

WEBINAR REPORT LICENSING & REGISTRATION FROM **FLRS** (Food Licensing & Registration System) TO **FoSCoS** (Food Safety Compliance System) A CRITICAL OVERVIEW



AUTHOR

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(Regulatory, Scientific & Government Affairs Lead- South Asia, IFF), and Mr. Bhupinder Singh (MD & CEO, Vista Processed Foods). The webinar was attended by approximately 250 audiences. The attendees included professionals working in food industries mostly from regulatory and compliance domain.

Dr. Joseph Lewis welcomed everyone and gave a brief introduction about the program. He said that the rationale behind regulations is as important as compliance to the regulation, and such webinars help in exchange ideas on these topics. Ms. Swechha Soni (Manager- Food & Nutrition at PFNDAI) introduced the experts of the session.

Dr. Joseph Lewis in his presentation 'Introduction: FLRS to FoSCoS' explained the three main aspects of regulation. These are the licensing (for the process of production), standards (for the product that is produced in terms of content, quality, etc), and the label and claims on the product that are presented. He said that the purpose of licensing is to ensure that only safe food reaches the consumers. He threw some light on the provisions for compliance and enforcement of licensing laws that are provided by FSSAI with the help

of the enforcement pyramid and its various components. Food safety, he said is the responsibility of both the food business operator and the governing bodies. Dr. Lewis concluded by talking about global alignment on responsibility and control of food safety.

The second speaker, Dr. Shatadru Sengupta gave a talk on- 'Licensing: some principles'. He explained the importance of licensing with some daily life examples and said that it is important to keep track of the products and food safety, public safety, and enforce the regulations. On the other hand, the purpose of registration is to inform the governing bodies and has a lower degree of control. Thus not only registration but also licensing is necessary. He explained in detail, the concept of capability vs conformance, and the various clauses in the FSSAI regulations that are necessary to be fulfilled by an FBO to carry out business according to the FSS act 2006. He concluded by talking about the application for FBO registration and explaining the nitty-gritty of the same.

Dr. Prabodh Halde talked on the topic 'FLRS to FoSCoS' highlighting the transition from the old system to the new one. He said that the purpose of licensing is to bring the manufacturers in the net to monitor them in the pursuit of food and public safety. He shared the preamble of the FSS Act, 2006 to explain the origin of the present-day

Protein Foods & Nutrition Development Association of India (PFNDAI) recently organized a webinar on "Licensing and Registration from FLRS to FoSCoS: a critical overview", where the main objective was to help our audience understand recent developments and challenges in food licensing registration, and food safety in India. The webinar was held on 16th April 2021.

The speakers for the webinar were Dr. Shatadru Sengupta (Sr Director-Legal, Hardcastle Restaurants Pvt Ltd), Dr. Joseph Lewis (Food Regulatory Consultant), Dr. Prabodh Halde (Head Regulatory R&D, Marico), Mr. Shashank Churi (Asst. Manager Quality, Hindustan Unilever Ltd), along with the panellists, Ms. Rini Sanyal (Director-Global Regulatory & Product Compliance, India Herbalife Nutrition), Ms. Meenu Yadav (Technical Regulatory Affairs Manager, Marico), Dr. Jasvir Singh

He explained the sections of the FSS Act in detail and threw some light on the positives and negatives of the same. Dr. Halde described the 3 levels of licensing and registration- registration authority, state licensing authority, and central licensing authority. He also shared the various turnover slab or types of food businesses that fall under each category. He continued to decode the FLRS procedure for licensing with a help of a comprehensive flow chart. He then continued to explain FoSCoS, its objectives, its advantages over the older system, and the new features of the same. He highlighted the improved operational capabilities, enhanced technological platform, and user-centric approach of FoSCoS. He concluded by explaining the application procedure followed by the challenges of FoSCoS.

Mr. Shashank Churi, in his talk on 'Walk through the online process', gave an insightful step-by-step guide

to the online application process. He began with details on signing up and creating an account, navigating through the dashboard, filing the application form, applying for multiple licenses, choosing the correct FBO details, modification of application, documents required, and payment. He also explained the steps for renewing a license and the various resources available on the FoSCoS website. Along with this, he also provided tips to avoid errors while using the online portal and to ensure a smooth application process.

The audience had some questions that were addressed in brief details by all the speakers after their respective talks.

The presentations by the speakers were followed by a panel discussion conducted by Dr. Joseph Lewis, on queries related to food licensing and registration in India. The panellists were Ms. Rini Sanyal, Ms. Meenu

Yadav, Dr. Jasvir Singh, and Mr. Bhupinder Singh. The enlightening panel answered various questions like the feasibility of integrating data from various food licensing and registration systems and ease of doing business, challenges that are posed by stringent food business categories, the introduction of a new product in the food market and its nomenclature, standardisation of proprietary food products, GMP and nutraceutical production guidelines, improvement notices and its repercussions, etc. The panel discussion provided a platform for the exchange of ideas, clarification of doubts, and productive brainstorming about the newer programs and guidelines by FSSAI. The experts also answered case-specific questions regarding the food category selection and submission of regulatory forms.

The webinar ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Girija Damle.

PROTEIN FOODS & NUTRITION DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Presents A Webinar On
From Food Licensing & Registration System to Food Safety Compliance System: A Critical Review

Speakers

- Dr Shatadru Sengupta**
Sr Director-Legal, Hardcastle Restaurants
- Dr Prabodh Halde**
Head Regulatory -R&D, Marico
- Mr Shashank Churi**
Asst. Manager-Quality, Hindustan Unilever Ltd

Welcome Remark

- Dr Jagadish Pai**
Executive Director, PFNDAI

Panel Moderator

- Dr Joesph Lewis**
Food Regulatory Consultant

Panelists

- Mr Bhupinder Singh**
MD & CEO- Vista Processed Foods
- Dr Jasvir Singh**
Reg., Scientific & Govt Affairs- Lead, South Asia IFF
- Ms Rini Sanyal**
Director-Global, Reg. & Product Cmpl., India Herbal Life Nutrition
- Ms Meenu Yadav**
Technical Reg. Affairs, Marico



A simple view of regulations



Examples of licensing

- Industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951
- Driving license under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
- Flying license under the Aircraft Act, 1934
- License under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006





Mr Shashank Churi, HUL



Dr Jasvir Singh, IFF



Mr Bhupinder Singh, Vista Processed Foods



Ms Meenu Yadav, Marico



Dr Joseph Lewis, Food Consultant



Ms Rini Sanyal, Herbalife Nutrition



Mr Shashank Churi, HUL



Dr Joseph Lewis, Food Consultant



Mr Bhupinder Singh, Vista Processed Foods



Ms Meenu Yadav, Marico



Dr Jasvir Singh, IFF



Mr Shashank Churi, HUL



Ms Girija Damle, PINDAI



Dr Shatadru Sengupta, Hardcastle Restaurant Pvt Ltd



Ms Swechha Soni, PINDAI