

**Licensing of Food Business (Exporting FBOs) Under Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006**

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed APEDA that Food Products are exported without obtaining mandatory FSSAI Central License under FSSAI Act, 2006 Rules and Regulations made there under.

2. In this context it is pertinent to mention here that FSSAI vide order No. 1-E51/FSSAI/Imports/2013 dated 21.01.2015 has decided to create a separate category for "Exporting FBOs" for grant of FSSAI Licenses (Copy enclosed) and also mandated to obtain FSSAI License to carry out Food Business Activity i.e. Export of Food Products.

3. Further, Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 along with the Rules & Regulations made there under, provides the statutory framework for regulating, inter alia, the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of food so as to ensure its safety. Section 31(1) of the FSS, Act 2006 "No person shall commence or carry on any food business except under a licence" read with Section 3(n) of FSS Act, 2006 "Food Business" means any undertaking, whether for profit or not and whether public or private, carrying out any of the activities related to any stage of manufacture, processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution of food import and includes food services, catering services, sale of food or food ingredients. Therefore, all Food Business exporter involved in export of Food Products are, required to obtain FSSAI Central License to be able to continue food business activities.

4. FSSAI has informed that strict action as per provision contained in FSS Act 2006, Rules and Regulations will be initiated against the defaulting FBOs.

All the concerned Processed Food exporters are advised to comply the requirement of FSSAI mentioned above. In case of any clarification, the exporters may contact the respective FSSAI office.

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