CIRCULAR

In view of the suspected use of Formalin on fish imported into Goa from other States and the resulting apprehensions created in the minds of the consumers, the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) had imposed a Temporary Ban on the import of fish from neighbouring States, into the State of Goa for a period of 15 days vide Notification dated 18/07/2018.

2. The aforementioned temporary ban period is expiring and thus the import of fish from outside Goa is expected to resume henceforth. However as an endeavor to ensure the availability of safe fish to the consumers, the Directorate of Food and Drugs Administration along with the assistance of the Goa Police, Directorate of Transport and the Directorate of Fisheries will be carrying out the checks on incoming fish laden trucks at the State borders during the month of August 2018.

3. Accordingly the following modalities shall be followed:

   (i) The entry of fish trucks into the State shall be restricted to the following check posts:

       a) Polem in South Goa

       b) Patradevi in North Goa.

   (ii) The FDA team shall be deputed at these two check Posts for inspection/checking the quality of fish brought from outside the State.

   (iii) The fish traders from Goa, dealing with the import of fish from outside Goa, are to ensure that they have obtained the Licence/Registration under the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 from the FDA, within 15 days (fifteen) from the date of issue of this circular.

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(iv) Fish Traders operating from outside the state, who are involved in transportation of fish to the State of Goa shall obtain licence/registration from the concerned state FDA or in the absence of which, FDA, Goa, and the fish should be transported only through the insulated vehicles. After the end of 15 days period, vehicles brought in by traders without license/registration under Food Safety and Standards Act, will not be allowed to enter the State.

(v) Local fish traders dealing with the traders from outside the state shall ensure that these traders comply with above requirements in order to avoid inconvenience to themselves.

(vi) Further the local traders shall ensure that the consignment of Fish imported by them for Sale/distribution within Goa is of the right quality and free from any contamination, conforming to Food Safety and Standards Regulations.

4. The Goa Police, Directorate of Transport and the Directorate of Fisheries shall assist in implementing the aforementioned plan of action, in the following manner:

(a) Police and Transport officials will provide assistance in stopping the vehicles importing fish into the State of Goa; so that the FDA team can perform the tests on the fish consignments.

(b) The Directorate of Fisheries will bring the contents of this circular to the knowledge of all the fish traders in Goa.

This is issued with the approval of the Hon’ble Chief Minister for strict compliance with effect from 4th August, 2018 early morning.

(Maria Seomara Desouza)
Under Secretary (Health-II)

To:
1. The Collector (North), Panaji-Goa
2. The Collector (South), Margao-Goa
3. The Director, Food and Drugs Administration, Bambolim-Goa
4. The Superintendent of Police (North), Panaji-Goa
5. The Superintendent of Police (South), Margao-Goa
6. The Director, Directorate of Fisheries, Panaji-Goa
7. The Director, Directorate of Transport, Panaji-Goa

Copy for information to:-
1. The Joint Secretary to Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Porvorim-Goa
2. The Director General of Police, Panaji-Goa