

## **REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MILK FORTIFICATION**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018, Mumbai**

Regional Milk Fortification workshop for South Zone was organized in Mumbai on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018 jointly by Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC), TATA Trusts and National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB). The states including Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala State Dairy Cooperative Federations and State Unions were invited to take part in workshop. The workshop was organized for the dairy cooperatives to come on-board for implementing milk fortification. Agenda for the meeting was to give them in-sight on how they can leverage the intervention to benefit the consumers with the richness of vitamin A and D added milk.

**Food Fortification Resource Centre (FFRC)** presented to the participants on FSSAI enforcements and other related support provided by FFRC. The communication collaterals were entirely supported by FFRC. The following set of documents were shared with the participants as a technical tool kit:

- Recent FSSAI directive on standards
- FFRC brochure
- TATA Trusts brochure
- Technical Handbook on Milk fortification
- FAQs on Milk fortification
- FAQs on labelling of fortified milk packs
- List of premix suppliers and their contact details
- List of labs for testing the fortificants

### **Labelling Declaration**

Participants were made to walk through the FFRC website and essential information available there. There was a specific Q&A session on '**labelling declaration of fortified milk**'. They were given an understanding on how to use the **+F logo** w.r.t the registration on the link, obtaining the open file of the logo, placement of the logo on the pack, colour, size and other specifications. They were also educated about the declaration of added fortificant in the nutritional information, ingredients and label claims which may be made on the label.

The meeting was jointly chaired by Managing Director Pune Milk Union Dr. V.H. Ksheersagar, Managing Director Rajarambapu Patil Sahakari Dugdh Sangh Maryadit, Islampur Shri Suresh Ji Patel and Shri Vivek Arora, Senior Advisor, TATA Trusts. Other participants included representatives from Mahananda Dairy, Mumbai, Goa Milk Union, Telangana State Dairy Cooperative Federation, Krishna Milk Union, Vijaywada, Sangam Milk Producer Company, Guntur, Nalgonda Rangareddy Milk Union, Mulukanoor Milk Union,



Warangal, Karimnagar Producer Company, Jalgaon Jila Sahakari Dugdh Utpadak Sangh Maryadit. All the participating dairies expressed their interest in milk fortification. They have assured to put up the proposal for milk fortification in their upcoming board meeting in March 2018.

### Observations

- FFRC to provide end to end policy support and technical support to the dairies.
- TATA Trusts and NDDDB to provide financial aid to the dairies to begin with milk fortification.
- CALF lab, NDDDB to perform the quantitative analysis for the samples of the dairies.
- NDDDB to propose a M&E plan in future to measure qualitative implementation and impact of fortification.
- 20 States in India have already submitted their Expression of Interest (EOI) to undertake milk fortification.



### Recommendation

It is recommended to spread more awareness on fortification among dairies, cooperatives as well as private. Dairies still seem to be unaware about the FSSAI standards and policy support on fortification. Therefore, it is required to hold more such consultations at regional level to sensitize larger number of dairies in India.

### Steps forward

- To organise more regional consultations to create awareness among dairies about the enabling environment which has been created for FBOs to adopt fortification.
- To support upcoming adopters of milk fortification regarding technical trainings and FSSAI related support.
- To provide end to end support such as +F logo registrations, fortification labelling declarations, guidance and dissemination of fortification related directives.

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