

Dated, the 08th July, 2021

ORDER

Subject: Clarification regarding frequency of mandatory product testing under condition of license 12 of FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011.

As per existing condition of license No. 12 under **FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011:**

“Ensure testing of relevant chemical and/or microbiological contaminants in food products in accordance with these regulations as frequently as required on the basis of historical data and risk assessment to ensure production and delivery of safe food through own or NABL accredited /FSSAI notified labs at least once in six months.”

2. In this regard, various representations from the FBOs/Food Industry Associations are being received with the request to clarify whether the said periodicity is to be reckoned on calendar year wise/financial year wise.

3. In order to align mandatory product testing with the submission of online Annual Return which is Financial year wise, it is clarified that testing of food products as per the ibid condition of license No. 12 of said regulations shall be carried out by manufacturers on the basis of Financial Year i.e. first half year from April to September and second half year from October to March.

It is further clarified that those food business operators who get their new licenses issued in the last months of respective half-year i.e. in the month of September and March shall be exempted from mandatory testing for that preceding & ending half year period.

Further provided that the gap between two mandatory testing of the same food product shall not be less than 03 months.

4. **This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.**


(Inoshi Sharma)
Executive Director (Compliance Strategy)

To -

1. All Food Business Operators, Associations, Food Safety Mitra and other Stakeholders
2. Commissioner of Food Safety of concerned States/UTs and Directors of all Regional Offices, FSSAI
3. Head (IT) – for uploading on website.
- 4.

Copy for information to -

1. All Divisional Heads of FSSAI.
2. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI.
3. PS to CEO, FSSAI