Currently, human population of the world is 7.4 billion and it is projected to reach 9 billion by the year 2050 [1,2]. One of the major issues concerned with rapidly increasing human population is to produce sufficient and healthy food while sustaining the environment and ecosystem. It is estimated that 60% increase in global demand for food is likely to occur by the year 2050 [3]. However, every year a significant proportion of food is wasted due to contamination with microorganism, fungi and toxic chemicals they produce in addition to non-biological contaminants such as heavy metals and other hazardous chemicals [4-6]. Uncontrolled contaminants, whether biological or non-biological, often lead to food toxicity and cause several food borne diseases, thus imparting negative health effects, societal and economic disturbances [7,8]. Estimated cases of food borne diseases, thus imparting negative health effects, or non-biological chemicals [4-6]. 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by appropriated methods of processing and proper cooking. Use of contaminated water for irrigation of vegetables, fruits and crops and during processing of fresh produce is also considered as a source of food toxicity, this issue must be directed to have produce free from contaminants. Environmental factors, storage condition and processing techniques have great influence on the safety of food and chances of contamination; removing of dusts and other polluted sources such as insects, rodents and toxic chemicals, reducing moisture during storage and provision of adequate space [20] could have positive outcomes in reducing food contamination and associated diseases. Moreover, the application of emerging technologies such gamma irradiation and cold atmosphere packaging techniques have been widely recognized as safe alternative to chemical preservatives for food preservation and processing which have been helpful in reducing microbial infestation and decay of food products [21,22]. For a healthier life and better world, food safety is a must focused agenda for food producers, traders, policy makers and consumers, which can be attained collectively by employing hygienic practices, integrated safety measures and by the use safe food processing technologies.

References