STATE LEVEL ORIENTATION TRAINING ON MILK FORTIFICATION IN HARYANA STATE

12th March 2018, Ambala

State Level Training on Milk Fortification in Haryana State was organized in Ambala on 12th March, 2018 jointly by GAIN-IIHMR. The representatives included FSOs and private dairies. The workshop was organized for private dairies 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.

The meeting was chaired by Joint Commissioner Mr DK Sharma, Department of Food Safety Haryana. All the participating dairies expressed their interest in milk fortification.

The participants were given an orientation on fortification and the need for fortification. Followed by orientation the participants were given technical training at Vita, Ambala plant wherein they were educated on the entire technical process of fortification.

Food Fortification Resource Centre representative highlighted FSSAI enforcements and other related support provided by FFRC.

Labelling Declaration

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.

FBOs showed keen interest in fortification of flavoured milk, curd and ghee. They had specific queries on how to do the fortification of these products since there are no standards available and other related policy support. They were advised to follow proprietary route for fortification of these products, however, they will not be allowed to use the +F logo until there are standards notified.

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.
- To put up a request to scientific panel for standards of fortification to curd, flavoured milk and ghee since industry is also inclined towards these products along with milk.

***