



COMMISSIONER

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, MAHARASHTRA STATE

Survey No. 341, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051

No.: COMM/STD.ORDER/FESTIVAL-CALENDAR/ 274/2026/07

Date: 03 September, 2026

ORDER

Subject	Comprehensive Standing Order under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder — establishing a permanent, tier-wise and risk-based enforcement mechanism (the Festival Enforcement Calendar) for the prevention of adulteration of articles of food during all festivals, celebrations, fairs, urus and other religious observances falling throughout the year in the State of Maharashtra — applicable to all Joint Commissioners (Food), Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers, Food Safety Officers, State Food Testing Laboratories and all Food Business Operators in the State.
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WHEREAS Article 21 of the Constitution of India confers upon every person the right to live with dignity — and the Hon'ble Supreme Court has authoritatively declared that this right includes the right to obtain safe, wholesome and unadulterated food;

AND WHEREAS Article 47 of the Constitution places upon the State the duty of raising the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and of improving public health;

AND WHEREAS section 29(2) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 ("the said Act") casts upon the Commissioner of Food Safety the responsibility for the efficient and effective implementation of the said Act within the State, and section 30(2) entrusts to the Commissioner of Food Safety the following functions —

clause (b) — to carry out survey of the industrial units engaged in the manufacture or processing of food in the State, to ascertain compliance by such units with the standards notified for various articles of food;

clause (c) — to conduct or organise training programmes, on a wider scale, for different segments of the food chain, for generating awareness on food safety;

clause (d) — to ensure an efficient and uniform implementation of the standards and other requirements as specified, and also to ensure a high standard of objectivity, accountability, practicability, transparency and credibility; and

clause (e) — to sanction prosecution for offences punishable with imprisonment under the said Act;

AND WHEREAS section 29(6) empowers the carrying out, or causing to be carried out, of such inspections of food businesses as may be considered necessary, and sections 36 and 37 provide for the appointment of Designated Officers and Food Safety Officers with defined local areas of jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the local areas of jurisdiction of the Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers and of the Food Safety Officers stand determined by Notification No. ASUKA/Karyakshetra/M.Ra./A. va Au.Pra./172/7 dated 8th March 2022, which, by Corrigendum No.

ASUKA/Karyakshetra/M.Ra./A. va Au.Pra./240/7 dated 30th March 2022, came into force with effect from 18th April 2022;

AND WHEREAS the State of Maharashtra being multi-religious and multi-cultural in character, some festival, celebration, fair, urus or religious observance falls in every month from January to December, and each such occasion is associated with a distinct tradition of articles of food, the demand for which increases manifold within a short period;

AND WHEREAS such a surge in demand creates an economic incentive for adulteration, counterfeiting and the supply of unsafe food, and the inspections and intelligence of the Administration have disclosed an increased incidence of adulteration in commodities such as khoa, paneer, ghee, milk, edible oil, gram flour, dry fruits, food colours and silver leaf;

AND WHEREAS articles of fasting food such as bhagar (varai) and the flour of kuttu and singhada have in the past given rise to grave incidents of mass food poisoning in the State, such incidents having occurred principally during the periods of Mahashivratri and Navratri;

AND WHEREAS on the occasions of Ganeshotsav, Navratri, Christmas, Diwali, the Ashadhi and Kartiki Wari, Ramzan, Bakri Eid, Muharram, Guru Nanak Jayanti and Mahaparinirvan Din, food is distributed collectively to lakhs of citizens in the form of mahaprasad, annachhatra, langar and bhandara, and it is therefore essential to lay down a separate and unambiguous procedure in that behalf;

AND WHEREAS the prohibited use of calcium carbide for the artificial ripening of mangoes during the summer season, the use of unfit water for ice and cold beverages, and the repeated re-use of frying oil during Dussehra and Diwali have come to notice;

AND WHEREAS sales through e-commerce and quick-commerce platforms and in the form of gift hampers increase substantially during festival periods, requiring a distinct monitoring mechanism;

AND WHEREAS such drives having hitherto been undertaken from time to time by separate orders, it has been noticed that this results in delayed planning, inconsistency of procedure, strain upon the laboratories in the testing of food samples and disparity in enforcement between divisions;

AND WHEREAS the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, New Delhi has from time to time directed surveillance and enforcement in respect of milk and milk products, sweetmeats, namkeen, edible oil and ghee during festival periods, focus upon sensitive locations, deputation of "Food Safety on Wheels", and updation of inspection and sampling records on the FoSCoS platform;

AND WHEREAS the availability of a predetermined calendar setting out the principal articles of food festival-wise, the adulteration likely therein and the food samples to be drawn on priority would enable the field machinery to plan in advance, would distribute the burden upon the laboratories, would render enforcement more targeted, and would afford advance clarity to food business operators as well;

AND WHEREAS the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Swami Achyutanand Tirth and Others v. Union of India and Others [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 159 of 2012, judgment dated 5th August 2016], taking cognisance of the grave menace of food adulteration, directed the State Governments to strengthen their enforcement machinery, to identify high-risk areas and high-risk periods for intensified sampling and to ensure analysis through NABL-accredited laboratories; and this Order is issued, inter alia, in furtherance of those directions;

AND WHEREAS it is accordingly necessary, expedient and in the public interest, in place of issuing a separate order for every festival, to issue a comprehensive Standing Order operating permanently throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tukaram Mundhe, I.A.S., Commissioner of Food Safety, Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of

section 30 and by clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e) of sub-section (2) of section 30 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, read with sub-sections (2) and (6) of section 29 and sections 18, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 46 and 47 of the said Act, and in exercise of all other powers enabling me in this behalf, do hereby issue this comprehensive Standing Order. This Order shall come into force with immediate effect and shall continue in force permanently until modified or superseded by a separate order.

1. Short title, application and commencement

- (a) This Order may be called the Festival Food Safety Enforcement Standing Order, 2026.
- (b) It extends to the whole of the territorial limits of the State of Maharashtra and applies to all Joint Commissioners (Food), Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers, Food Safety Officers and State Food Testing Laboratories of the Food and Drug Administration, as well as to all food business operators in the State, including but not limited to manufacturers, processors, collection centres, cold stores, wholesalers, distributors, transporters, retailers, e-commerce and quick-commerce sellers, eating houses, sweetmeat shops, snack manufacturers and street vendors.
- (c) This Order shall come into force from the date of its issue and shall continue in force permanently until modified or superseded by a separate order. No separate order shall be required for any individual festival.
- (d) Explanation : This Order is an administrative standing order regulating the procedure of the enforcement machinery and reiterating existing statutory obligations.

2. Definitions

- (a) "Festival period" means the period commencing twenty-one days before, and ending thirty days after, the actual date of a festival specified in Annexure A.
- (b) "T-day" means the actual date of the festival concerned; and the expressions "T-21", "T-14" and the like denote the date falling that many days before the said date.
- (c) "Tier-1 festival", "Tier-2 festival" and "Tier-3 occasion" mean the festivals and occasions classified under clause 3(d).
- (d) "Collective distribution of food" means the distribution of food to citizens, free of charge or at a nominal price, by a mandal, institution, trust or organiser, in the form of mahaprasad, annachhatra, langar, iftar banquet, bhandara or the like.
- (e) "Fasting foods" means bhagar (varai), kuttu flour, singhada flour, sago, rajgira, rock salt and like articles.
- (f) "High-risk period" means the period of the festivals falling in Ganeshotsav, the month of Ramzan, Navratri, Diwali and the month of December.
- (g) Words and expressions used in this Order but not defined herein shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the said Act, the Rules and the Regulations.

3. Festival Enforcement Calendar and tier classification

- (a) Annexure A to this Order, being the "Festival Enforcement Calendar", forms an integral part of this Order and sets out, month-wise, the festivals and celebrations, their tier, the articles of food principally consumed on those occasions, the adulteration and risks likely therein, and the categories of samples to be drawn on priority.
- (b) Since the dates of festivals reckoned by the sighting of the moon or by the panchang vary from year to year, the Headquarters shall, before the 15th of January each year, communicate by circular the date-wise calendar for that year. If such circular is not received by the 31st of January, the

Designated Officer concerned shall proceed with planning on the basis of the dates reckoned from the local panchang.

(c) Local fairs, jattras, palkhi processions, urus and village-deity festivals shall be included by the Assistant Commissioner (Food)-cum-Designated Officer concerned in his district-level calendar, a copy whereof shall be submitted to the Joint Commissioner.

(d) For the purposes of enforcement, festivals and celebrations are classified into three tiers, namely

Tier-1 (State-wide; the complete four-phase cycle being mandatory) : Ganeshotsav, Navratri, Diwali, Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha, and Christmas and New Year's Eve;

Tier-2 (Regional; abridged cycle) : Makar Sankranti, Mahashivratri, Holi and Rangpanchami, Gudhi Padwa, Akshaya Tritiya, the Ashadhi and Kartiki Wari, the month of Shravan, Janmashtami and Dahi Handi, Dussehra, Kojagiri Purnima, Tulsi Vivah and Guru Nanak Jayanti;

Tier-3 (Local; at the discretion of the Assistant Commissioner (Food)-cum-Designated Officer) : village-deity fairs, jattras, urus, palkhi processions and local observances.

The tier-wise classification is shown in a separate column in Annexure A.

4. Standard four-phase enforcement cycle

4.1 Phase I (T-21 to T-15) — Preparation : mapping of risk areas, updating of the list of manufacturers and wholesale markets, collection of intelligence, constitution of squads, verification of the availability of rapid test kits and reagents, and advance intimation to the laboratories.

4.2 Phase II (T-14 to T-1) — Strict action : inspection and sampling at manufacturing units, mills, khoa markets, collection centres, cold stores, godowns and wholesale markets; checking of transport at night and in the early hours and the setting up of nakabandi; action by flying squads.

4.3 Phase III (actual festival days) — Market surveillance : supervision of retail outlets, sweetmeat shops, eating houses and sites of collective food distribution; on-the-spot testing of food samples through "Food Safety on Wheels"; immediate response to consumer complaints.

4.4 Phase IV (T+1 to T+30) — Follow-up : pursuit of analysis reports, filing of adjudication and prosecution proposals within the prescribed period, disposal of seized goods and submission of the festival-wise outcome report.

4.5 Tier-wise application: the complete four-phase cycle shall be mandatory for Tier-1 festivals. For Tier-2 festivals, Phases I and II shall be combined and an abridged cycle of ten days before the festival shall be operated. For Tier-3 occasions, the Designated Officer concerned shall ensure, according to the local risk, at least market surveillance and supervision of collective food distribution.

4.6 The detailed timeline of the phases is set out in Annexure B and shall be strictly adhered to.

5. Annual action plan and resources

(a) Every Joint Commissioner shall, before the 31st of January each year, prepare and submit to the Headquarters the divisional annual festival action plan based upon Annexure A, incorporating festival-wise sampling targets, squad structure, priority areas, laboratory planning and public awareness programmes.

(b) Joint Commissioners shall determine nakabandi points for night-time checking of transport in sensitive and high-risk areas.

(c) Rapid test kits, TPC measuring instruments, food safety testing kits and sampling material shall be provided before the 31st of January, and the festival-wise schedule of deputation of "Food Safety on Wheels" vehicles shall be settled.

6. Inspection and sampling procedure

- (a) Inspection and the selection of samples shall be based upon intelligence, complaints, past history and risk assessment. Unnecessary samples shall not be drawn merely to achieve numerical targets, and care shall be taken that no food business operator is subjected to undue harassment; nevertheless, a policy of zero tolerance shall be maintained in respect of grave contraventions.
- (b) While inspecting food establishments, it shall be verified whether Schedule 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 is being complied with.
- (c) Samples shall be drawn only in accordance with the procedure prescribed by section 47 of the said Act and rule 2.4 of the Food Safety and Standards Rules, 2011.
- (d) A positive result of a rapid field test shall not constitute a final statutory determination of the nature or classification of the article of food; where, however, such a test gives rise to a reasonable suspicion of contravention, a statutory sample shall be drawn and, according to the circumstances, the powers of seizure or prohibition under section 38 shall be exercised. No penal action shall be taken on the basis of surveillance samples.
- (e) For samples requiring a cold chain, arrangements shall be made to maintain the proper temperature, and the sample shall be forwarded to the Food Analyst within the prescribed period.
- (f) The processes of sampling, panchanama and seizure shall be photographed and video-recorded and preserved on record.

7. Laboratory capacity planning

- (a) State Food Testing Laboratories shall, having regard to the high-risk periods, plan manpower, reagents and equipment in advance, and shall analyse samples of the festival period on priority.
- (b) In cases where the finding is one of unsafe food, the Designated Officer concerned shall be informed by telephone and e-mail on the very day of receipt of the report.
- (c) Laboratories shall submit a weekly report of pending samples to the Headquarters. Where necessary, the assistance of NABL-accredited or Authority-notified laboratories shall be obtained.

8. Articles of food involving special (high) risk

- (a) Fasting foods: it shall be mandatory, at least twenty-one days before Mahashivratri and Navratri, to draw samples of bhagar (varai), kuttu flour, singhada flour, sago and rajgira from manufacturers, mills and the wholesale level; priority shall be given to testing for mycotoxins and, upon tracing the source, action shall be taken against the mills concerned. Where no limit for mycotoxins stands notified for such articles, action shall be taken on the basis of the provision as to "unsafe food" in section 3(1)(zz) supported by a reasoned opinion of the Food Analyst; and a separate proposal for notification of such limits shall be submitted through the Headquarters to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.
- (b) Milk and milk products: during Janmashtami, Ramzan Eid, Kojagiri Purnima, Ganeshotsav, Diwali and Holi, checking of transport in the early hours and action at collection centres in respect of milk, khoa, paneer, curd, butter and ghee shall be undertaken on priority. The supply chain of synthetic milk and adulterated khoa shall be traced to its source.
- (c) Meat, water and ice : on Bakri Eid, Ramzan and other occasions, the cleanliness of meat outlets, the cold chain and the validity of slaughterhouses shall be examined; during the summer season the source and quality of ice, ice-golas, cold beverages and packaged drinking water shall be verified.
- (d) Sweetmeats, food colours and silver leaf: it shall be verified that only permitted food colours within the prescribed limits are used in sweetmeats; that silver leaf conforms to the prescribed

standards and is of pure silver, action being taken where aluminium leaf is found; and that food-grade packaging is used and no newspaper or printed paper is employed.

(e) Edible oil: before Dussehra and Diwali, and during Ramzan and Christmas, a drive shall be undertaken for testing total polar compounds (TPC) in frying oil. Oil in which total polar compounds exceed twenty-five per cent being unsafe for human consumption, it shall be destroyed forthwith and given only to authorised RUCO aggregators; care shall be taken that such oil does not re-enter the food chain.

(f) Ripening of fruit: during Akshaya Tritiya, Ramzan and the summer season, special action shall be taken against the prohibited use of calcium carbide at fruit markets, ripening chambers and godowns; traders shall be educated regarding the permissible ethylene-based method of ripening.

(g) Dry fruits and gram flour: special samples shall be collected in respect of aflatoxin in dry fruits and the adulteration of gram flour with kesari dal.

(h) Collective distribution of food: Food Safety Officers shall visit in person the sites of mahaprasad, iftar banquets, annachhatra, langar, distribution of food and bhandara and shall satisfy themselves whether the Food Safety Act and the standards are being complied with.

(i) Bakeries and eating houses : during Christmas, December and the New Year period, special inspection shall be undertaken of cakes, cream-based bakery products, chocolate, ice, packaged drinking water and eating houses; microbial contamination in cream cakes and the limits of permitted preservatives shall be verified.

(j) E-commerce, quick commerce and gift hampers : the sale of food on e-commerce and quick-commerce platforms and their dark stores and micro-warehouses shall be inspected. It shall be verified that a valid licence number of every seller listed on the platform is displayed, that storage temperature conditions are proper and that shelf life remains at the time of delivery. Gift hampers being multi-piece packages under the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020, compliance both of the composite declaration on the hamper and of the individual label on each constituent unit within shall be examined; particular care shall be taken that no expired article, or article nearing expiry, is included in a hamper.

(k) Imported articles of food : as the arrival of imported articles such as dry fruits, dates, chocolate and olive oil increases during festival periods, risk-based verification and sampling shall be ensured in the pre-festival period in coordination with the Authorised Officer (Imports) at Nhava Sheva and other points of entry.

9. Duties of food business operators

(a) Every food business operator shall hold a valid licence or registration under the appropriate kind of business and shall display the same, together with the QR code of the "Food Safety Connect" application, at a conspicuous place visible to consumers.

(b) Raw material shall be purchased only from licensed or registered suppliers together with bills. Records of purchase shall be preserved for at least one year and produced before the Food Safety Officer on demand.

(c) No food colour which is not permitted, inedible ingredient or industrial chemical shall be used; only food-grade packaging shall be employed; and used cooking oil shall be handed over only to authorised RUCO aggregators.

(d) Perishable and milk-based articles shall be stored separately at the prescribed temperature; no expired or spoiled article shall be kept for sale.

(e) An annual medical fitness certificate of every food handler shall be maintained and at least one FoSTaC-certified food safety supervisor shall be appointed for every twenty-five food handlers.

(f) Traceability and the food recall procedure shall be kept operational in accordance with the Food Safety and Standards (Food Recall Procedure) Regulations, 2017.

10. Consumer awareness

- (a) The Designated Officer concerned shall, at least ten days before every major festival, issue a press note for the local media regarding the articles of food associated with that festival.
- (b) Pre-festival meetings shall be held with associations of food business operators to encourage self-compliance.
- (c) "Eat Right" activities, consumer melavas and demonstrations shall be organised at school and college level and through public mandals.
- (d) In publicising action taken, due regard shall be had to matters that are sub judice and to confidentiality.

11. Inter-departmental coordination and intelligence

- (a) Joint action shall be taken, as necessary, with the assistance of the Police, Municipal Corporations and Councils, the Legal Metrology Department, the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Department, the Agriculture Department and the Revenue machinery.
- (b) Where organised adulteration is found, action shall be taken in coordination with the Police machinery to register a separate offence under the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
- (c) The Intelligence Branch shall, in the pre-festival period, map the supply chain and furnish actionable information to the Designated Officers concerned; in inter-district and inter-State matters coordination shall be effected through the Headquarters.

12. Reporting, MIS and electronic records

- (a) During every festival drive, the MIS report shall be submitted in the forms at Annexures D and E to the Headquarters through the Joint Commissioner; where no action has been taken, submission of a Nil Report shall be mandatory.
- (b) Within seven days of the conclusion of every festival, the festival-wise report shall be submitted to the Headquarters through the Joint Commissioner.
- (c) Updation of the records of all inspections, samples and action taken on the FoSCoS platform within the prescribed period shall be mandatory.
- (d) Where a large quantity of suspected or unsafe food stock, an inter-State adulteration supply chain, organised manufacture or distribution, an incident of food poisoning or hospitalisation, the use of industrial chemicals or inedible colours, counterfeiting of a reputed brand, or any matter requiring a State-wide alert comes to notice, it shall be mandatory to give preliminary information to the Headquarters within two hours and to submit a detailed report within twenty-four hours.

13. Statutory time limits

- (a) Follow-up shall be maintained to ensure that the report of the Food Analyst is received within the prescribed period.
- (b) Within fourteen days of receipt of the report of the Food Analyst, the Designated Officer concerned shall mandatorily submit to the Divisional Joint Commissioner (Food) the recommendation as to sanction of prosecution under section 42(3).
- (c) Particular care shall be taken that these periods are not exceeded on account of the increased number of samples during the festival period; as non-observance of these periods may result in cases being quashed by the courts, the responsibility of the officer concerned shall be fixed.

(d) A food business operator has the statutory right to have the second part of the sample re-analysed by the referral laboratory, and information in that behalf shall be given while communicating the report.

14. Punishments, prosecutions and penalties

On failure to comply with the said Act, the Regulations and this Order, a food business operator shall be liable to prosecution and to punishment and penalty under Chapter IX of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

15. Action on licence and registration

Where the Designated Officer has reason to believe that a food business operator has failed to comply with the Regulations applicable to his business, an improvement notice shall be issued under section 32 of the said Act in accordance with the procedure prescribed therein. Where the circumstances attract section 33 or section 34, necessary action shall be taken for a prohibition order or an emergency prohibition order, as the case may be. Suspension and cancellation of a licence or registration shall be effected strictly in accordance with the principles of natural justice and only by the competent licensing or registering authority.

16. Supervision, accountability and review

(a) Joint Commissioners shall supervise the drive daily and Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers shall plan the squads area-wise.

(b) The responsibility for ensuring that action is impartial, risk-based and in accordance with due process of law shall rest upon the Designated Officer concerned.

(c) Where negligence, delay, suppression of information or lapse in the safe custody of seized goods is found, responsibility shall be fixed and disciplinary action proposed against those concerned.

(d) Joint Commissioners shall conduct a quarterly review and an annual review shall be conducted at the level of the Headquarters; the review shall take into account not merely numerical performance but also the proportion of non-conforming samples, information on adjudication and prosecutions, and observance of the time limits.

17. Consumer complaints and information

Any citizen may give information of a contravention of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 or of the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder through the following channels :

Channel	Particulars
Citizen complaint portal	https://complaints.mahafda.in — a complaint may be lodged by speaking in Marathi, Hindi or English and its status may be viewed online.
Toll-free helpline of the Department	1800 222 365
In person	Office of the Assistant Commissioner (Food)-cum-Designated Officer concerned and the Office of the Commissioner — written complaint.

18. Superseded

All circulars and instructions heretofore issued from time to time by this office in respect of special enforcement drives during festival periods are hereby superseded to the extent to which they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order.

19. Exceptions and effect

This Order is intended to facilitate the uniform and effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder and shall be read consistently therewith. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as creating any substantive prohibition, offence, penalty or obligation beyond that prescribed by the said Act, the Rules, the Regulations or any legally binding direction issued by the Food Authority. In the event of any inconsistency, the said Act, the Rules, the Regulations and such legally binding directions shall, as the case may be, prevail.

20. Implementation

This Standing Order shall be implemented with immediate effect. All Joint Commissioners shall issue clear written instructions in that behalf to the Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers and the Food Safety Officers under their control, shall comply therewith and shall submit a compliance report.

Digitally signed by
TUKARAM H MUNDHE
Date: 03-09-2026
13:50:15

Tukaram Mundhe, I.A.S.
Commissioner of Food Safety
Maharashtra State, Mumbai.

Copy for information:

Additional Chief Secretary, Food and Drug Administration, Government of Maharashtra.

Copy forwarded for necessary action:

1. All District Collectors.
2. All Joint Commissioners (Food), Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra.
3. All Assistant Commissioners (Food)-cum-Designated Officers, Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra.
4. All Food Safety Officers, Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra.
5. Director / Officer-in-Charge, all State Food Testing Laboratories — for capacity planning.
6. Joint Commissioner (Headquarters) — for coordination and State-level compilation.
7. Assistant Commissioners (Food), Intelligence 1, 2 and 3 — for necessary action.
8. Trade associations concerned of manufacturers of sweetmeats and namkeen, manufacturers of milk products, edible oil traders, hotels and restaurants and retailers — for compliance and for communication to their members.
9. Relevant file.

ANNEXURE A

Festival Enforcement Calendar : month-wise festivals, tier, principal articles of food and priority sample categories

Month	Tier	Festival / celebration / observance	Articles of food principally consumed	Adulteration and risk likely	Priority sample categories
January	Tier-2	Makar Sankranti, Rathasaptami	Til-gul laddu, gulpoli, sugar halwa, revdi, jaggery, sesame, groundnut, chikki	Artificial colour, molasses and sulphur dioxide in jaggery; aflatoxin in groundnut; non-permitted colour on halwa	Jaggery, sesame, groundnut, sugar, food colour, chikki
February - March	Tier-2	Mahashivratri (fasting), Shab-e-Barat	Bhagar (varai), sago, rajgira, singhada and kuttu flour, groundnut, rock salt, milk, fruit, halwa, puri	Mycotoxins in bhagar and kuttu flour — past incidents of mass poisoning in the State; starch and chalk in sago	Bhagar, kuttu and singhada flour, sago, rajgira, groundnut oil
March	Tier-2	Holi, Dhulivandan, Rangpanchami	Puranpoli, gujiya and karanjhi, khoa sweets, thandai, mawa, milk, dry fruits	Starch and inferior fat in khoa; artificial colour in thandai and sweets; synthetic milk; spurious food colour	Khoa, milk, sweets, food colour, dry fruits
March - April	Tier-2	Gudhi Padwa, Marathi New Year, Chaitra Gauri, Ram Navami, Hanuman Jayanti, Mahavir Jayanti	Shrikhand, amrakhand, basundi, puranpoli, kairi panha, sunthavada, panchamrit; prasad, buttermilk, sharbat	Starch and excess acidity in chakka; vanaspati and artificial colour in shrikhand; unsanitary conditions in prasad distribution	Shrikhand and chakka, basundi, milk, prasad, drinking water
April - May	Tier-2	Akshaya Tritiya, Buddha Purnima, Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti, summer season	Mango, aamras, kheer, ice, ice cream, kulfi, ice-gola, sugarcane juice, kokum and lemon sharbat, cold beverages, cut fruit	Prohibited use of calcium carbide for artificial ripening of mangoes; unfit water for ice and golas; non-permitted colour in ice cream and sharbat	Mango, ice, ice cream, cold beverages, sharbat, drinking water
By sighting of the moon (varies)	Tier-1	Ramzan and Eid-ul-Fitr, Bakri Eid (Eid-ul-Adha), Muharram, Milad-un-Nabi	Sharbat, dry fruits, milk, khoa, dates, sheer khurma, vermicelli, malpua, phirmi, haleem, buryani, mutton and chicken, tabarruk, sabeel water.	Mould and infestation in dates; inedible colour in vermicelli; break in cold chain of meat and illegal slaughter; contamination of sabeel water	Dates, vermicelli, khoa, meat, spices, milk, drinking water
June - July	Tier-2	Ashadhi Ekadashi, Paudharpur Wari and palkhi processions, Guru Purnima, Divyanchi Anavasya	Fasting foods, bhagar, sago kichdi, rajgira laddu, groundnut, milk, mahaprasad, amachhatra, packaged water	Collective food distribution along the Wari route; monsoon mould and moisture in storage; contamination of water	Bhagar, cooked food at amachhatra, water, milk, sago
July - August	Tier-2	Nag Panchami, month of Shravan, Raksha Bandhan, Narali Purnima, Paryushan Parva	Milk, lahya, purnache dind, narali bhat, fresh and dry coconut, paneer, sweets, fasting foods	Adulteration in paneer and milk owing to increased vegetarian demand in Shravan; mould on coconut; colour in sweets	Milk, paneer, coconut, sweets, edible oil
August	Tier-2	Shri Krishna Janmashtami, Dahi Handi, Gopalkala	Curd, milk, butter, buttermilk, panchamrit, dry fruits, gopalkala prasad	Synthetic milk; starch in curd; vanaspati and animal fat in butter; peak demand for milk	Milk, curd, butter, ghee, panchamrit
August - September	Tier-1	Ganesh Chaturthi and Ganeshotsav (11 days), Gauri Pujan, Hartalika, Anant Chaturdashi	Steamed and fried modak, khoa modak, coconut, jaggery, ghee, gram flour, semolina, sweets, mahaprasad, distribution of prasad	Large-scale adulteration in khoa and ghee; re-used frying oil (TPC); unsanitary conditions at collective mahaprasad of mandals	Khoa, ghee, edible oil, coconut, jaggery, gram flour, sweets, cooked food

Month	Tier	Festival / celebration / observance	Articles of food principally consumed	Adulteration and risk likely	Priority sample categories
September - October	Tier-1	Pitru Paksha, Ghatasthapana and Navratri (9 days), Durga Puja, dandiya-garba	Fasting foods, bhagar, sago, rajgira, singhada and kuttu flour, fruit, milk, kheer, rock salt, fasting chivda	Mycotoxin poisoning from bhagar and kuttu flour — recurring incidents in the State; prolonged storage of fasting foods	Bhagar, kuttu and singhada flour, sago, milk, fruit
October	Tier-2	Dussehra and Vijaydashami, Kojagiri Purnima	Jalebi, fafda, shrikhand, sweets, masala milk, reduced milk, saffron, dry fruits	Repeatedly used frying oil; non-permitted colour in jalebi; peak demand for milk on Kojagiri; spurious saffron	Edible oil, milk, sweets, saffron, food colour
October - November	Tier-1	Diwali — Vasubaras, Dhanatrayodashi, Narak Chaturdashi, Lakshmi Pujan, Balipratipada, Bhaubij	Faral — chakli, chivda, sev, karanji, gram-flour and semolina laddu, shankarpali, anarsae, sweets, khoa, ghee, gram flour, maida, semolina, sugar, dry fruits, silver leaf, edible oil	Highest-risk period of the year — adulteration in khoa and ghee, kesari dal in gram flour, aflatoxin in dry fruits, aluminium leaf, re-used oil, counterfeit brands	Khoa, ghee, edible oil, gram flour, maida, sweets, dry fruits, silver leaf
November	Tier-2	Tulsi Vivah, Kartiki Ekadashi and Wari, Guru Nanak Jayanti	Sugarcane, amla, ber, tamarind, sweets, langar, kada prasad, halwa, mahaprasad	Cleanliness at collective langar and annachhatra; pesticide residues on fruit; adulteration in ghee	Prasad and cooked food, sweets, fruit, ghee, water
December	Tier-1	Mahaparinirvan Din (Chaityabhoorn), Christmas, New Year's Eve	Mahaprasad, annachhatra, packaged water; plum cake, cookies, chocolate, marzipan, cream cake, non-vegetarian dishes, cold beverages, ice	Collective food distribution to lakhs of devotees; non-permitted preservatives and colours in bakery products; microbial contamination in cream cakes; counterfeit brands of packaged water	Cooked food, cake and bakery products, chocolate, packaged water, ice, meat
Throughout the year (local)	Tier-3	Village-deity fairs, jatras, palldhi processions, urus, local observances	Mahaprasad, bhandara, cooked food, sweets, cold beverages, fried articles, drinking water	Insanitary conditions at temporary stalls; sale without licence or registration; contamination of water	Cooked food, water, edible oil, sweets, cold beverages

Note : The above calendar is indicative and represents the minimum; the Designated Officer concerned shall make such additions thereto as are necessary having regard to local conditions, intelligence and past history. The actual dates of festivals reckoned by the sighting of the moon or by the panchang shall be communicated separately by the Headquarters each year.

ANNEXURE B

Standard pre-festival and post-festival enforcement timeline

Period	Phase	Action to be taken
T-21 days	Preparation	Mapping of risk areas, updating the list of manufacturers and wholesale markets, collection of intelligence, constitution of squads, provision of kits and reagents, advance intimation to laboratories
T-14 days	Action at manufacturing level	Inspection and sampling at manufacturing units, mills, khoa markets, collection centres, cold stores and godowns; tracing to source
T-10 days	Public awareness	Press note for local media; pre-festival meeting with associations of food business operators
T-7 days	Action along the supply chain	Inspection of wholesale markets, distributors and transport; night-time nakabandi; recording of advance intimations of collective food distribution
T-3 days	Action at retail level	Inspection of sweetmeat shops, retailers, e-commerce dark stores and eating houses; deployment of Food Safety on Wheels
T (actual festival day)	Market surveillance	Market supervision, visits to mahaprasad and annachhatra sites, immediate response to consumer complaints
T+7 days	Outcome report	Festival-wise outcome report to be submitted to the Headquarters through the Joint Commissioner
T+14 days	Statutory time limit	Follow-up of the Food Analyst's report; communication of reasons for delay
T+30 days	Legal follow-up	Recommendations under section 42(3), filing of adjudication and prosecution proposals, disposal of seized goods, completion of FoSCoS entries

ANNEXURE C

Format of advance intimation of collective distribution of food

(to be submitted by the licensed / registered caterer to the Designated Officer at least seven days before the event)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name and full address of the caterer / kitchen	
2	FSSAI licence / registration number and date of validity	
3	Whether "Caterer" is endorsed in the Kind of Business?	
4	Name and contact of the organising mandal / institution / trust	
5	Nature of the event (mahaprasad / annachhatra / langar / bhandara)	
6	Venue and date of the event	
7	Time of distribution and total estimated number of beneficiaries	
8	Place of preparation of food (at the venue / elsewhere)	
9	Details of articles of food (menu)	
10	Whether milk-based or perishable articles are included?	
11	Source of water and date of water testing report	
12	Number of food handlers and their medical fitness certificates	
13	Name and certificate number of the FoSTaC-certified food safety supervisor	
14	Arrangement for preserving a sample of cooked food for 48 hours	
15	Names and licence numbers of raw material suppliers	

I hereby declare that the information given above is true and correct and that all the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Regulations framed thereunder shall be complied with.

Signature and seal — Caterer / Food Business Operator

ANNEXURE D

Information of Inspections carried out

Sr. No.	Name of district / jurisdiction	No. of inspections	Improvement notices	Business closed	Licence suspension	Compounding cases filed	Compounding cases disposed	Compounding penalty recovered	Compounding pending to be filed	Inspection reports filed on record

Assistant Commissioner (Food)
Jurisdiction No. and name of office.

ANNEXURE E

Information of food samples

Sr. No.	Name of district / jurisdiction	Food samples	Conforming	Non-conforming	Misbranded	Unsafe	Pending

Assistant Commissioner (Food)
Jurisdiction No. and name of office.