



FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS
AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Inspiring Trust, Assuring Safe & Nutritious Food

Packaging Safety – FSSAI Perspective

by

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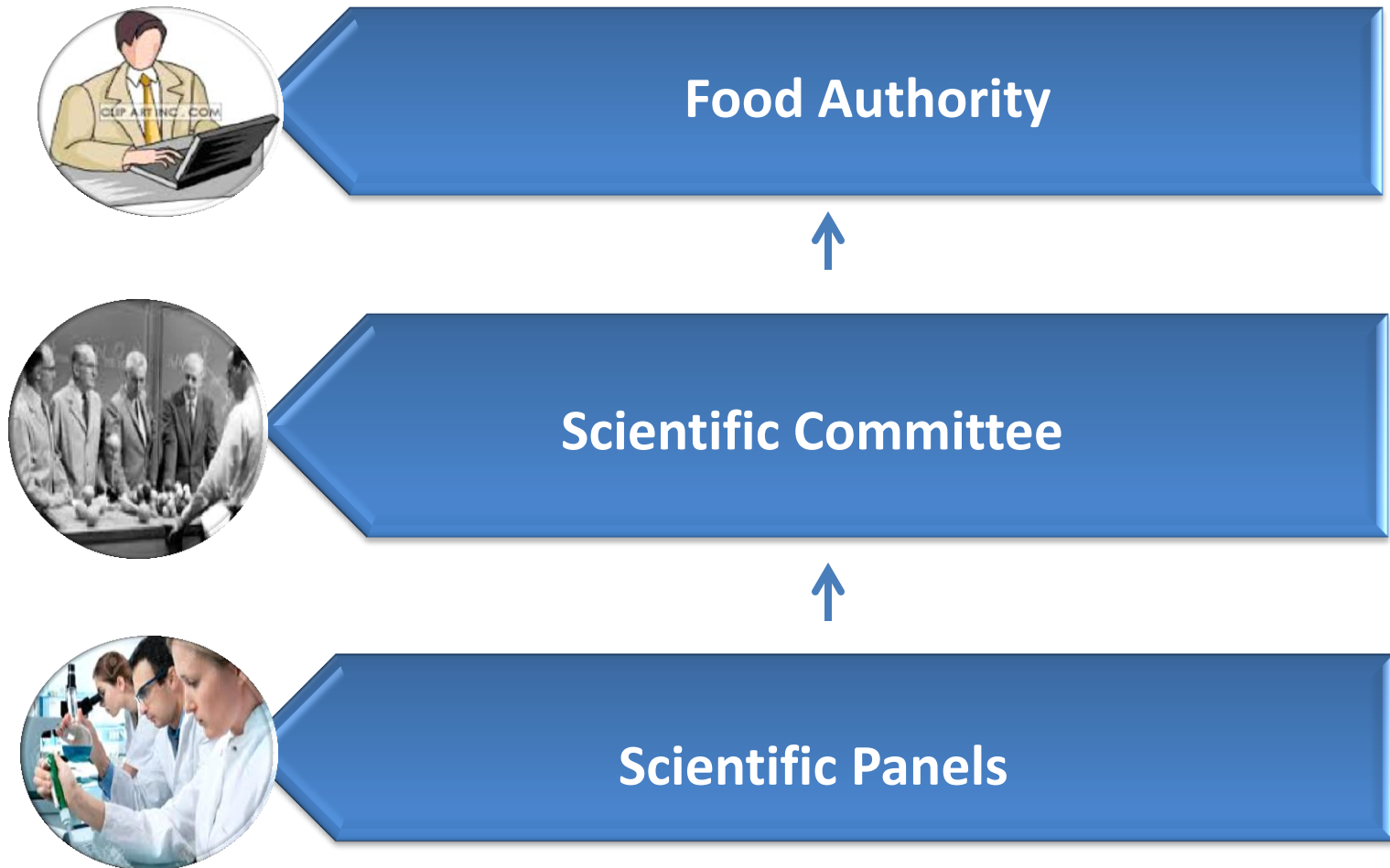
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been created under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Scientific Committee & Panels

The development of standards in Food Authority is undertaken by 17 Scientific Panels and a Scientific Committee comprising of more than 220 independent subject experts/scientists.



Standard Development Procedure



- Packaging Industry is the third largest industry in the world after food and petrochemicals & it will grow in future tremendously due to changing demographics such as Urbanization, Increasing incomes, Extended functionality.
- With the anticipated growth in the sector, it becomes equally important to channelize Packaging Safety to ensure the objective of Food Safety. Packaging has been always considered as a protection for food but has been overlooked as a source of potential contaminants.
- The link between food packaging and consumer protection is of high significance. To safeguard the interests of the consumer and the society at large, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has notified regulations specifically on packaging in Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.

Existing Regulation on Packaging

Presently Regulation 2.1 of Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 prescribes the general requirements for packaging and stipulates the standards for containers made of plastic materials which should conform to the following Indian Standards Specification, used as appliances or receptacles for packing or storing whether partly or wholly, food articles namely :—

- (i) Specification for Polyethylene in contact with foodstuffs (IS : 10146);
- (ii) Specification for Styrene Polymers in contact with foodstuffs (IS : 10142);
- (iii) Specification for Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC), in contact with foodstuffs (IS : 10151);
- (iv) Specification for Polypropylene in contact with foodstuffs (IS : 10910);
- (v) Specification for Ionomer Resins in contact with foodstuffs (IS : 11434);
- (vi) Specification for Ethylene Acrylic Acid (EAA) copolymer (IS: 11704);
- (vii) Specification for Poly alkylene terephthalates (PET) (IS: 12252);
- (viii) Specification for Nylon 6 Polymer (IS: 12247);
- (ix) Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (EVA) (IS: 13601);
- (x) Ethylene Metha Acrylic Acid (EMAA) (IS: 13576);

- The FSS Regulation further provides product specific packaging requirements for Milk & Milk Products, Edible oil/fat, Fruits & Vegetables Products, Canned Meat Products, Drinking Water (Both Packaged and Mineral Water).
- All packaging materials of plastic origin shall pass the prescribed overall migration and colour migration limits of 60mg/kg or 10mg/dm² .

Proposed Packaging Regulations & its salient features

- FSSAI is reviewing its existing Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 and same has been split into three:
 1. Draft Packaging Regulations.
 2. Draft Labelling Regulations.
 3. Draft Advertisement and Claims Regulations.
- Proposed Packaging regulations has covered most of the packaging materials that comes in contact with food including aluminium foil laminates, aluminium sheet used for cans, plastics, glass, paper, tin etc.
- Addresses the printed material, printing inks and pigments and colorants that may come in contact with foodstuffs (directly or indirectly).
- Includes suggestive list of packaging materials for different food categories.

Expectations from Industry and Brand Owners

- It is the responsibility of all suppliers in the value chain to ensure that their contributions do not in any way endanger consumer health -through the migration of harmful constituents into the food stuffs.
- Also industry needs to follow an integrated approach to Packaging Safety wherein information and knowledge needs to be shared across all partners of the supply chain to ensure consumer safety.
- All stakeholders are hereby welcome for providing inputs/suggestions on the proposed Draft Packaging Regulations which could improve and add value to the Regulations. Suggestions may be addressed to sp-labelling@fssai.gov.in

Thank you

