

Minutes of the Meeting on Scaling up Fortification of Wheat Flour in India on 13th Feb 2017 at Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), FDA Bhawan

Micronutrient malnutrition in India is a serious public health issue affecting population at large, impacting physical and mental growth. Fortification of staple foods like wheat flour offers a promising opportunity to deliver micronutrient rich foods to larger population and is found to be a solution to combat various deficiency diseases. In this regard, a meeting to scale up wheat flour fortification was held under the chairmanship of Shri Pawan Agarwal (CEO, FSSAI) on the 13th February 2017 at FSSAI, FDA Bhawan, New Delhi. A list of participants is given at **Annexure 1**.

The meeting began with CEO addressing the participants and it was noted that only ten percent of wheat flour industry is organized while rest is led by roller flour mills and small scale chakki mills. In order to promote fortification across the wheat flour industry it was recommended that organized players would initiate fortification, which would then be followed by the unorganized sector. In this respect, FSSAI has issued standards and guidelines on fortification of staples in October 2016.

The key decisions that were taken during the meeting are as follows:

1. FSSAI will assist the fortification of wheat flour by providing technical support and training to small producers and guidelines on quality assurance and quality control.
2. It was decided that only sodium iron Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) to be used as a fortificant as per FSSAI/WHO recommendations.
3. FSSAI to reward the “**Champions of Food Fortification**” in the Wheat flour industry and the State Governments on World Health Day in April 2017.
4. Roller Flour Millers Federation of India to encourage its members for initiation of wheat flour fortification within three months.
5. FSSAI to create an enabling environment to encourage the wheat flour industry to adopt fortification as an industry norm.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participants

FSSAI OFFICIALS

- 1 Mr. Pawan Agarwal, Chief Executive Officer
- 2 Ms. Anita Makhijani, Deputy Director, Standards Division
- 3 Ms. Nistha Lahoti, Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC)
- 4 Ms. Deeksha Bhat, Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC)
- 5 Ms. Shakun Sharma, Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC)
- 6 Ms. Deepti Gulati, , Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC)
- 7 Ms. Rijuta Pandav, Consultant
- 8 Ms. Aprajita, Technical Officer
- 9 Ms. Navneet, Technical Officer

MODERN FLOUR MILLS

- 8 Mr. Ratan Gupta

ROLLER FLOUR MILLERS FEDERATION OF INDIA

- 9 Ms Veena Sharma, Joint Secretary

ITC LTD

- 10 Mr. Krishna Kumar Joshi, Head Regulatory Affairs

CARGILL INDIA PVT. LTD.

- 11 Mr. Mukunda Rao, Process And Product Development Lead, Cargill India

AQC CHEM LAB PVT. LTD.

- 12 Mr. Shailendra Singh, Quality And Production Head

DSM

- 13 Ms. Aakanksha Nayyar

DEVELOPMENT SECTOR PARTNERS

- 14 Ms. Suvabrata Dey, Regional Manager, Micronutrient Initiative
- 15 Ms. Sucharaita Dutta, Country Director, Micronutrient Initiative
- 16 Mr. Kshitij, Senior Executive, Tata Trusts
- 17 Mr. Vivek Arora, Tata Trusts
- 18 Dr Siddarth Waghulkar, Nutrition Officer, World Food Program (WFP)
- 19 Ms. Rachita Gupta, National Professional Officer(Nutrition) WHO