Minutes of the Meeting
Technical Consultation of DFS with Salt Manufacturers
25th September 2018

A technical consultation on Double Fortified Salt was convened with salt manufacturers from Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu as well as the Indian Salt Manufacturers Association (ISMA) heads and chaired by CEO, FSSAI. The purpose was to address various technical issues regarding the recently notified Regulations on Fortified Foods as well as other technological matters.

The issues discussed and action points that emerged were as follows:

1. The current standards for level of iodine in iodized salt & Double Fortified Salt (DFS) are as follows:
   - Manufacturer’s level: 20-30 ppm
   - Distribution channel including retail level: 15-30 ppm

   The salt manufacturers stated that the upper limit for iodine included in the new notified standards appears to be difficult to implement. Therefore, FSSAI would consider enforcement of these new standards from 30th June 2019 onwards and consider carrying out surveillance from 1st January to 30th June 2019 in partnership with the salt manufacturers to assess the situation and review the current standards.

   Furthermore, the salt manufacturers were advised to submit a representation to the Standards Division related to the revision of standards of iodine in iodized salt and double fortified salt, in order to place their queries before the Scientific Panel on Nutrition and Fortification.

2. It was clarified that while the standards were applicable to both iodized salt and DFS, the +F logo was only applicable to DFS.

3. It was further clarified that w.r.t. the size of +F logo in various pack sizes, no such provisions have been made under the gazette notification FSS (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2018. However, FSSAI assured that the same would be addressed appropriately by the Standards Division.

4. It was also suggested during the meeting that the scientific panel may like to review the sodium chloride content of iodized salt and Double Fortified Salt.

5. As technological constraints do not fall under the purview of the regulation, FFRC may issue an advisory or guidelines regarding the technologies/formulations that can be followed while preparing Double Fortified Salt. A technical handbook on DFS technologies/formulations is already under preparation by FFRC and would be shared on the website at the earliest. Tata Trusts also volunteered to assist salt manufacturers with any questions regarding the production procedure of DFS.

6. Tata Trusts was advised to share the technical procedure for sampling and testing for DFS (EFF formulation) within 3 months and FSSAI (QA/QC Division) would consider this proposal for inclusion.