

F.No.T.18015/121/2017-IDSP
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
PH-Division

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Date: 31st August, 2017

To,
Principal Secretaries (Health & Family Welfare)
of all States & UTs (as per list attached)

Subject: Inclusion of Food Safety Officer in the Rapid Response Team of State & District level-
reg.

Sir,

As you aware that in Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) as a part of regular surveillance, information on Food-borne disease outbreaks, especially event based information, is received from the States. These outbreaks or events are detected and necessary measures are taken at all levels immediately. Along with outbreak containment, IDSP is also providing necessary laboratory support for the detection of food-borne pathogens at different laboratories of the IDSP network. As per the IDSP outbreak data, outbreaks due to foodborne infections are becoming a cause of concern. To combat these food-borne disease outbreaks in effective way, inclusion of the District/State Food Safety Officers in the District/State Rapid Response Team (RRT) is essential.

2. In this regard, you are requested to seek suitable nominations to the RRT from the State Food Safety Commissioners. Faculty from the Food testing laboratories may also be included in the notified District and State Rapid Response Teams as this will assist in implementation of the requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act – 2006 (FSS Act 2006).

3. The roles and responsibilities of Food Safety Officers at District and State level RRT will be advising the Rapid Response Team about collection, and testing of food samples during foodborne outbreaks situation as per the Act, Rules & Regulations. An early action in the matter is requested.

Agarwal
11/9/2017
HOD (Micro)
HOD (M & B)
KPO

Agarwal

(Lav Agarwal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Tele.No.23061195

Copy to:

1. All Mission Directors (National Health Mission), States/ UTs
2. All Senior Regional Director/ Regional Director, Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare
3. All Commissioner of Food Safety, States/ UTs- To inform respective District Food Safety Officers and Designated Officers
4. All State Surveillance Officers, States/ UTs- To inform respective District Surveillance Officers for necessary action.
5. Director, NCDC, New Delhi.

