



AHAR Connect



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Save water through prudent management and judicious use support Govt. initiative - Shri Adarsh Shetty

Forever News reporter

The Proceedings of the 5th Monthly Managing Committee Meeting held on 19th April 2016 at Hotel Krishna Palace Residency, 96/98, Sleanor Road, Nana Chowk, Mumbai 400007 at 7.15 p.m.

Proceedings

The fifth Monthly Managing Committee Meeting initiated by the President Shri Adarsh Shetty with the opening remark on the water conservation by pointing out the reasons and measures for consuming and saving water



Shri K. V. Shetty
Vice President, Zone - II

judiciously. Water being an existential need for humans, it's also one of the most under prioritized but over abused commodity. Water is central to our lives but has

not been the central point of focus in our planning while we rapidly evolve into an urban society.

Through time, early societies understood the importance and need for water and planned their lives around it. Civilizations were born and lost on account of water. Today, we have the advantage of this knowledge and we still fail to value it and plan our societies around it.

The President Shri Adarsh Shetty invited the host Vice President Shri K. V. Shetty VP, Zone - II to welcome the gathering.

Shri K. V. Shetty thanked his committee members for electing him as the Vice

President of the Zone. He welcomed the office bearers, advisors and members who attended the meeting. He informed to the audience that the first meeting against the Maharashtra Amendment to Rent Control Act and issues pertains to Piped Natural Gas connections by MGL was addressed in the presence of Shri Amin Patel, MLA. He briefed that due to the efforts of the committee, meetings with five different Assistant Commissioners of Police threw some light on the grievances brought to light by AHAR was considered and minimized. The Licence renewal process was made smooth. Subsequently, the



meetings with two Assistant Municipal Commissioners resolved many long pending grievances of the hoteliers.

During his presentation Shri K. V. Shetty declared that due to his personal commitments he may not be able to continue

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

as the Vice Present for the next year. He thanked Shri K. Y. Shetty, Shri Saurabh K. Shetty of Hotel Krishna Palace and all present and ex office bearers and Sub Committee Chairmen and members of his zone for their earnest support extended to him at all times. Later he requested the President to proceed with the Agenda.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 4th Monthly Managing Committee Meeting

The Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Santosh R. Shetty presented the minutes of the 4th Monthly Managing Committee Meeting held on 29.3.2016. The same was unanimously approved.

Proposed by

Shri Sudhakar T Shetty

Seconded by

Shri Shailendra Shetty

Approval of the Accounts for the Month of March 2016.

The Hon. Treasurer Shri Shashidhar G. Shetty presented the Accounts of the AHAR and Performance Bar for the Month of February 2016. The same was approved.

Proposed by

Shri Shivaram Shetty

Seconded by

Shri Nitin R Shetty

Events of the month

Addressing the gathering AHAR President Shri Adarsh Shetty briefed as under:

• Save water

Looking at the water shortage and draught in most parts of the State, he requested the members to use the water very sparingly and judiciously and support State Government initiative of SAVE WATER. He advised the members to

provide water and refill it only on demand of the customers. He also advised cleaning the premises once in a week and also use all measures to curtail use of water. He further said as a part of AHAR's Social commitment, a poster campaign for SAVE WATER will be displayed in front of all Hotels / Restaurants of AHAR members.

• Meeting with CM by Hoteliers who are MbPT tenants

A delegation of AHAR Member Hoteliers who are MbPT tenants met Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis at the BJP head quarters on 6.4.2016. The delegation briefed the grievances of the MbPT tenants / occupants and urged him to bring all the MbPT tenants / occupants be brought under the Maharashtra Rent Control Act 1999 instead of Public Premises Act of 1991 which predates the MRCA. CM has assured to look into the matter. We understood that same day Shri Prakash Mehta, Shri Ashish Shelar and Shri Raj Purohit has been summoned by PMO office to discuss the MbPT tenant grievances.

• Dance Bar Case

The Govt. of Maharashtra has enacted stringent amendments to Dance Bars which may make the functioning of Dance Bar almost impossible. The Supreme Court has reprimanded the State Government for not renewing the licences of Dance Bar in spite of its order and asked for an affidavit from DCP-HQ-I in this regard. The case will come for hearing on 26.4.2016. The Dance Bar committee is consulting the legal experts in Delhi and will decide the future course of action.

• Service Tax

Special Leave Petition filed by AHAR regarding Service Tax matter is pending in Supreme Court. AHAR presented a

prayer for early hearing, which was rejected by SC and was informed that it will come up for hearing in due course. He advised the members that if the organization / establishment is registered under Service Tax then the tax need to be paid in time at the Treasury. He advised the members to consult their CAs and take a call in this regard

Felicitation

On the occasion Adv. Ashok Shetty who has expertise in Trade Union matters was felicitated for his support and guidance in legal matters of Trade Union to the Association. He was honoured with Memento, Shawl and fruits basket by the President Shri Adrash Shetty, Shri Narayana M Alva, Shri A. B. Shetty and Shri

After follow up the culprit was arrested on non bailable warrant. A credit card fraud by an employee of a hotel to the tune of Rs. 35,000/- was circulated by WhatsApp. The photograph helped to nab fraudster when he came to Anita Hotel, Kurla for taking parcel. He was recognized and was arrested. Membership fees collection from the zone is Rs.1, 25,000/-.

Zone VII Vice President

Shri Rajan Shetty

The zone has organised corner meetings and briefed members about latest happenings. Spoke to Mr. Stanley D'Souza regarding the MGL letter for Fire NOC renewal. An interview was aired in Jai Maharashtra TV Channel regarding AHAR's stand on the Save Water campaign by AHAR as directed by the team.

For regular updates, events & activities please visit www.ahar.in

for a final confirmation.

• MGL Notices

With regard to the Fire NOC notice served to many of the member hoteliers by MGL stating that the Fire NOC needs to be renewed by the hotelier every year. A delegation of AHAR met the MGL management and clarified that the Fire NOC is one time NOC obtained at the time of commencing the business, which need not to be renewed. It seems that the MGL was passing their responsibility of checking the safety of Piped Gas lines to the customers. The management of MGL agreed that it is an error and assured that they will do the needful on their part. At the insistence of AHAR delegation the MGL management agreed to withdraw the notice. The MGL has also agreed to provide free installation of pipeline up to 100 meters from the restaurant.

• Keeping Age Proof identity

The President reiterated and advised the hoteliers to employ only persons above the age of 14 years. It is mandatory to obtain the age proof documents like AADHAR, Pan Card, Voters identity etc. with their profile for verification so that the harassment from the authorities could be avoided.

Sudhakar Y Shetty, Advisors. Replying to the felicitation Adv Ashok Shetty said that he was honoured with the felicitation and offered his service, support and guidance to AHAR whenever required.

Presentation by Vice Presidents

Zone II Vice President

Shri K. V. Shetty

The zone has collected around Rs. 2,00,000/- as membership fees. 78 hotels have been closed out of 151 hotels due for renewal. The renewal of the remaining members would be done at the earliest.

Zone III Vice President

Shri Suresh Shetty

An assault to an employee of a hotel at Delisle Road by an anti-social element was reported to SI of the local Police station and got him arrested. Membership fees collected Rs. 82,000/-.

Zone V Vice President

Shri Ravindranath Nire

A case of riot by a drunken person was reported to DCP.

Zone VIII Vice President

Shri Jagdish Shetty

Organised corner meeting and briefed the latest happenings to the members. Due to persistent efforts the nuisance of cross checking by Excise Department has been minimized. AHAR has received few oral complaints from our members regarding food being brought from outside and sold and served at roadside stalls. AHAR has asked them to submit in written complaint.

Zone IX Vice President

Shri Karunakar Shetty

Had collected Rs. 2,80,500/- as membership fees and Rs. 80,000/- as legal fund.

Zone X Vice President

Shri Prabhakar Shetty

Had collected Rs.2,40,000/- as membership and

(Continued on page 4)

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(Continued from page 2)

Rs.75,000/- as the legal fund.

President

- The MCGM has reduced the digging charges under Swatch Bharat Abhiyan paving way for MGL to lay their Piped natural gas (PNG) lines at reduced charge/cost.

- The members should take a call and clear the Service tax dues as no permanent or temporary relief in Service Tax matter has been obtained provided and our SLP will be heard on due course of time.

- We had urged the Finance Minister to withdraw the hike in VAT in Composite scheme or remove the threshold limit. We are putting our efforts and waiting for the positive response.

- Any problem in MGL matter can be referred to Shri Shashidhar G Shetty coordinator for MGL on behalf of AHAR.

- Team AHAR will meet the Jt. Commissioner of FDA with the set of grievances especially online renewal of

licenses.

- AHAR also meeting the Labour Minister soon to get the clarification on Child labour and stop the harassment in this regard by the Police and other authorities.

- A case of taking the money with a pretext of giving coins and duping our member in Saki Naka has been reported. He said hoteliers should be careful and should not fall prey to such promises.

- Due to a alert member, a fraudster claiming to be a FDA official and taking money from Hoteliers of Zone-X was arrested. He advised the members to verify the identity of the officials before divulging any information or entertain them.

Speech by the Advisors

Shri A. B. Shetty

The President is doing excellent job and exceeded all the expectations. AHAR should expedite the process of laying the Piped Natural Gas (PNG) pipeline connection to benefit thousands of hoteliers

of South Mumbai. We should fight against the fine for the delay in renewal of Shops & Establishment License as the licence is valid upto 31st December every year. He appreciated the service of Shri K. V. Shetty and wished him all the best.

Shri Sudhakar Y Shetty

He congratulated Shri K. V. Shetty, Host Vice President for his good work and also the President of AHAR for his excellent work.

He said the President is lucky as the efforts put by the old team and the present follow ups have resulted in good outcome. All hoteliers must keep the Age proof of employees to avoid the harassment by NGOs and the authorities. It is better to pay the Service Tax if registered; otherwise it will become a big liability for the Hotelier to pay later on. The Members must be advised to pay the Service Tax due to the Government. The Save Water campaign is very relevant under present scenario.

Others

Shri Samith Arasa

The SLP filed in Supreme Court is yet to be heard. The Municipal Commissioner has directed all the DMC of MCGM to take action against illegal food hawkers. He requested all the VPs to meet their respective DMCs of MCGM and request them to take action against the illegal food hawking.

Shri Kamlakar Shenoy

We are fighting against the unjustified proposed hike in Electricity tariffs by the distribution companies and also against the TDLR issues. We will be arguing our petition with MERC.

The Hon. Gen. Secretary

Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Santosh R. Shetty read out the following appreciation letters.

- Laxmi Veg. Restaurant - Dadar

- Hotel Prakash - Delisle Road.

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Hon.Jt. Secretary introduced the Vendors for their product presentations. They were honored with floral bouquets by the President.

Condolence

The house paid homage to the departed soul of Shri Sadhu Shetty, Garoda Hotel, Kandivili who expired on 9.4.2016.

Vote of Thanks

The Meeting was concluded with Vote of Thanks by the Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Santosh R. Shetty ●

Dance bars must follow all the rules under new Act: Maha. CM

Mumbai: After much debate and discussion speaking for the first time on the dance bar issue after the Supreme Court had

to give licences to six such bars, the Dance bars can throw open their doors in the state only after they comply with all the norms laid out

such establishments, said chief minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis. The Supreme Court had asked the Maharashtra government to allot licences

three paid the fees to the tune of Rs. 2 lakhs and were able to get licences from the Mumbai Police. Though licences have been granted to three, they can start functioning only after every guideline has been complied with and the police have inspected them to ensure everything is in order.

It added that the state should grant licences to others who apply. "They been given 60 days to comply with all the norms," added Fadnavis on Monday.

The Supreme Court last week directed that the three dance bars that have been issued licences by the state can function and the state cannot insist on compliance of the rules under the dance bar act till the next hearing in court in July.

"We are ready to start operating by this week. The

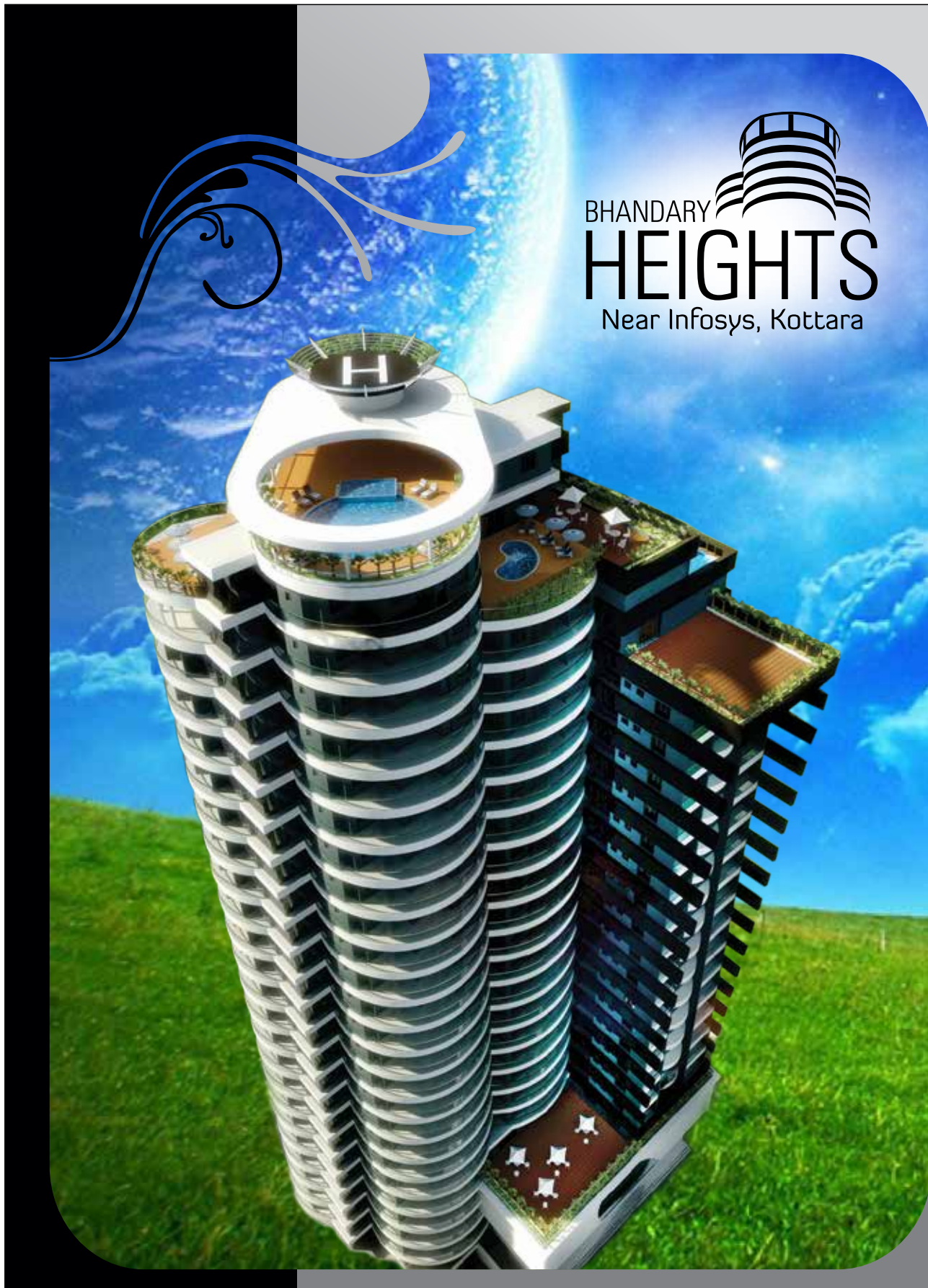
bar owners who got licences last week are in the process of getting all the other formalities in place and then we can begin our business," said Shri Bharat Thakur, chairman of the Performance Bars Association, which is affiliated to the hoteliers' body AHAR.

State government officials on Monday said they are still waiting for the directives given by the SC last Friday to be uploaded. The government can decide its course of action based only on them.

"The new dance bar rule is the most crucial tool in keeping these bars from coming back into business. If the order copy also mentions that the bars who have been given licences should be treated with the old rules, then they would be able to begin business. We will decide our stand after seeing the order," said an official.



asked the State government by the new law monitoring to six dance bars, of which



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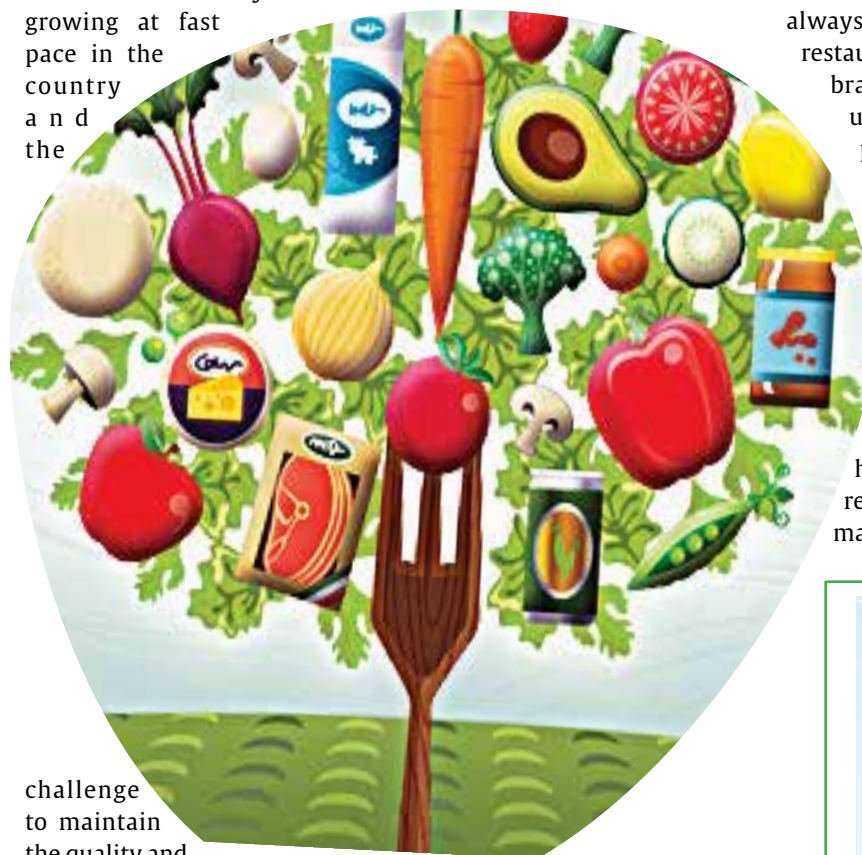
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Ensuring Food Safety and Standards at all level a must

The food industry is growing at fast pace in the country and the



challenge to maintain the quality and

standard are quite vulnerable in the mass requirement and consumption of foods in various forms such as raw, cooked and preserved. The food safety also becomes a major concern in the society due to the enormous quantity and ever increasing needs. With lack of awareness about health and hygienic food, lack of adequate skilled workforce and India being one of the top most countries in terms of food business which is facing the hygienic issue. And, to overcome the lacuna, FSSAI is aiming to revise standards by providing detailed information of food hygiene and safety in the food for various categories of FBOs.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 which consolidates various acts & orders that have hitherto handled food related issues in various Ministries and Departments. FSSAI has been created 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

feedback. Customer feedback is always welcomed by the top restaurants in the country. Top brands that are running under the lines of global parameters are already taking care of certain feedback.

The hygiene standards will be classified into three categories.

Basic: These standards will cover the minimal basic food hygiene and food safety requirements that are mandatory for anyone

working in the arena of food. These requirements will be suffice for FBOs such as retailers, storekeepers, transporters, petty business operators etc.

Advanced: These standards will provide a detailed specification of food hygiene and food safety standards and GHP's for the small restaurants and FBO's involved in food manufacture/ preparation. Also, retailers, storekeepers, transport systems, etc. handling perishable food items frequently.

Global: These standards will be at power with the international standards. These will be more

detailed and stringent than other two groups. These standards will be mandatory for star rated restaurants and hotels, bigger chains of restaurants, FBO's into export. Also, small restaurants and FBO's can voluntarily opt for these standards to improve their overall hygiene and food safety.

Going forward, FSSAI is also planning to have one person at all restaurants and food outlets that are trained by FSSAI on meeting the best practices when it comes to food safety and hygiene.

wholesome food for human consumption.

According to the food business operators, to assure long term success, it is essential to value quality of the food and service being provided to the customers. In order to meet basic necessities, food safety body FSSAI is working together with the representatives of food business operators to provide healthy and hygienic food to the masses.

The Food Safety and Standard Act is bringing guidelines for all the food operators wherein they need to abide by certain parameters to serve health food under a hygienic and neat environment. In a recently held meeting where FSSAI has called food operators to discuss the way forward to deliver best foods to customers.

Thus Food hygiene and food safety forms are an integral part of every catering industry and high standards are needed to protect health of consumers. When a food service opens its doors, a responsibility to serve "safe food" is incurred. The documents which are shown to customer when he demands are FSSAI license and customer



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Govt approves standards for food ingredients



New Delhi: The government has finalized as many as 12,000 standards for food additives and ingredients in line with global safety standards for food companies, union Food Processing Industries Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal said.

The move will help food companies as they will not be required to seek product approval from Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for minor changes and alterations if they comply with these

declared standards.

“Earlier, only standards pertaining to 375 ingredients were harmonized with international standards; now about 8,000 ingredient standards have been harmonized. Soon this number will be about 12,000 ingredients,” Badal said.

The minister was answering questions on the challenges faced by the food processing industry vis-a-vis product approvals by the FSSAI, which functions under the Health Ministry. “Earlier, the companies faced immense problems. If some minor ingredients used to be sprinkled on cakes or to make sweet buttermilk salty, the approval process took months. Now things will be much easier,” she said.

The new FSSAI standards are in harmony with the global food standards of Codex Alimentarius Commission, established by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization.

On recent health scares vis-a-vis instant noodles and bread, Food Processing Ministry’s Joint Secretary Anuradha Prasad said the ministry is working closely with the FSSAI and has no major issues with the body as such.

She said she attends FSSAI meetings as ministry representative. To another question, she said a notification for removing potassium bromate from the list of permissible additives will be issued soon.

AHAR member felicitated by the Hon. CM



Shri Kamlakar Shenoy, an AHAR member and well-known RTI activist, being felicitated by the Hon. Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis under the auspices of Voice of Indian Tax Payers on 14th May 2016 at Billwar Auditorium, Santacruz (East).

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