



Inspiring Trust, Assuring Safe & Nutritious Food
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR SETTING UP OF A BASIC FOOD TESTING LABORATORY





PREFACE

Food testing and analysis is a crucial process in determining the conformity of the food to the Food Safety and Standards Regulations. Food Testing laboratories play a major role in the analytical process of food products throughout the country. A food laboratory should have the adequate facilities, infrastructure and manpower to perform the analysis of parameters for the regulatory purposes as well as surveillance. The need for a complete model to support the laboratories to ensure the basic functionalities required is indispensable.

The document "Standard Specifications for setting up of a Basic Food Testing Laboratory" envisages the facilities, a Basic Food Analysis and Testing laboratory should have to facilitate the food quality and safety assurance system. This document comprises of the basic requirements of a laboratory set-up, organizational structure, manpower requirement with desirable qualifications, building design and layout, equipment requirement with technical specifications. personnel safety, financial autonomy to laboratories, etc. The objective of this document is to strengthen the food testing laboratory network to ensure food safety and quality assurance. These specifications will lead to the Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) and enhance the accuracy of the testing results from the laboratories. It acts as a guidance document for setting up a basic food laboratory to support the regulatory compliance system of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Any suggestions/feedback from the stakeholders, which will contribute towards updating the document from time to time are welcome.

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