

# FSSAI UPSC Notes

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India(FSSAI) was established in 2008 with the purpose of monitoring the food quality and hygiene in India. The FSSAI has been functioning since 2011, and ever since, it has been responsible for the management of food safety in India.

The headquarters of FSSAI is located in New Delhi, and it has 6 regional offices as well in Mumbai, Cochin, Kolkata, Delhi, Guwahati, and Chennai. As we have mentioned above, FSSAI was established as per the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006. We have mentioned some key points related to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India below.

FSSAI- Key Points	
Establishment	5th August 2011
Headquartered	New Delhi
Administered under	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Act	Food Safety & Standards Act 2006

## Composition of FSSAI

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is composed of a Chairperson and 22 members. One-third of the FSSAI must be women.

- Central Government appoints the chairperson of FSSAI.
- Apart from that, there are scientists and researchers testing the quality of food.

## Functions of FSSAI

The functions of FSSAI are as follows:

- FSSAI sets up guidelines and rules for all the food manufacturing companies in India.
- It grants a license to pursue any food-related business. The owners need to have a license and certificate from FSSAI.
- Inspection is done for the manufacturing and food-producing companies to ensure they meet the guidelines.
- FSSAI spread awareness about the importance of hygienic and safe consumption of foods.
- It also maintains records and data of all the registered organizations.
- FSSAI updates the government regarding any safety-related threats and violations of rules.

## FSSAI Act 2006

FSSAI Act consolidates various acts that were related to handling food-related issues earlier in various departments and ministries, such as

- Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order 1988
- Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954
- Meat Food Products Order, 1973

- Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992

A few acts were implemented as well, but the Government passed FSSAI Act 2006 that combined all the acts related to the handling of food-related issues in India.

## Initiatives By FSSAI

FSSAI has taken a few initiatives for food safety and standards. Below we have mentioned some important initiatives:

- Eat Right India- This initiative aims to provide quality food to everyone.
- Heart Attack Rewind- This initiative by FSSAI aims to eliminate trans fat in India by 2022.
- Diet4Life- this is another initiative by FSSAI to spread awareness about metabolic disorders.
- Save Food, Share Food, Share Joy- This initiative is to encourage people to donate food instead of wasting it.

## Challenges for FSSAI

There are various challenges that need to be addressed by FSSAI, such as:

- Setting proper laboratories for the testing of food quality,
- Having skilled and qualified people to test and approve the food manufactured.
- Getting funds for establishing advanced technologies
- Re-evaluating the terms and regulations as per international standards
- Making sure every food manufacturing business owner has a proper license.