

College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan

Affiliated to the University of Mumbai

NAAC Accredited A+ Grade

Name of the Event: Nirmal Prayas

Name of the Department Organized: Department of Foods, Nutrition, and Dietetics

Level: Local

Name of the Committee Organizing: Students of M.Sc. (Home Science- Food Processing and Preservation)

Organizing Team:

- Ms. Vibha Hasija, Head of the Department of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics
- Dr. Yasmina Dordi Avari, Director, Self-financed Courses
- Faculty members:
 - Ms. Fatima S. Nevrekar, Faculty (Self-financed)
 - Ms. Protity Dey, Faculty (Self-financed)

Name of the Collaborators (if any): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

Resource Person/s and Their Designation and Organization:

- **Ms. Vaidehi Kalzunkar**, Deputy Director (Tech), FSSAI West Region
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Event Details

Day and Date: The event was conducted across Semester 2 and Semester 3, as planned by the students of the M.Sc. (Home Science - Food Processing and Preservation) program.

Time: As per the days scheduled by the organizing committee.

Beneficiaries/Participants and Number: The primary beneficiaries were the street food vendors from the *Khau Galli*, Churchgate area, who participated in the event.

Event Description

The event "Nirmal Prayas" was aimed at providing valuable knowledge and practical guidance on food safety and hygiene to street food vendors. The initiative was a collaboration between the students of M.Sc. (Home Science- Food Processing and Preservation), FSSAI, and the Department of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics. The objective was to educate street

food vendors about the importance of food safety standards and promote hygiene in food preparation and sale.

Ms. Vaidehi Kalzunkar, Deputy Director of FSSAI, West Region, was invited as a resource person to provide expert insights on the Eat Right Initiative of FSSAI. Ms. Kalzunkar demonstrated the use of Eat Right checklists available on FSSAI web portal and addressed the queries of the students.

The practical part, with students visiting the street food vendors, was conducted across multiple sessions in first half of the year by students of M.Sc. - II (semester 3), under the guidance of Ms. Fatima Nevrekar. A short video presentation of the work done by the students was also played during National Nutrition Month event in September 2023, where Ms. Pritee Choudhary, Regional Director, FSSAI West Region, was present as an honourable guest.

In the second half of the year, students of M.Sc.- I (semester 2) carried forth on the work done by their seniors, as part of the elective subject “Food Safety and Consumer Awareness”, under the guidance of Ms. Protity Dey. The students interacted with the vendors, imparted information on food safety regulations, and shared best practices for handling food to prevent contamination.

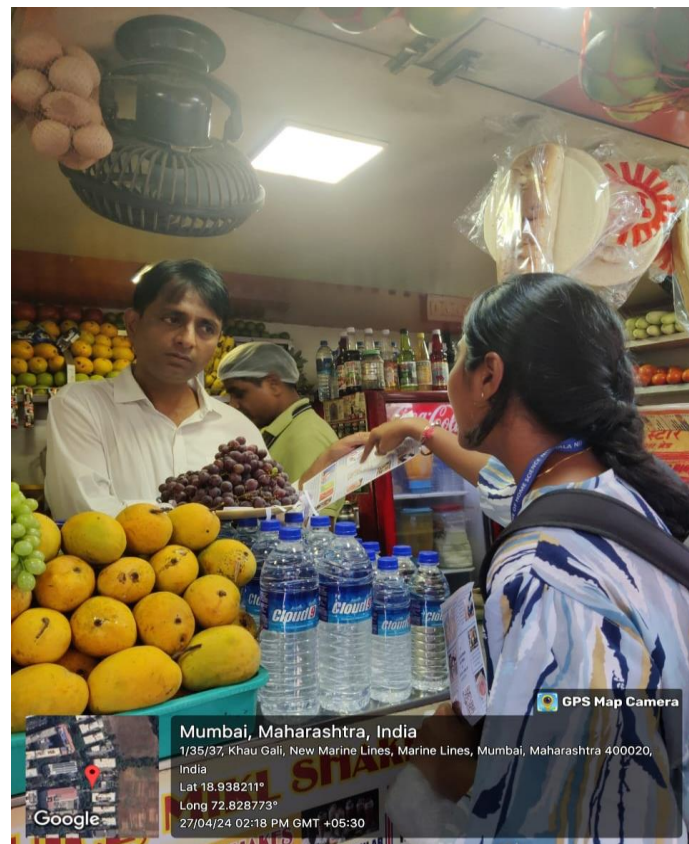
The participation of the vendors, including those from the bustling *Khau Galli* area in Churchgate, was highly appreciated, as they gained useful knowledge that they could apply to improve the quality and safety of their food products.

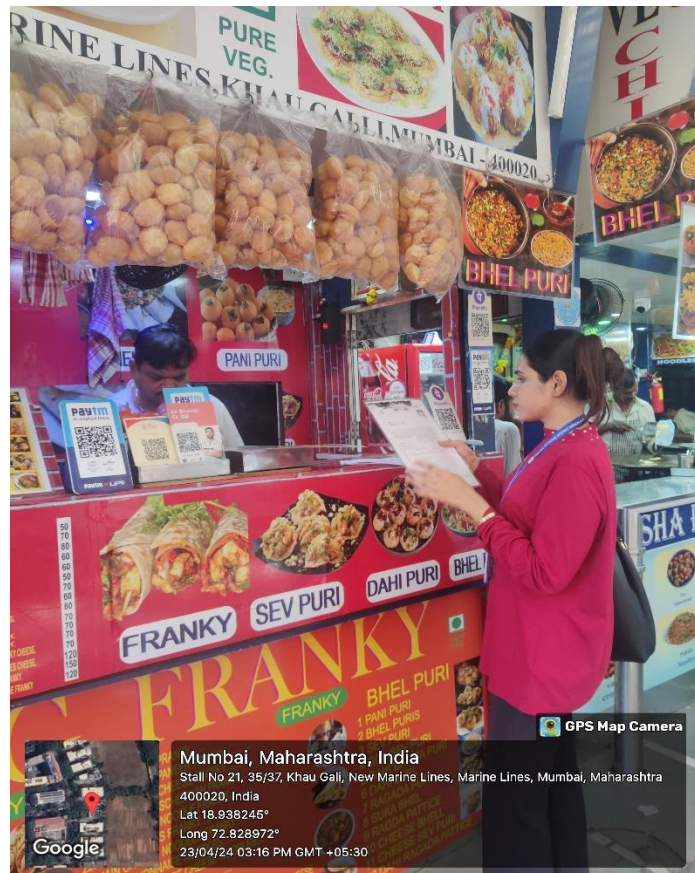
Feedback or Suggestions for Future

- The event received positive feedback from the street food vendors, who expressed interest in further training sessions.
 - A suggestion was made to extend the reach of the event to more areas and involve a larger number of vendors from different parts of the city, thereby promoting food safety on a larger scale.
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Photographs of the Event







Conclusion

The Nirmal Prayas event was an effective initiative that fostered awareness about food safety among local street food vendors. The collaboration between the students, faculty, and FSSAI contributed to the successful execution of the program. Future sessions based on the feedback received will help in expanding the knowledge of food safety practices, further benefiting both the vendors and the consumers they serve.



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