The Centre has allocated Rs 500 crore to upgrade Food Testing Centres (Lab) across the country, CEO of food regulator FSSAI, Pawan Kumar Agarwal, said today.

Two labs in Tamil Nadu would be taken up for upgradation, he told reporters here on the sidelines of a steering committee meeting held at the District Collectorate.

The Centre had also decided to partner with 124 private testing labs, he said, adding that FSSAI would take efforts to incorporate some suggestions given by private players to the rule book.

Earlier, addressing the meeting, Agarwal said food safety regulations were strictly adhered to in Tamil Nadu, which has the highest number of officials in the department who maintain a high standard as far as food safety is concerned.

FSSAI was successful in sensitising the people in Tamil Nadu on their rights to good food, he said.

Collector T N Hariharan, Corporation Commissioner, Dr Vijayakarthikeyan, and FSSAI Tamil Nadu Commissioner, Amutha were among the officials participated in the meeting.