Food Safety System of Pakistan

Analysis of food safety laws, organizations and standards

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Abstract

Food Safety is a global concern that refers to handling, preparing and storing food in a way to best reduce the risk of individuals becoming sick from foodborne illnesses.

In Pakistan There are various laws about food safety and food hygiene. The very first pure food act PFA 1963 was introduced in 1963 and after that it was followed by other food safety laws. In general the legal system of food safety in Pakistan consists of 4 acts.

- West Pakistan Pure Food Ordinance 1960
- Cantonments Pure Food Act 1966
- Pakistan Hotels and Restaurants act 1976
- PSQCA Act 1996

However along with the above four basic laws, there are other institutions and acts and standards playing key role in food safety in Pakistan, like the revision of Pure Food Act 1963 in 2007, Halal Standardization and its role in food safety, PSQCA and PNAC and their role in providing safe food to the public.

The enforcement of food safety laws was much poor before the establishment of provincial food safety bodies. But after the establishment of Punjab Food Authority, KPK Food Safety and Halal Authority, Sindh Food Authority and Baluchistan Food Authority, The law enforcement situation of food safety is much better.

In this paper, we go analyze the complete system of food safety in Pakistan along with all the above acts, standards and institutions. This analysis will give us opportunity to compare other countries with Pakistan.