

QCI CELEBRATES THE WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY, FOCUSES ON IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY

June 10, 2020

The Quality Council of India (QCI) celebrates **World Accreditation Day** (WAD) every year to highlight the role of accreditation in trade and economy.

The theme for WAD this year, decided by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) was, Accreditation: Improving **Food Safety**.

National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) and National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) organised a webinar for this occasion, which saw the participation of all the relevant stakeholders.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), chairperson, Rita Teotia, in a statement, said, "FSSAI has recognized the role of credible accreditation for inputs in decision making. This is because NABCB and NABL have worked to support

Government and Regulators to ensure that the data provided by accredited conformity assessment bodies are is reliable”

In the statement, she highlighted the need to institutionalize the virtual assessments, the accreditation of state food testing laboratories, encouraging accredited laboratories to undertake Proficiency Testing (PT), increase the number of accredited Reference Materials Producers (RMPs), developing Rapid Test Kits for food analysis and an accreditation scheme for its certification, and an Integrated System for information exchange as relevant to the food sector.

Food & Public Distribution secretary, Sudhanshu Pandey in a statement said that the six national standards conclaves conducted by the department of commerce have supported in enhancing the quality ecosystem and in sensitizing the stakeholders in the country.

QCI chairman, Adil Zainulbhai urged on the need to ramp up capability and capacity to help improve quality in food services in India, in his webinar address.