible for managing food safety in our country, with various rules & regulations to monitor food supply/business associated with various food categories ensuring consumers' safety.

#	List of food regulations	Year
1.	Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulation,	2011
2.	Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulation,	2011
3.	Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulation,	2011
4.	Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulation,	2011
5.	Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulation,	2011
6.	Food Safety and Standards (Laboratory and Sampling Analysis) Regulation,	2011

2. FSSAI (Cont.)

- After the year 2011, several regulations come in continuation as listed below to encounter each section of food.
- Furthermore, many amendments also have been noted which shows the flexibility in regulations for any modification if required.

#	List of food regulations	Year
1.	Food Safety and Standards (Food or Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods for Special Dietary Uses, Foods for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Foods and Novel Food) Regulations,	2016
2.	Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulation,	2017
3.	Food Safety and Standards (Approval for Non-Specified Food and Food Ingredients) Regulations,	2017
4.	Food Safety and Standards (Organic Food) Regulation,	2017
5.	Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) Regulation,	2018

#	List of food regulations	Year
6.	Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Food) Regulation,	2018
7.	Food Safety and Standards (Food Safety Auditing) Regulation,	2018
8.	Food Safety and Standards (Recognition and Notification of Laboratories) Regulation,	2018
9.	Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claims) Regulation,	2018
10.	Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulation,	2018
11.	Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and Distribution of Surplus food) Regulation,	2019
12.	Food Safety and Standards (Safe food and balanced diets for children in school) Regulations,	2020
13.	Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations,	2020
14.	Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations,	2020
15.	Food Safety and Standards (Ayurveda Aahara) Regulations,	2022
16.	Food Safety and Standards (Vegan Foods) Regulations,	2022

2. FSSAI (Cont.)

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- Have 6 Nos regional offices: Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Cochin, and Chennai.
- Comprised of 1 No Chairman and 22 other members including 1-3rd women.
- Current chairman & CEO: **Apurva Chandra & Kamala V Rao (IAS)**

Function of FSSAI

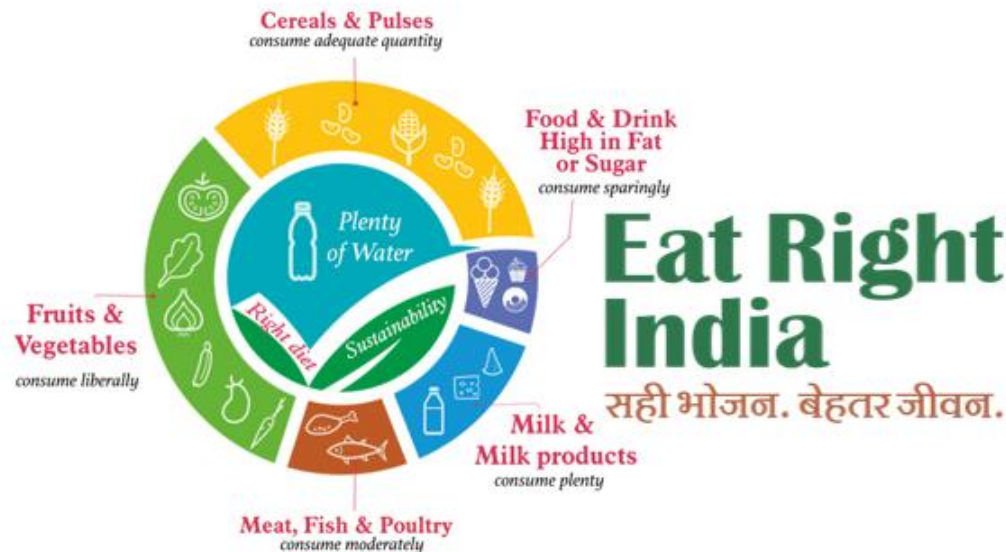
- ✓ Setting rules, regulation
- ✓ Registration & Licensing
- ✓ Regulation various food domains
- ✓ Testing product standards
- ✓ Assure food safety & Creating awareness
- ✓ Regular Audits & record keeping
- ✓ Updating government &
- ✓ Accommodate with foreign bodies

2.1 FSSAI Initiatives

Some of the major initiatives of FSSAI are as follows:

1. Eat right movement

- Promotes healthier dietary habits and lifestyles in India.
- Encourage balanced nutrition, food safety, and hygiene practices
- Aims to combat malnutrition, obesity, and diet-related diseases, ultimately contributing to the overall health of the Indian populace.



2.1 FSSAI Initiatives

2. Safe and Nutritious Food (SNF)

- Promotes food safety and balanced nutrition
- Aim to raise awareness about healthy eating habits and food safety practices.
- Provides guidelines for consumers and food businesses to ensure safe and nutritious food.



Safe & Nutritious Food
A Shared Responsibility

2.1 FSSAI Initiatives

3. Diet4Life:

- Focused on promoting healthy dietary habits and lifestyles.
- Encourages balanced nutrition and mindful eating choices.
- Aim to raise awareness about the importance of nutrition in overall well-being.

FSSAI has started other initiatives like 'PGS-India', Save Food, Share Food, Share Joy, and Clean Street Food that are making our lives healthier and happier.



3. FSSAI 2006

- FSSAI stands for Food Safety and Standards Act.
- Foundation of all food regulations in the country.
- Have **12 chapters** with **101 sections** and 2 No Schedules.
- Enacted to protect food and ensure food safety and quality
- Consolidates various laws related to food and establishes the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) as an apex-independent statutory authority body.



4. Other Food laws

4.1 BIS

- Standards for Bureau of Indian Standards
- Established depending upon BIS Act 2016
- Work under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Aim to Harmonious develop activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto
- Have approx. 20000 nos standards with **12 nos. mandatory** standard which regulates quality of dairy based product and packaged water supply.



Bureau of Indian Standards
The National Standards Body of India

4. Other Food laws

4.2 AGMARK

- Stands for Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act of India, 1937
- **Voluntary Certification mark** made for marketing of Agricultural produce, acting as a third-party guarantee.
- **Aim:** To provide consumers with quality, unadulterated products.
- The grading can be used for both domestic and export purposes
- Head office: **Faridabad**
- AGMARK labs: **12 (Central lab: Nagpur, 11 Nos. State-owned lab)**



4. Other Food laws

4.3 EIC (Export Inspection Council)

- Established as per the **Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963**
- Provide both mandatory and voluntary certificates
- Ensure the quality and safety of the product being exported, to meet the requirements of importing countries.
- Head office: **Delhi**
- Agency Locations: **Mumbai, Kolkata, Kochi, Delhi, and Chennai with 30 Nos sub-offices.**



- [FSSAI](#)
- <https://www.bis.gov.in/>
- <https://foscos.fssai.gov.in/consumergrievance/about-fssai>
- <https://foodregulatory.fssai.gov.in/agmark-certification>
- [Export Inspection Council - Mcommerce](#)

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