FSSAI to tighten vigil on meat shop owners bending rules

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AGRA: In an attempt to easily obtain licences for selling meat, many meat shop owners across UP are now obtaining Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) registration from its common service centres without taking NOCs from civic bodies and police. FSSAI will now conduct an inspection and suspend such licences.

Vineet Yadav, assistant commissioner, Food Safety and Drug Administration (FSDA), Agra, said, "There is a provision for issuing licences to big slaughter houses and registration to small meat vendors."

According to rules for registration, vendors can apply online and submit documents to departments concerned and obtain the certificate. Food safety officers are eligible to approve such registrations. Besides that, FSSAI has provided another facility of common service centres where applicants can obtain a registration certificate immediately.

The department recently came to know that many vendors were queuing up at the service centres and obtaining registration certificates without submitting requisite NOCs from the civic bodies and police. Hence, it has tightened vigil and is planning to conduct an inspection of the certificates.

"Now, rules for sale of meat are being strictly implemented and vendors cannot run their business without fulfilling the requisite norms," he added. "We are reviewing all such registrations. Food safety officers will conduct inspections and check their documents. Registration will be suspended of those vendors who have got it without submitting the necessary documents," he further added.