

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي 0 وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي 0  
وَاحْلُ عُقْدَةً مِّنْ لِّسَانِي 0 يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي 0

اے میرے رب! میرا سینہ کھول دے اور میرے لیے میرا کام آسان کر دے اور  
میری زبان کی گرہ کھول دے تاکہ لوگ میری بات سمجھ سکیں

رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

MY LORD! INCREASE ME IN KNOWLEDGE.

# **FST- 407.L # 26.**

## **Punjab Food Authority**

# Punjab Food Authority

- Punjab Food Authority has been established under the "**Punjab Food Authority Act-2011**" to ensure availability of **safe** and **wholesome food** for human consumption.
- The basic purpose is to **lay** out **standards** for **food** articles and to **regulate** their **manufacturing, storage, distribution, sale** and **import**.

# MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Formulate standards, procedures, processes, and guidelines in relation to any aspect of food including food business, food labelling, food additive, and specify appropriate enforcement systems.
- Specify procedures and guidelines for setting up and accreditation of food laboratories;

# MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Formulate methods of sampling, analysis of samples and reporting of results
- Specify licensing, prohibition orders, recall procedures, improvement notices or prosecution.
- Provide scientific advice and technical support to the Government in matters related to food.
- Collect and analyse relevant scientific and technical data relating to food.
- Establish a system of network of food operators and consumers to facilitate food safety and quality control;

# MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Organize training programmes in food safety and standards.
- Promote general awareness as to food safety and standards.
- Registration, licensing and other services.
- Certify food for export.

# Operational Jurisdiction

- **Lahore** was the first district to be notified to come under the operational jurisdiction of the Punjab Food Authority.
- Expanded to Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Rawalpindi and Multan and thereafter to whole of the **Punjab**.

# ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM & TOOLS

A variety of enforcement tools have been discussed in the Act, 2011, These include

- **Improvement** notice
- **Imposition** of fine through ticketing,
- **Seizure** of food items
- **Sealing** of premises,
- **Prosecution** in the courts of law,
- **Emergency** prohibition orders, under section
- **Recall** a substandard food item.



# FOOD SURVEILLANCE

- This involves **surveillance** of all the steps involved in the **manufacturing, transportation, storage** and **marketing** of food items.
- **International** best **practices** are adopted in order to ensure **traceability** of **raw** material as well as the **finished** products.
- **Transportation** and **storage** under adequate environment and controlled conditions, is also part of the food safety regime.

# ON SPOT TESTING THROUGH RAPID TESTING KITS

- to **check** the quality of food items through “on the **spot kits**”.
- kits are used to **detect** various **adulterants** in **milk, spices, tomato ketchup** and also rancidity in cooking **oil** and **ghee**.
- Instead of **archaic practice** of drawing samples across the board, the field teams draw samples of only those food **products** and send them to the **laboratory**, which **fail to pass the rapid testing tests**.

# RAIDS AT ENTRY POINTS OF LAHORE

- During the **milk raids rapid tests** are applied to check the possible adulteration of milk with **water, urea, formalin, detergents** and **starch**.
- **Samples** of only those **vehicles** had been drawn and sent to the laboratory which had failed to pass rapid testing.

# SHOPS / ROAD SIDE VENDORS

- **Rectifications** ---- by way of issuing **improvement** notices.
- The field teams issue guidance on food **safety** and personal **hygiene** to these vendors.



# SUBSTANDARD OIL & GHEE

- **Samples collected from road side vendors out .**
- **Prosecutions were launched in the court of Special Judicial Magistrate concerned in respect of all the substandard samples.**
- **Through the instrument (testometer) rancidity caused in oil due to repeated frying is checked by the field teams on the spot.**
- **enforcing ban on the sale/purchase of open oil/ghee.**
- **The issue with the open oil/ghee is that the same cannot be traced back to the manufacturer. Also, due to exposure to air, its shelf life shrinks.**
- **Moreover, there exists a strong possibility of usage of substandard or rancid oil/ghee by nefarious elements.**
- **The sale of loose oil is prohibited under the Punjab Pure Food Rules, 2011.**

# TOMATO KETCHUP/SPICES/ROTTEN EGGS

- detect adulteration of starch in tomato ketchup, they have been equipped with rapid testing kits. Total number of premises checked on account of tomato ketchup counted as 1032 out of which 140 samples were found adulterated with starch. In addition to launch of prosecutions in the courts of law, notices under section 20 of the Punjab Food Authority Act, 2011 to rectify their respective products. The manufacturers were, for the time being, directed to stop manufacturing the products till the time proper rectifications with regard to ingredients, labelling and the premises-related shortfalls are made out.

# Regulations on Hatcheries

- On the supply side, emergency prohibition orders had been issued to hatcheries to destroy un-hatched eggs and undersized or cracked eggs. Strict surveillance is being done in order to ensure that such eggs don't come into the markets.
- Raid on an industrial unit that used to prepare egg powder from rotten eggs purchased from hatcheries is a worth-quoting example of the dedication of the field teams to meet the expectations of the superiors as well as the general public.