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## BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

### MINUTES

Name of the Committee	No.	Day	Date	Time	Venue
Spices, Culinary Herbs and Condiments Sectional Committee, FAD 9	21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	25 July, 2023	1100 h	Virtual meeting (through Webex)

**Chairperson:** Dr. A. B. Rema Shree, Director Research, Spices Board, Kochi

**Member Secretary:** Ms. Navita Yadav, Scientist D, Food and Agri. Dept., BIS, New Delhi

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**The list of participants in given in Annex I.**

#### ITEM 1 GENERAL

##### 1.1 Welcome by FAD

Ms. Navita Yadav, Scientist D, Food and Agriculture Department, welcomed the Chairperson, Dr. A. B. Rema Shree, Director Research, Spices Board, Kochi and all members to the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of FAD 9, which was held virtually. She briefed the members about the ongoing work in the technical committee. All participants were requested to contribute actively to arrive at fruitful decisions.

##### 1.2 Welcome and Opening Remarks by the Chairperson, FAD 9

Dr. A. B. Rema Shree, Director, Spices Board, Kochi welcomed all members to this meeting of FAD 9 and appreciated the efforts of the committee members, those have dedicated time for committee work and joined for this meeting in good numbers. She informed that this committee has formulated 74 Indian Standards in the field till now and some Indian Standards are under development. She also appreciated the work done by BIS Secretariat based on the decisions of the last meeting. She encouraged the members to have fruitful deliberations in the meeting, so that the agenda items can be progressed further.

#### ITEM 2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of FAD 9 held on 15 November, 2022 virtually were circulated to members vide email of FAD 9/A-2.20 dated 17 November, 2022. As no comments were received, the Committee confirmed the minutes as circulated.

#### ITEM 3 SCOPE, ACTIVITIES AND COMPOSITION OF THE SECTIONAL COMMITTEE

**3.1** The Committee noted its present scope and opined that no change is needed in the scope at present.

**3.2** The Committee noted the information under item 3.2 regarding directions from Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, New Delhi for a comprehensive analysis of all 13,000 indigenous standards in 15 departments for which equivalent ISO/IEC standards does not exist and their suitability for adoption by ISO and IEC as international standards for global recognition. The Committee examined its POW and decided that the subjects already proposed by India for standardization and revision under ISO/TC 34/SC 7 will be taken up on priority.

**3.3** The Committee reviewed its present composition along with the attendance record of last three meetings is given at Annex II of agenda and decided as below:

To withdraw the representation of M/s. AB Mauri India Private Limited, Kochi due to lack of participation and lack of any input in last three meetings.

**3.4** The Committee reviewed its present composition as per the directions of Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, New Delhi as per the guidelines provided and decided as below:

- i. The committee decided to retain Dr. C. M. Srilatha, Spices Board, Kochi in the committee as Spices board is the nodal government agency in trade and quality assurance sector in spices and the scientists from Spices Board have exceptional contribution towards national and international standardization.
- ii. The committee decided to retain Shri Ram Kumar Menon, World Spice Organization, Kochi as he is an active member in the committee with decades of experience in spice sector and is able to represent the issues of spice trade effectively.
- iii. The committee decided to withdraw the representation of Shri Philip, World Spice Organization, Kochi and decided to seek fresh nomination for alternate member from the organization.

**3.5** The committee considered the co-option request received from Ms. Dolly A. Jani, Head-Food Safety and Quality Control Division, The Akshaya Patra Foundation, Bengaluru, along with the CV of applicant. The Committee decided to accept the co-option request as at present there are no civil society groups on board in this technical committee.

#### **ITEM 4 RATIONALIZATION OF STANDARDIZATION AND CERTIFICATION AGENCIES IN THE FOOD SECTOR**

**4.1, 4.2 & 4.3** The committee noted the information given under items 4.1 4.2 and 4.3 regarding GOM meetings between ministers to discuss rationalization of standardization and certification agencies in the food sector in the country, wherein the following decisions were taken:

- a) All Food commodity related standards should be dealt by FSSAI. CEO, FSSAI informed that an amendment bill to the FSS Act is being moved to include animal feed and food exports under the Act. It was decided that animal feed should be checked and regulated by FSSAI to identify whether it contains Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) or not.

- b) FSSAI may consider referring their specifications/ standards for recognition as Indian Standards under BIS 'One Nation One Standard' (ONOS) scheme.
- c) BIS will formulate test method standards for food products, codes of practice, food equipment specifications, terminology, etc, with active participation of FSSAI in the relevant technical committees. BIS shall continue to liaison with ISO for the ISO committees dealing with food.
- d) FSSAI to consider bringing more food products under mandatory certification from the existing 13 Food products and develop a robust mechanism for conformity assessment with a focus on decriminalization and quality improvement. FSSAI may consider seeking assistance from BIS in this regard.

**4.4** The committee considered item 4.4 in light of the decision of GOM and reviewed the list of food product standard published by FAD 9 vis-à-vis FSSAI regulations. After detailed deliberations the committee decided as below:

- a) No new food product standard to be initiated under scope of FAD 9 as per the decision of GOM, but the committee will continue adoption of the ISO standards developed under ISO/TC 34/SC 7.
- b) The committee had no active revision of food product standard underway with document number assigned in BIS standards portal, therefore, no revisions of the food product standards would be initiated under FAD 9. The already published IS will continue to be available for use by concerned stakeholders.
- c) The committee will continue to liaise with the ISO committee on the subject ISO/TC 34/SC 7 'Spices, culinary herbs and condiments'
- d) BIS will continue to hold the position of ISO Secretariat for ISO/TC 34/SC 7 'Spices, culinary herbs and condiments'.

## **ITEM 5 REVIEW AND REVISION OF PRE 2000 INDIAN STANDARDS**

The committee noted that BIS had taken up review and revision of all pre 2000 standards and all standards under this category have to be reviewed and revised. The standards were assigned to different expert panels constituted under FAD 9.

### **5.1 FAD 9/Panel I – Oleoresins**

The committee noted the information that the Panel under convenorship of Dr. M. M. Naidu, CFTRI had reviewed the standards to discuss modifications which may be carried out in these standards. Based on the comments from expert panel and the regulatory requirements in force for oleoresins, the Secretariat had proposed to amalgamate the four standards on oleoresins and publish a single standard on spice oleoresins. A draft standard on 'Spice oleoresins – Specifications' was presented to the committee. The committee also endorsed the amalgamation of the 4 Indian Standards during revision and publication of a single IS on 'Spice oleoresins - Specification'. The panel had provided for inclusion of new spices and relevant methods of test. The working draft is under preparation and will be circulated in the committee for comments. The draft revision will be sent in WC later for a period of at least 60 days.

### **5.2 FAD 9/Panel II – Test methods**

The committee considered the following draft revisions sent in wide circulation based on decisions of last committee meeting. It was also noted that no technical comments were received on the draft standards. In view of above, the committee decided to finalize the

following draft Indian Standards for publication.

Sl. No.	WC doc. No.	IS number
i)	FAD/09/21942	Method for sensory evaluation of pungency of black pepper by Scoville heat units (first revision of IS 8105)
ii)	FAD/09/21943	Method for sensory evaluation of pungency of ginger by Scoville units (first revision of IS 11582)

### 5.3 Other pre 2000 Indian Standards for review

The committee considered item 5.3 in light of GOM decision at item no. 4.4 above. After deliberations it was decided that as per the decision of GOM no new revisions would be initiated for following IS:

S. No.	IS No.	IS Title
1.	IS 5955 : 1993	Spices and condiments - Tamarind concentrate - Specification
2.	IS 6364 : 1993	Spices and condiments - Tamarind pulp - Specification
3.	IS 13895 : 1994	Spices and condiments - Tamarind powder - Specification
4.	IS 13644 : 1992	Dry kokum - Specification

## ITEM 6 NEW PROCESS REFORMS IN STANDARDIZATION

The committee considered item 6 of agenda and noted that BIS has instituted several process reform in respect of formulation of Indian Standards. A presentation on these reforms was also given in the meeting for information of all the members.

**6.1** The committee considered item 6.1 of agenda and deliberated on the FAD 9 Rolling Annual Action Plan for the year 2023-24 placed at Annex V of the agenda. The committee requested all the members to check the timeline for each project as per action plan and complete the assigned tasks as per the timelines agreed. The committee approved the proposed annual action plan for year 2023-24.

**6.2** The committee considered item 6.2 of agenda and finalized the meeting calendar for FAD 9 as below:

Sl. No.	Meeting	Date
1	22 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
2	23 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024

**6.3** The committee noted the information given under item 6.3 on research projects to be taken up for inclusion of empirical data and insights. Upon deliberations, the committee noted that the subject 'Asafoetida - Specification' can be taken as an R&D proposal. At present there is no national or international standard available for Asafoetida. This subject was proposed in ISO as new subject in past, but the NWIP proposal could not be approved as it did not meet the ISO approval criteria. It was concluded that more work and research data is needed to take up the subject again at ISO under India lead. CSIR- CFTRI, Mysore agreed to send a R&D proposal for the same as per BIS guidelines for consideration of the committee. After completion of the proposed project, it will again be submitted for development of a new ISO standard.

**6.4** The committee considered item 6.4 and members were requested to consider closer examination of

the New Work Item proposals received from ISO.

**6.5** The committee considered item 6.5 and members were requested to respond timely to the ISO ballots and also ensure effective participation from India as most meetings are now in hybrid mode.

**6.6** The committee considered item 6.6 and noted the International events identified for participation by BIS specific to FAD 9. The committee recommended BIS participation in the events as they provide excellent exposure to the latest developments, challenges and technologies in the sector.

The committee also noted the CCSCH meetings among the meetings and events for future participation.

**6.7** The committee considered item 6.7 and members were requested to identify scientific journals and periodicals to be subscribed by BIS, which may help in technical committee work.

**6.8** The committee considered item 6.7 and decided that a pool of experts can be created under FAD 9. The suggestions will be taken from Chairperson for the pool based on area of expertise.

## **ITEM 7 INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**7.1** The committee noted with appreciation the work done under ISO/TC34/SC7 'Spices, Culinary Herbs and Condiments'. Report of the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the ISO sub-committee was held virtually during 14-15 December, 2022 was also considered and the Indian delegates were requested to take actions as per their assignments in the resolutions adopted.

**7.2** The committee also considered item 7.2 and congratulated Dr. M M Naidu for successfully completing the ISO projects and publication of following ISO standards. The committee also decided to send letter of appreciation for Dr. Naidu for the projects.

**a) ISO 7927-1:2023**

Spices and condiments — Fennel seed, whole or ground — Part 1: Bitter fennel seed specification (*Foeniculum vulgare* P. Miller var. *vulgare*)

**b) ISO 7927-2:2023**

Spices and condiments — Fennel seed, whole or ground — Part 2: Sweet fennel seed specification (*Foeniculum vulgare* var. *panmorium*)

It was also decided that the above ISO standards would be identically adopted under dual number system and they will be sent in wide circulation for a period of 2 months.

## **ITEM 7 TIME AND PLACE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The committee has already finalized the dates for future meetings and the place of meeting will be decided in consultation with the Chairperson.

## **ITEM 8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting ended with a hearty note of thanks to the Chair and members for participation and contribution.

## Annex I

### List of participants in 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of FAD 9 on 25 July, 2023

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Members Name</b>
1.	Spices Board India, Kochi	Dr. A. B. Rema Shree <b>(Chairperson)</b>
2.	All India Spices Exporters Forum, Cochin	Ms. Priyamvada Nilayangod
3.	CSIR - Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Dr. Nagarajan S.
4.	Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi	Sh. Kannan B.
5.	Consumer Coordination Council, Noida	Sh. Ramji Bhai Mavani Sh. Dillip Kumar Jena
6.	Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut	Dr. Femina
7.	Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Faridabad	Sh. Shivnandan
8.	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, New Delhi	Sh. S Ajay Vino
9.	ICAR - Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode	Dr. N. K. Leela
10.	National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer	Dr. Vinay Bhardwaj Dr. Mahesh K. Mahatma
11.	Praveen Masalewale	Ms. Rohini Kulkarni
12.	Spices Board India, Kochi	Mrs. C. M. Sri Latha Mrs. K. K. Bijumol Ms. K. V. Sudharma
13.	Synthite Industries Private Limited, Kolenchery	Sh. Shubu K. Chithajan
14.	In Personal Capacity	Dr. M. Madhava Naidu
15.	Food & Agriculture Department, BIS, New Delhi	Smt. Navita Yadav Scientist – D