

**Action Plan**  
**of**  
**Food Safety and Quality Year 2008-09**

**By**  
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## Importance of food safety and quality

- Food safety is increasingly becoming public health issue
- Consumers must be protected against food and food production processes which are hazardous to health or life
- Risk analysis concept as a holistic approach is to provide safe food to the consumer's world over
- Awareness and training is also a major factor for maintaining quality and safety of foods
- Global trends are to adopt HACCP, GMP, GHP, GAP to ensure safer food supply chain

Continued...

- India is one of the largest food providers in the world
- But its share is only 1.6% of the world food trade
- All developed countries are setting stringent safety standards
- Emerging need to comply with these standards
- Governments all over the world are intensifying their efforts to improve food safety and quality for domestic and international markets

## **Food Safety and Standards Act,2006**

- Government of India has promulgated a Food Safety and Standards Act , 2006 to ensure food safety and provide safe food to the consumers
- Food safety and Standards Authority of India under the provisions of the Act will lay down science based standards for all articles of food
- Adequate representation has been given to Government, industry associations, consumers, farmers, technical experts, retailers etc in the Food Authority
- Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer have since been appointed

## **Upgradation of Hygiene and Quality of Street Food**

- 10,000 street vendors across the nation would be identified and steps taken up to upgrade the Safety and Quality of Food.
- Identification of 10 food streets with ethnic cuisine
- Support for creation of infrastructure such as drainage, water supply, lighting, etc., to maintain hygienic and safe conditions of food preparations.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI**

## Implementation of HACCP / ISO22000 Systems

- Identification of units through national and regional industry associations
- 10,000 units would be targeted
- Certification within a period of 18 months.
- Preparation of a protocol based on best international and trade standards
- Conducting checks against the prepared protocol in HACCP certified units.
- Grading of companies into Platinum, Gold and Silver categories.

**Responsibilities: Ministries/Organisations: MFPI/FICCI/QCI/APEDA/  
Industry Associations**

## **Benchmarking of food testing labs**

- Identification of 50 food testing laboratories for benchmarking against best practices
- A plan of action for their upgradation will be drawn
- Steps to be initiated to bring them up to best practices level with in 2 years

**Responsibilities: Ministries/Organisations: MFPI/FICCI/QCI/APEDA/BIS/  
States /Industry Associations**

## **Modernization of Abattoirs**

- Identification of 10 abattoirs for modernization or setting up new abattoirs in a public private partnership mode.
- Linking with cold chain and retail network so as to ensure quality and safety of processed meat.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / BIS/ States**

## Adoption of GAP

- Adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for improving traceability, hygiene and safety of food items.
- 10,000 farmers would be identified (approximately 500 in each State)
- certification of GAP or for organic food.
- Viable projects would be created so that the agri-horticultural produce from these farms are marketed and higher returns accrue to the farmers.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : DAC / ICAR/ APEDA / States / MFPI**



## **Gender Sensitivity**

- Gender Sensitivity Programme for food processing units
- Minimum facilities to be provided
- Certification process to be developed and compliance awarded

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI**

## **Awards for innovation in Food Safety and Quality**

- To draw a programme to identify innovative food products / practices
- Winners will be identified through rigorous process and would be rewarded in an event to be organized at the end of the year.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI**

## **Updating Food Laws & Regulations**

- Review of current food safety standards under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in consultation with stakeholders
- Review of Fruit Products Order and Meat & Meat Food Products Order
- Internationally benchmarked regulatory systems to be prepared for consideration of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

**Responsibilities : Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / Ministry of Health & Family Welfare / BIS/ Industry Associations)**

## Studies and Surveys

- A micro level study and survey to estimate the level of wastages under various crops and the steps required to eliminate them.
- A study to estimate the level of pesticide and other residues in food products as well as to estimate the nutritional contents of diet in various parts of the country.
- A study to prepare an action plan for a rapid response system for identification and responding to safety issues in the food processing sector.
- A directory of exporters of agricultural processed food for distribution.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / QCI/ APEDA**

# Studies and Surveys

Continued....

- An international portal to assist investors in the food processing sector by FICCI.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : FICCI**

- Development of standards for the street food sector by BIS.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : BIS**

- A study to identify the standards prescribed under Codex Alimentarius which are relevant to Indian markets, and identification of gap with existing local standards and action points.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / Ministry of Health & Family Welfare / APEDA / FICCI)**

## **Awareness programmes in Food Safety and Quality**

- Brochure on the food safety issues faced by a housewife and safe practices required in the kitchen

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / QCI**

- Introduction of Food safety issues into the school curriculum.
- Development of Proper teaching material

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / QCI**

- A book on Indian cuisine and its relation to cultural aspects in collaboration with private corporates.
- Identification and reward of best few books in the area of cuisine and food

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / QCI**

## Awareness programmes in Food Safety and Quality

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- Identification of Food clusters for HACCP and quality upgradation through CII and FICCI.
- At least 3 organic food clusters will be identified and the farmers linked to sustainable market outlets.

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / FICCI**

- Holding short duration workshops and seminars at various places in the country on food safety and quality issues

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / QCI**

- Launch of postage stamp to commemorate the Food Safety and Quality Year 2008-2009

**Responsibilities: Ministries / Organisations : MFPI / Ministry of Communications**

## **Partnering Ministries/Organisations in this initiatives**

- **Ministry of Food Processing Industries**
- **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**
- **Department of Commerce**
- **Department of Agriculture and Cooperation**
- **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**
- **Indian Council of Agriculture Research**
- **Department of Consumer Affairs**
- **State Governments/ UTs**
- **Industry Associations like FICCI, CII**
- **Consumer Organisations**
- **Government / Autonomous agencies engaged in promotion of quality and safety of food (APEDA, BIS, QCI etc.)**

## **Mid Term Review**

- **Mid term of progress of various initiatives**
- **Mid Term course correction , wherever required**
- **Another national event at the end of the year**
- **Progress made during the past 12 months will be reviewed and consolidated.**



## Way Forward ...

The Year of Food Safety and Quality is set to impact :

- upgradation of standards
- coordinated efforts of government agencies, private sector organizations and other stakeholders
- usher in new initiatives of food safety and quality in the future with increased awareness and resultant economic and social benefits
- MFPI will carry out a year long campaign to reach out to all the stakeholders and consumers on food safety and quality initiatives

Thank You