

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN  
TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONAL BENCH, KOLKATA, WEST  
BENGAL  
O.A. NO. 60/2023/EZ**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Shri Arun Das.

...Applicant

Versus

The Union of India & Ors.

...Respondents

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Filed by:  
Patengam Nanyam Gopinath, Advocate  
07/09/2023

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Filed by:

*Takaram Mahajan Genswami*  
Advocate

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN  
TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONAL BENCH, KOLKATA, WEST  
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O.A. NO. 60/2023/EZ

IN THE MATTER OF:

Shri Arun Das

...Applicant

Versus

The Union of India & Ors.

...Respondents

AND

IN THE MATTER OF:

**REPLY ON BEHALF OF  
RESPONDENT NO. 2, THE  
STATE OF ASSAM  
REPRESENTED BY THE  
COMMISSIONER AND  
SECRETARY TO THE  
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM,  
FISHERY DEPARTMENT.**



**MOST RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AS UNDER:-**

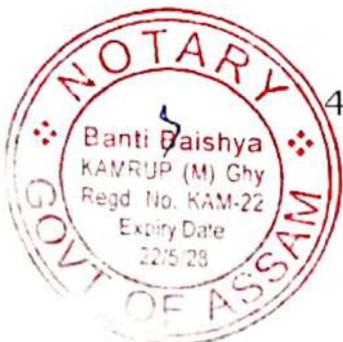
I, Rakesh Kumar , aged about 46years, son of Balbir Singh ,resident of IAS Colony , Khanapara , Guwhati :781022 within the district of Kamrup (Metro),

Filed by the respondent No. 2 through  
Parvatham Narayan Ganesami, Advocate  
07/09/2023

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Assam do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

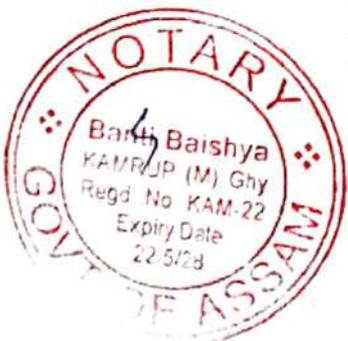
1. That the deponent is presently serving as Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Fishery Department and has been arrayed as respondent no. 2 in the aforesaid original application. The deponent has been served with a copy of the original application, which he has perused and understood the contents thereof. Being acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case, the deponent is competent to swear and sign the present affidavit.
2. That save and except the statements made in the writ petition which are categorically admitted herein below, the rest of the statements and averments made in the writ petition may be deemed to have been denied by the deponent.
3. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 1, the deponent states that save the statements which are matters of record, all other statements are categorically denied and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.
4. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 2, the deponent states that save the statements which are matters of record, all



other statements are categorically denied and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.

5. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.1., the deponent states that save the statements which are matters of record, all other statements are categorically denied and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.
6. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.2., the deponent does not deny the same. It is an admitted fact that the state of Assam is not self-sufficient in fish production. The fish produced locally in the state from sources such as river fisheries, beels, individual and community group fisheries are governed by the Assam Fishery Rules, 1953 and are sold in local markets or through door-to-door sale by local vendors. Such local fishes are preserved by the traders using Insulated Ice Boxes.

As for the transportation of fishes from long distance markets, the Fishery Department has provided 4-wheeler refrigerated fish carrying vehicles, 4 wheeler refrigerated vehicles with insulated ice boxes, motor cycles with ice box, bi-cycle with ice box and e-rickshaw with ice box under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) sponsored by



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Government of India/National Bank for  
Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

A statement showing status of  
distribution of such vehicles/3  
wheelers/2 wheelers etc. is  
annexed herewith and marked  
as **ANNEXURE - A**.

7. That with regards to the averments made in  
paragraph 3.A.3., the deponent states that save  
the statements which are matters of record, all  
other statements are categorically denied and  
the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.  
It is stated that as the fish locally produced in  
Assam is not sufficient, private traders import  
fish from outside the state from major fish  
producing states like Andhra Pradesh,  
Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, etc. Such fishes so  
imported from these states are beyond the  
control of the State Government. The findings of  
the research team from the Department of  
Biology, Nowgong College is based on the facts  
arrived as per the findings of the Study Team  
based on the samples collected from different  
markets.

8. That with regards to the averments made in  
paragraph 3.A.4., the deponent states that save  
the statements which are matters of record, all



other statements are categorically denied and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.

9. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.5., the deponent has no comment to offer save the statements which are matters of record. The deponent categorically and specifically denies that the fish brought into the State of Assam from other states are not fit for consumption.
10. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.6., the deponent has no comment to offer save the statements which are matters of record.
11. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.7., the deponent has no comment to offer save the statements which are matters of record.
12. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.8., the deponent begs to state that as per the official records, fish is imported to Assam mostly from major fish producing states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, etc. There is no record of fish being imported from Bangladesh and hence, the allegations of rampant and unchecked use of formalin in such fish are categorically denied as the same is not based on facts.



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13. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.8A., the deponent begs to state that as per the own admission of the Applicant, the Notification dated 11.01.2023 notifying the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2023, has come into effect from 01.08.2023. Regulation 2(5) of the 2023 Regulations have inserted Sub-Regulation 2.6.2. into the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 which has prescribed the limit of naturally occurring formaldehyde in different species of fishes. As such, since the coming into effect of the newly inserted regulation, the Fishery Department, Government of Assam is committed to take necessary steps for its effective enforcement.

A copy of the Notification dated 11.01.2023 is annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - B.**

14. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.9., the deponent begs to state that the Fishery Department, Government of Assam is committed to take appropriate action for enforcement of the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 with a mechanism to check validity of insurance policies. In this regard, the deponent



is ready and willing to incorporate the suggestions made by the Applicant in the paragraph under reply and further comply with any directions which may be passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, in the instant matter.

15. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.10., the deponent begs to state that save the statements which are matters of record, all other statements are categorically denied as being baseless and concocted and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same. The deponent states that pursuant to the findings of the study made by the team of researchers from the Department of Biology, Nowgong College, the Fishery Department, Government of Assam took extensive steps to check imported fish sold in markets throughout the State of Assam. In this regard, the assistance of various reputed institutions/agencies as well as district level fishery officials was taken and various administrative measures have also been taken through the Directorate of Fisheries to ensure that the fishes supplied into the state conform to the prescribed limits of formalin. The steps taken by the deponent are enumerated herein below:

- a. Spot tests for detection of formalin in fishes are being carried out in the markets



for different periods. Thereafter, detailed laboratory tests are being carried out by State Public Health Laboratory, district fishery officials and selected institutes such as College of Fisheries, Raha; Gauhati University; Nowgong College; Dibrugarh University and consolidated reports are being prepared. It is pertinent to note that almost 90% of such tests/reports reveal that the presence of formalin in such fish samples were within permissible limits.

A copy of the consolidated statement showing formalin tests carried out at different institutes, State Public Health Laboratory and at different fish markets carried out by the district fishery officials are annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - C.**

- b. Appointment of District Nodal Officers for monitoring with regular sample collection from fish markets in their respective jurisdiction.

A copy of the list of Nodal Officers is annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - D.**



c. Distribution of Formalin Testing Kits to district fishery officials of 18 districts by the Minister, Department of Fisheries, Government of Assam. Such kits were procured through Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services (ARIAS) Society, Khanapara, Assam under the Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) financial assistance for a sum of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Only), proposal for which was sent by the Director of Fisheries, Assam to the State Project Director, ARIAS Society on 15.05.2023.

A copy of the proposal letter dated 15.05.2023 is annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE – E.**

d. Creation of public awareness through interaction with local people in market places as well as other public places through district fishery officials. In this regard, a letter dated 01.06.2023 was issued by the Director of Fisheries, Assam to all the District Fishery Development Officers requesting them to visit fish markets, complete the testing of fish species and subsequently, keep records of



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the same in a systematic manner so that the required information could be submitted on a day to day, weekly or regular basis to the Director of Fisheries, Assam.

A copy of the letter dated 01.06.2023 is annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - F.**

e. In case of those districts not supplied with Formalin Testing Kits, the District Development Officers have been instructed vide letter dated 12.05.2023 to make necessary arrangements to purchase such testing kits locally and thereafter conduct random tests to detect presence of formalin in fish (both *chalani* (imported) and local) available in their respective districts. Further, the test reports were also directed to be sent to the Food Safety Department in regular intervals with a copy to the Director of Fisheries, Assam.

A copy of the letter dated 12.05.2023 is annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - G.**

16. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.11., the deponent begs to reiterate the submissions made in paragraph 14



of the instant affidavit and the same are not repeated here for the sake of brevity.

17. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.A.12., the deponent does not wish to comment on the same, as the same pertains to the jurisdiction of the Hon'ble Tribunal and the prayers as sought for in the paragraph under reply are within its discretion.
18. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.B.13.I., the deponent begs to categorically and specifically deny such allegations. The deponent reiterates the submissions made in paragraph 15 of the instant affidavit to state that as per the test reports, the formalin levels in the fishes, both imported as well as local are within permissible limits and the same are not repeated here for the sake of brevity.
19. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.B.13.II., the deponent reaffirms that the Fishery Department of the Government of Assam is ready and willing to take all necessary steps to prohibit import of fish from outside the state, if the situation so warrants. However, at the present stage, the deponent is of the view that the administrative measures taken so far as outlined above, has had a positive impact on the local vendors as well as



the consumers. As on date, there are no adverse reports from any consumers of fish of suffering from any health issues or death, from consumption of fish containing formalin.

20. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.B.13.III., for the sake of brevity, the deponent begs to reiterate the submissions made in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the instant affidavit. It is further stated that the actual situation as reported from field study is far better than what is sought to be projected by the Applicant. However, the deponent undertakes to enforce the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 with a mechanism to check the validity of the insurance policies of the fish traders.

21. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.B.13.IV., the deponent begs to reiterate the submissions made in paragraph 6 of the instant affidavit which are not repeated here for the sake of brevity. A perusal of Annexure - A of the instant affidavit would reveal that adequate steps have been taken by the Fishery Department to regulate the transportation of fishes from distant markets within the State of Assam. That apart, it is stated that the power to regulate the import of fish from outside the state of Assam is not with



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the Fishery Department, Government of Assam. However, if concurred by the Central Government, the Government of Assam may issue an administrative order to regulate the entry of fish into the state of Assam from other states. This may include conducting regular checking at the inter-state border at West Bengal to ensure that such imported fish is transported only through refrigerated vehicles.

22. That with regards to the averments made in paragraph 3.C.14., the deponent does not wish to comment on the same, as the same pertains to the jurisdiction of the Hon'ble Tribunal and the prayers as sought for in the paragraph under reply are within its discretion.
23. That with regards to the prayers made in the original application under reply, the deponent begs to state that fish being one of the major sources of protein forming a part of the staple diet of a significant population of Assam, and considering that the local production of fish in the state is not sufficient to cater to this need, a complete ban on the import of fish from major fish producing states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, etc. may not be prudent. Such decisions may have an adverse impact on the fish market and may create an artificial scarcity by unscrupulous traders for



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the same, leading to limited supply and high prices. However, if the situation so warrants, the State Government in the Fishery Department may contemplate imposing restriction on the entry of imported fish which are transported without proper refrigeration facilities by conducting regular checks at the inter-state border at West Bengal.

Further, the Fishery Department, Government of Assam is willing to set up an Expert Committee to suggest scientific measures for such purpose, if so directed by the Hon'ble Tribunal. The Fishery Department, Government of Assam is also committed to take appropriate action for enforcement of the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 with a mechanism to check validity of insurance policies. In this regard, the deponent is ready and willing to incorporate the suggestions made by the Applicant in the paragraph under reply and further comply with any directions which may be passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, in the instant matter.

24. That the deponent begs to state that a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) Petition registered as PIL No. 31/2023 (Hasibur Rahman vs. The State of Assam and Others) is already pending final disposal before the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court.



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The Fishery Department, Government of Assam has already filed an affidavit clarifying its stand on such subject matter.

Copies of the affidavit as well as the Order dated 22.08.2023 passed in PIL No. 60/2023 is annexed herewith and marked as ANNEXURES - H & I respectively.

25. That the deponent begs to state that the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh upon being made aware about the pending PIL before the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court issued a clarificatory letter dated 19.05.2023 to the Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Fishery Department. Vide the said letter, it was informed that such allegations of presence of use of formalin in the fish transported from Andhra Pradesh were raised earlier in the year 2018, where after, the State of Assam had imposed a ban. However, the supply of fish resumed after 'Operative Guidelines for Quality Checks (Formalin/Ammonia Test) in Fish' were introduced by the supplier state especially for supply to fish consignments to North-Eastern states. By way of such Guidelines, 'Certificate of



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Quality' was issued after testing the fish consignments meant for export to North-Eastern states. As such, it was informed that in light of the present allegations in the PIL, the State of Andhra Pradesh has instructed the District Fishery Officers to continue the process of issuing 'Certificate of Quality' after conducting quality checks for the fish consignments meant for export to North-Eastern states. It was also requested that in case of any doubts about the quality of the exported fish consignments, the 'Certificate of Quality' issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh be insisted upon. The letter dated 19.05.2023 was forwarded to the Director of Fisheries, Assam vide letter dated 17.06.2023.

A copy of the letter dated 19.05.2023 along with the forwarding letter dated 17.06.2023 are annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE - J (Colly.)**.

26. That the deponent begs to state that in light of the facts and circumstances as narrated herein above, the prayer made in the original application are adequately addressed and as



such the same may be disposed of by this Hon'ble Tribunal by passing appropriate directions, as may be deemed necessary.

27. That the statements made in this paragraph and in paragraphs ..... of this affidavit are true to my knowledge and those made in paragraphs ..... being matters of record are true to my information derived therefrom, which I believe to be true and the rest are my humble submissions before this Hon'ble Court.

On oath I swear this, that my declaration is true that it conceals nothing and that no part of it is false, so help me God.

And I sign this affidavit on this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023 at Guwahati.

Rakesh Kumar

DEPONENT

Identified by me

Rakesh T. Chakrabarti  
Advocate's Chk 7/9/23

NOTARY PUBLIC - OATH COMMISSIONER  
Solemnly affirmed before me this day, I  
Certify that I read over and Explained  
the contents to the declarant and that  
the declarant seemed perfectly to  
understand them.

Sl No. 6518

7/9/23

Banti Baishya  
NOTARY, GOVT. OF ASSAM  
KAMRUP (Metro) Guwahati  
Regd. No.: KAM-22



Annexure - A 51  
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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, ASSAM  
MEEN BHAWAN::GUWAHATI: ASSAM

No. AF(S) 466/ 2019-20/

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2023

From: N. K. Debnath, ACS,  
Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Meen Bhawan, Guwahati-16

To : The Commissioner & Secretary,  
To the Government of Assam,  
Fishery Department, Dispur,  
Guwahati-06

Sub : Submission of nos. of vehicle supplied by the Department to beneficiaries for carrying fish & fish seed

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am to submit herewith the nos of vehicles purchased for carrying fish & fish seed under RIDF and PMMSY as sought for, which are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Type of Vehicle	Quantity of vehicle	Supply completed (month & year)
1	Rural Infrastructure Development Fund-XXVI (NABARD assisted)	4- wheelers Refrigerated Fish Carrying Vehicle	70	February/ 2023
2	Rural Infrastructure Development Fund-XXVI (NABARD assisted)	3- wheelers fish carrying vehicles with insulated ice-boxes	167	July/ 2023
3	Pradhan Mantri Matshya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	4- wheelers refrigerated vehicles	6	December/ 2022
4	Pradhan Mantri Matshya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	4- wheelers insulated vehicles	4	November/ 2022
5	Pradhan Mantri Matshya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	Motor Cycles with ice box	186	March/ 2023
6	Pradhan Mantri Matshya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	Cycles with ice box	642	October/ 2022
7	Pradhan Mantri Matshya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)	E-rickshaw with ice box	179	October/ 2022

This is for favour of information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

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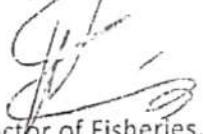
Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Meen Bhawan, Guwahati

Memo. No. AF(S) 466/ 2019-20/ 6786

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Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August/ 2023

Copy to:

- ✓ 1) The Joint Secretary to the Government of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06  
for favour of kind information.

  
Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Meen Bhawan, Guwahati

70. फा.स. 1/अतिरिक्त सहयोज्य -III/ मानक /अधिसूचना/एफएमएसएआई/2017, तारीख 9 अक्टूबर, 2020;
71. फा.स. स्टैंडर्ड्स/प्रोसेसिंग ऐड/अधिसूचना/एफएमएसएआई/2018, तारीख 9 अक्टूबर, 2020;
72. फा.स. 1-116/ वैज्ञानिक समिति/अधिसूचना/2010-एफएमएसएआई, तारीख 29 दिसंबर, 2020;
73. फा.स. 1-116/वैज्ञानिक समिति/ अधिसूचना 27/2010-एफएमएसएआई, तारीख 4 मार्च, 2021;
74. फा.स. स्टैंडर्ड्स/ओएंडएफ/ अधिसूचना (5)/एफएमएसएआई-2017, तारीख 18 मार्च, 2021;
75. फा.स. 1-116/ वैज्ञानिक समिति/ अधिसूचना 28.4/2010-एफएमएसएआई(1), तारीख 26 जुलाई, 2021;
76. फा.स. 1-116/ वैज्ञानिक समिति/ अधिसूचना 28.4/2010-एफएमएसएआई(1)(भाग एफ), तारीख 3 नवंबर, 2021;
77. फा.स. मानक/ वैज्ञानिक समिति /ए-1.34/एन-1, तारीख 15 नवंबर, 2021;
78. फा.स. एमएंडएमपी/ अधिसूचना(05)/एफएमएसएआई, -2019, तारीख 27 दिसंबर, 2021;
79. फा. सं. 1-116/वैज्ञानिक समिति/अधिसूचना 28.4/2010-एफ.एम.एस.ए.आई(2), तारीख 13 गिनवर, 2022; और
80. फा. सं. मानक/एफए/ए-1.30/संख्या 1/2020-एफएमएसएआई(भाग-I), तारीख 27 अक्टूबर, 2022

**FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA  
NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 11th January, 2023

**F.No. Std/Notifications/35.1/2021.**—Whereas the draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2021, were published as required by sub-section (1) of section 92 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006) *vide* notification of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, F.No. Std/Notifications/35.1/2021, dated the 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of the period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette containing the said notification were made available to the public;

And whereas the copies of the said Gazette were made available to the public on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2021;

And whereas the objections and suggestions received from the public in respect of the said draft regulations have been considered by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (e) of sub-section (2) of section 92 read with section 16 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (34 of 2006), the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India hereby makes the following regulations to amend the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, namely: -

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2023.

(2) They shall come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2023, except sub-regulation 2.6.2 of regulation 2.6 which shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 (hereinafter referred as said regulations), -

(1) in regulation 2.1,

(a) in sub-regulation 2.1.1 relating to 'General Standards for Milk and Milk Products', in clause 1, in sub-clause (f), for item (vi), following shall be substituted, namely: -

“(vi) dahi, skimmed milk dahi”;

(b) in sub-regulation 2.1.2 relating to 'Standard for Milk', in clause 2, in sub-clause (b), in the Table, for the entries against Sl. No. 8 and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be substituted, namely: -

"8.	Double Toned Milk	All India	1.3	9.0";
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(c) in sub-regulation 2.1.13 relating to 'Standards for Fermented milk products',

(i) clause 1, in item (a), in the table, the word '(curd)' shall be omitted.

(ii) clause 6, in sub-clause (a), in item (i), the proviso therein shall be substituted, namely: -

"Provided that the name 'Fermented Milk' may be replaced with designations Dahi, and Yoghurt if the product complies with the relevant provisions of this Standard. Provided further that in case of fermented products complying with the relevant provisions of Dahi, any other designation (prevalent regional common name) may be used together with the term 'dahi' in brackets on the label.";

(d) sub-regulation 2.1.19 relating to 'Foods for infant nutrition' shall be omitted.

(2) in regulation 2.3, in sub-regulation 2.3.6, in clause (4),

(a) in Table at S. No. 8 relating to the fruit "Lemon", in column (5) for the entry '5.0 (Min.)' the entry '3.5 (Min.)' shall be substituted.

(b) after Table, in Note, for the "This product is "coconut water" which is obtained from the tender coconut without expressing the coconut meat" the "This product is "coconut water" which is obtained from coconut without expressing the coconut meat" shall be substituted.

(3) in regulation 2.4,

(a) in sub-regulation 2.4.6, after clause 25 the following clause shall be inserted, namely: -

"26. **Basmati Rice.** - (1) Basmati Rice shall be mature kernels of the varieties of *Oryza sativa* L. notified under the Seeds Act, 1966 (54 of 1966) as Basmati, which shall possess natural fragrance, characteristic of basmati rice both in raw and cooked forms and shall be free from artificial colouring, polishing agents and artificial fragrances.

(2) Basmati Rice shall be of the following types, namely: -

(a) Brown Basmati Rice (De- Husked) is paddy rice from which the husk only has been removed and the process of de-husking and handling may result in some loss of bran.

The kernels shall be long, slender, light brown in colour having vitreous lustre (glossy in appearance);

(b) Milled Basmati Rice is de-husked rice from which all or part of the bran and germ has been removed by milling and the kernels shall be long, slender, white to creamy white or grayish colour and translucent;

(c) Parboiled brown (De- Husked) basmati rice (Brown basmati rice of parboiled paddy) may be processed from paddy that has been soaked in water so that the starch is fully gelatinized, followed by a drying process. The kernels shall be long, slender, brownish in colour;

(d) Milled Parboiled Basmati Rice may be processed from husked rice that has been soaked in water and subjected to heat treatment so that the starch is fully gelatinized, followed by a drying process, and the kernels shall be long, slender, creamy white, yellowish, brownish or grayish in colour and translucent;

(3) They shall conform to the following standards, namely: -

S. No.	Parameters	Brown Basmati Rice (De- Husked)	Milled Basmati Rice	Parboiled brown (De- Husked) basmati rice (Brown basmati rice of parboiled paddy)	Milled Parboiled Basmati Rice
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Average Length (mm)	7.0 and above	6.61 and above	7.0 and above	6.61 and above
2	Average Length - breadth ratio	3.5 and above	3.5 and above	3.5 and above	3.5 and above
3	Average cooked rice length (mm)	12.0 and above	12.0 and above	12.0 and above	12.0 and above

4	Average volume expansion ratio (More than)	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
5	Average pre-cooked milled rice breadth (mm), Not more than	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
6	Elongation ratio after cooking (Not less than)	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.5
7	Moisture per cent. by mass, not more than	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
8	Organic extraneous matter (per cent. by mass), not more than	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
9	Inorganic extraneous matter (per cent. by mass), not more than	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
10	Paddy grains (per cent by mass), not more than	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3
11	Other varieties of non basmati rice (per cent. by mass), not more than	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
12	Under milled and red striped or red grains (per cent. by mass), not more than	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
13	Chalky grains (per cent. by mass), not more than	7.0	7.0	2.0	1.0
14	Green grains (per cent. by mass), not more than	6.0	nil	6.0	nil
15	Broken and fragments (per cent. by mass), not more than	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
16	Damaged discoloured grains (per cent. by mass), not more than	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
17	Amylose content Dry mass basis (per cent)	20-25	20-25	20-25	20-25
18	Alkali spreading value (ASV)	4.0-7.0	4.0-7.0	4.0-7.0	4.0-7.0
19	Uric acid (mg per kg). not more than	100	100	100	100

**Note:** The confirmation for Basmati Rice variety shall be done by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, if required.

**Broken basmati rice: It shall be of following name(s)**

Basmati Rice Tibar

Basmati Rice Dubar

Basmati Rice Mini Dubar

Basmati Rice Mogra

Basmati Rice Mini Mogra

**Note:** - For broken basmati rice, the parameter at S.No.1 to 6 of this sub-clause shall not apply and rest other parameters with their limits and other provisions shall be applicable.

**Explanation.** - For the purposes of this clause -

(a) broken and fragments includes pieces of rice kernels which are less than three fourth of a kernel;

- (b) chalky kernels are whole or broken kernels except for glutinous rice, of which at least three quarters of the surface has an opaque and floury appearance;
- (c) damaged, discoloured grains include rice kernels, broken fragments of whole kernels that are internally damaged or discoloured (including black grains), materially affecting the quality;
- (d) elongation ratio (ER) means the ratio of the length of cooked rice to that of uncooked rice which measures the expansion of length upon cooking;
- (e) length- Breadth ratio means the ratio of the length of a grain to its breadth;
- (f) red grains shall be the kernels, whole or broken which have 25 per cent. or more of their surface with red bran;
- (g) under milled grain means grain whose bran portion is not completely removed during polishing or which has substantial bran streaks left on it;
- (h) green grains mean the kernels whole or broken, which are greenish in colour;
- (i) paddy grains mean the kernels whole or broken, with husk;
- (j) average volume expansion ratio means ratio of volume of cooked rice to volume of raw rice;
- (k) other varieties mean varieties of rice other than those notified as basmati.

(4) The type of broken rice, such as Tibar, Dubar, Mogra shall be prominently mentioned on the label.”;

(b) in sub-regulation 2.4.6, after clause 26 the following clause shall be inserted, namely: -

“27. **Blended Rice.** - Blended Rice is a mixture of basmati and/ or non-basmati rice which resemble with each-other as closely as possible in final attributes and shall be free from off odour. It shall be free from abnormal odours added colouring matter, molds, weevils, rodent hairs and excreta of animal origin.

(1) Every package of Blended Rice shall carry the following label, namely: -

<p>BLENDDED RICE contains</p> <p>(Name and type) Rice..... percent.</p> <p>(Name and type) Rice..... percent.</p>
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(2) Blended Rice shall conform to the specifications of Rice prescribed at regulation 2.4.6(24) in its respective category.

(3) The product shall conform to the microbiological requirement given in Appendix B.”;

(c) in sub-regulation 2.4.11, in clause 4 relating to ‘Formulated Supplement for Children’,

(i) in item (3), in sub-item (ii) relating to ‘other ingredients’, in sub sub-item (f), in the table, in column (2), the entries against Sl. No. 14 shall be substituted with the following, namely: -

“Vitamin E (as alpha- tocopherols), mg per 100 g”;

(ii) in item (4) relating to ‘Essential requirements’, sub-item (ii), shall be substituted with the following, namely: -

“(ii) The Protein: Energy ratio shall not be more than 5 – 7.5 per cent. Protein Digestibility Corrected Amino Acid Score (PDCAAS) shall not be less than 90 per cent. of the WHO amino acid pattern for children from 2 to 5 years. In formulations with PDCAAS score of <90 per cent. the quantity of protein shall be adjusted, if required, to achieve the desired value. If, for any technical reasons, the PDCAAS digestibility of a protein cannot be determined, the protein quality may be calculated from the published data on essential amino acid patterns of dietary proteins and their digestibility.”;

(4) in regulation 2.5,

(a) in the sub-regulation 2.5.2, in clause 2, in sub-clause 8,

(i) in item (c), at the end, after the words ‘soy proteins must be labelled as “Imitation”, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely: -

“For the purpose of this clause, ‘extenders’ and ‘binders’ are defined as:

(i) **Extenders:** Extenders are non-meat substances with substantial protein content and are added to meat products to reduce formulation costs and provide certain functional properties related to product bind, texture and flavor. A common functional property of most extenders is water holding.

(ii) **Binders:** Binders are non-meat ingredients with an ability to hold and entrap fat and water to produce stable meat emulsion. Binders are primarily used to improve the water holding capacity of the product and also to improve the fat holding and emulsion stability.”;

(ii) for item (d), the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“(d) Final product moisture content shall not exceed four times the protein content plus 10% (4P+10%). However, combination of added water and fat shall not exceed 40%.”;

(b) in the sub-regulation 2.5.3, in the clause 1 relating to ‘Fresh eggs’, in sub-clause (4)-

(i) the word “Minimum” shall be omitted.;

(ii) in table, in column (4) relating to ‘Guinea Fowl’, against the chemical constituents ‘Ash (%)’ for the entry “0.7-0.1” the entry “0.7 to 1.17” shall be substituted.;

(5) in regulation 2.6, after sub regulation 2.6.1, the following sub-regulation shall be inserted, namely: -

#### “2.6.2. Limit of Formaldehyde-

(1) The amount of naturally occurring formaldehyde shall not exceed the limit prescribed in the column (2) for different species of fish as mentioned in the table given below: -

Group & Species	mg/kg, Max.
<b>Group - I (Marine)</b>	
All finfishes (including Barracuda, Billfishes, Bombay Duck, Bullseyes, Catfishes, Croakers, Eels, Filefishes and Puffers, Flat fishes, Goatfishes, Groupers (Rock Cods), Half Beaks and Full Beaks, Horse Mackerel, Leather Jacket (Queen Fish), Mackerel, Mulletts, Other Carangids, Other Clupeoids, Anchovies, Other Perches, Pigface Breems, Pomfrets, Ribbon Fish, Sardines, Seer Fishes/Spanish Mackerel, Silver Bellies/Biddies, Snappers, Tarpons, Threadfin Breems, Threadfins, Tuna and Bonitos, White Fish and any other commercial varieties), elasmobranchs, crustaceans and molluscs except those under Group III & IV	4.0
<b>Group - II (Freshwater Origin)</b>	
Finfishes (including Indian Major Carps, Minor Carps, Exotic Carps, Freshwater Catfishes, Snakeheads/Murrels, Tilapia, Trout and all other freshwater fin fishes), crustaceans and molluscans	
<b>Group - III (Marine)</b>	
Lizard fishes and any other marine fishes not covered under Group I	8.0
<b>Group - IV (Frozen Stored marine fish products)</b>	
All frozen stored marine fish products	100”;

(6) in regulation 2.7, in sub-regulation 2.7.4 relating to ‘Chocolate’

(a) in clause 5, in sub-clause (b),

(i) for the words “the vegetable fat may be singly or in blends and shall comply with the following standards, namely: -”, the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“Any vegetable fat that are standardized in these regulations may be used, singly or in blends, as cocoa butter equivalent and shall comply with the following standards as in item (I) to (III).”;

(ii) for item (III), the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“(III) they are obtained by the process of refining and/or fractionation, which excludes enzymatic modification of the triglyceride structure.”;

(b) in clause 6, after the table, for the words “CONTAINS VEGETABLE FAT IN ADDITION TO COCOA BUTTER”, the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“CONTAINS COCOA BUTTER EQUIVALENT/VEGETABLE FAT IN ADDITION TO COCOA BUTTER”;

(7) in regulation 2.9,

(a) in sub-regulation 2.9.14, in clause 1, the item (viii) relating to ‘Calcium content expressed as Calcium Oxide on dry basis’ and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted.

(b) in sub-regulation 2.9.30, in clause 5, for the words and figures, "Salt used for manufacture of double fortified salt.....encapsulated form is used for fortification" the words and figures "Salt used for the manufacture of double fortified salt shall have minimum 99.0 percent sodium chloride content on dry weight basis when the source of nutrients in non-encapsulated form is used for fortification; minimum 98 per cent sodium chloride content on dry weight basis when the source of nutrients in encapsulated form is used for fortification" shall be substituted;

(8) in the Appendix A,

(a) under the heading "IV.USE OF FOOD ADDITIVES IN FOOD PRODUCTS",

(i) in Table 1, in the Food Category System 1.2.1, the words "or curd" shall be omitted.;

(ii) in Table 2, in column (1), under the heading Food Category System, against item 2.1.3, for the entry in column (5) & (6) against the food additive "TOCOPHEROLS", the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

Recommended Maximum Level (5)	Note (6)
"300 mg/kg	358";

(b) under the heading "Notes to the Food Additives mentioned in the Table 1 to 15", after Note No. '348' and the entries relating thereto, the following Note No. and entries shall be inserted in column (1) to (2), namely: -

Note no.	Notes to the Food Additives mentioned in the Table 1 to 15
"358	Except for use in fish oils at 6,000 mg/kg, singly or in combination";

(9) in the Appendix C, under the heading "II. USE OF PROCESSING AIDS IN FOOD PRODUCTS"-

(a) in the Table 1 relating to ANTIFOAMING AGENTS -

(i) at S.No. 3 relating to the processing aid "Polydimethyl siloxane", in the column (3), after the words "Potato processing", the words ", alcoholic beverages" shall be inserted.

(ii) after S.No. 8, relating to 'Vegetable fatty acid esters' and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S. No.	Name of the processing aid	Product Category	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
"9.	Polysorbate Sorbitan Monolaurate	Sugar	GMP";

(b) in the Table 3 relating to CLARIFYING AGENTS AND FILTRATION AIDS-

(i) at S.No. 1 relating to the processing aid "Acid clays of montmorillonite", in the column (3), after the word "syrups", the word ", oils" shall be inserted.

(ii) at S. No. 4 relating to the processing aid "Co-extruded polystyrene and polyvinyl polypyrrolidone". in the column (3), for the word "wine" the words "Alcoholic beverages including low alcoholic and alcohol free counterparts" shall be substituted.

(iii) at S. No. 6 relating to the processing aid "Diatomaceous earth", in the column (3), after the words "Alcoholic beverages including low alcoholic and alcohol-free counterparts (as filter powder)", the words "non-alcoholic beverages, sharbat, sugar syrups, synthetic syrups and fruit syrups" shall be inserted.

(iv) after S.No.13 relating to the processing aid "Synthetic magnesium silicate (INS 553(i))", and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S. No.	Name of the processing aid	Product Category	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
"14.	Calcium oxide (INS 529)	Preparation of Corn Flour	GMP
15.	Phosphoric acid (INS 338)	Sugar	GMP";

(c) in the Table 4 relating to LUBRICANTS, RELEASE AND ANTISTICK AGENTS -

(i) at S. No. 18 relating to the processing aid "Sunflower oil", in the column (3), after the word "soups", words "salts, spices, sauces, salads, protein products, seasonings, fruits & vegetable products, nuts & nut products, cereal" shall be inserted.

(ii) after S.No.21 relating to the processing aid "White mineral oil (INS 905e)", and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S. No.	Name of the processing aid	Product Category	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
22.	Cocoa powder	Chocolates	GMP
23.	Cottonseed oil	Fruits and vegetables, seasonings, bakery products, fruits & vegetable products, salt, spices and soups, cereal and cereal products, nut and nut products	GMP
24.	Magnesium hydrogen carbonate (INS 504(ii))	Snacks	GMP
26.	Talc (INS 553(iii))	Confectionary	GMP
27.	Tricalcium phosphate (INS 341(iii))	Snacks	GMP";

(d) in the Table 6 relating to 'SOLVENT FOR EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING', for word "flavourings" wherever mentioned under column (3) the words "flavouring substances" shall be substituted.

(e) in the Table 11 relating to 'ENZYMES (for treatment or processing of raw materials, foods, or ingredients)', -

(i) at S. No. 6 relating to the enzyme "Phospholipase A2 (EC No. 3.1.1.4)", in the column (3) and (4), after the existing entries, new row with the following entries shall be inserted, namely: -

Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
" <i>Aspergillus niger</i> "	GMP";

(ii) at S. No 14 relating to the enzyme "Beta amylase (EC No. 3.2.1.2)", in the column (3) and (4), after the existing entries, new row with the following entry shall be inserted, namely: -

Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
"Soybean"	GMP";

(iii) after S. No. 37 relating to the enzyme "Serine protease (subtilisin) (EC No. 3.4.21.62)", and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S.No.	Name of the Enzyme	Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
37a	Oryzin (EC No. 3.4.21.63)	<i>Aspergillus melleus</i>	GMP";

(iv) after S. No. 42 relating to the enzyme "Chymosin (EC No. 3.4.23.4)", and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S.No.	Name of the Enzyme	Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
42a	Aspergillopepsin I (EC No. 3.4.23.18)	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	GMP
		<i>Aspergillus oryzae</i>	GMP
42b	Aspergillopepsin II (EC No. 3.4.23.19)	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	GMP";

(v) at S.No. 44 relating to the enzyme "Mucorpepsin (EC No. 3.4.23.23)", in column (2) after the word "Mucorpepsin", the words "(Aspartic proteinase)" shall be inserted.

(vi) after S.No. 44 relating to the enzyme "Mucorpepsin (EC No. 3.4.23.23)", and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S.No.	Name of the Enzyme	Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
44a	Thermolysin (EC No. 3.4.24.27)	<i>Bacillus stearothermophilus</i>	GMP
		<i>Geobacillus caldoproteolyticus</i>	GMP";

(vii) for S.No. 45 relating to the enzyme "Metalloproteinase (Bacillolysin) (EC No. 3.4.24.28)", in column (2), after the word "(Bacillolysin)", the word "Metalloendopeptidase" shall be inserted.

(viii) at S.No. 45 relating to the enzyme "Metalloproteinase (Bacillolysin) (EC No. 3.4.24.28)", in the column (3) and (4), after the existing entries, new row with the following entry shall be inserted, namely: -

Source	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
" <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> "	GMP";

(ix) after S.No. 45 relating to the enzyme "Metalloproteinase (Bacillolysin) (EC No. 3.4.24.28)" and the entries relating thereto, in the column (1) to (4), the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S.No.	Name of the Enzyme	Source	Residual level (mg/kg)(Not more than)
45a	Glutaminase (EC No. 3.5.1.2)	<i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i>	GMP
45b	Protein glutaminase (EC No. 3.5.1.44)	<i>Chryseobacterium proteolyticum</i>	GMP";

(f) in the Table 12 relating to 'GENERALLY PERMITTED PROCESSING AIDS', -

(i) at S.No. 1 relating to the processing aid "Activated carbon", in the column (4), after the word "juices", words ", alcoholic beverages" shall be inserted.

(ii) at S.No. 22 relating to the processing aid "Gibberellic acid", in the column (3), after the word "Malting", words "grain processing steps for fermentation (alcoholic beverages)" shall be inserted.

(iii) after S.No. 74 relating to the processing aid "Zinc sulphate", and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be inserted, namely: -

S. No.	Name of the processing aid	Functional/ Technological Purpose	Product Category	Residual level (mg/kg) (Not more than)
75	Calcium hypochlorite	Disinfectant	Water treatment	1 (as available chlorine)".

G. KAMALA VARDHANA RAO, Chief Executive Officer

[ADVT.-III/4/Exty./549/2022-23]

**Note :** The principal regulations were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary *vide* notification number F. No. 2-15015/30/2010, dated the 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2011 and subsequently amended *vide* notification numbers:

1. F.No. 4/15015/30/2011, dated 07<sup>th</sup> June, 2013;
2. F.No. P. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI, dated 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2013;
3. F.No. 5/15015/30/2012, dated 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2013;
4. F.No. P. 15025/262/2013-PA/FSSAI, dated 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2014;
5. F.No. 1-83F/Sci. Pan- Noti/FSSAI-2012, dated 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2015;
6. F.No. 4/15015/30/2011, dated 04<sup>th</sup> August, 2015;
7. F.No. P.15025/264/13-PA/FSSAI, dated 04<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
8. F.No. P. 15025/263/13-PA/FSSAI, dated 04<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
9. F.No. P. 15025/261-PA/FSSAI, dated 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
10. F.No. P. 15025/208/2013-PA/FSSAI, dated 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
11. F.No. 7/15015/30/2012, dated 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015;
12. F.No. 1-10(1)/Standards/SP(Fish and Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013, dated 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2016;
13. F.No. 3-16/Specified Foods/Notification(Food Additives)/FSSAI-2014, dated 03<sup>rd</sup> May, 2016;
14. F.No. 15-03/Enf/FSSAI/2014, Dated 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2016;
15. F.No. 3-14F/Notification (Nutraceuticals)/FSSAI-2013, dated 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2016;
16. F.No. 1-12/Standards/SP (Sweets, Confectionery)/FSSAI-2015, dated 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2016;
17. F.No. 1-120(1)/Standards/Irradiation/FSSAI-2015, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2016;
18. F.No. 11/09/Reg/Harmoniztn/2014, dated 05<sup>th</sup> September, 2016;
19. F.No. Stds/CPLQ.CP/EM/FSSAI-2015, dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2016;
20. F.No. 11/12 Reg/Prop/FSSAI-2016, dated 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016;
21. F.No. 1-110(2)/SP (Biological Hazards)/FSSAI/2010, dated 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016;
22. F.No. Stds/SP (Water & Beverages)/Notif (2)/FSSAI-2016, dated 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2016;
23. F.No. 1-11(1)/Standards/SP (Water & Beverages)/FSSAI-2015, dated 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2016;
24. F.No. P.15025/93/2011-PFA/FSSAI, dated 02<sup>nd</sup> December, 2016;
25. F.No. P. 15025/6/2004-PFS/FSSAI, dated 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2016;
26. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification(1)/FSSAI-2016, dated 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2017;
27. F.No. 1-12/Standards/2012-FSSAI, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2017;
28. F.No. 1-10(7)/Standards/SP (Fish & Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2017;
29. F.No. Stds /SCSS&H/ Notification (02)/FSSAI-2016, dated 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2017;
30. F.No. Stds/03/Notification (LS)/ FSSAI-2017, dated 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2017;
31. F.No. 1/Additives/Stds/14.2Notification/FSSAI/2016, dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2017;
32. F.No. Stds/F&VP/Notification (01)/FSSAI-2016, dated 02<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017;
33. F.No. 1-94(1)/FSSAI/SP(Labelling)/2014, dated 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2017;
34. F.No. Stds/M&MPIP (1)/SP/FSSAI-2015, dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2017;
35. F.No. Stds/SP (Water & Beverages)/Noti(1)/FSSAI-2016, dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017;
36. F.No.1-10(8)/Standards/SP (Fish and Fisheries Products)/FSSAI-2013, dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017;
37. F.No. 2/Stds/CPL & CP/Notification/FSSAI-2016, dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2017;
38. F.No. A-1 (1)/Standard/MMP/2012, dated 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017;
39. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification (3)/FSSAI-2016, dated 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017;
40. F.No. 2/Stds/CPL & CP/Notification/FSSAI-2016(part), dated 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2017;
41. F.No. A-1/Standards/Agmark/2012-FSSAI(pt.1), dated 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2017;
42. F.No. 1/Additives/Stds/BIS Notification/FSSAI/2016, dated 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2017;

43. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification (5)/FSSAI-2016, dated 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2018;
44. F.No. Stds/01-SP (fortified & Enriched Foods)-Reg/FSSAI-2017, dated 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2018;
45. F.No. 1/Infant Nutrition/Stds/Notification/FSSAI/2016, dated 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2018;
46. F.No.1-110(3)/SP (Biological Hazards)/FSSAI/2010, dated 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018;
47. F.No. Stds/SCSS&H/ Notification (03)/FSSAI-2016, dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2018;
48. F.No. Stds/CPL&CP/Notification/FSSAI-2016, dated 04<sup>th</sup> May, 2018;
49. F.No. Stds/SP(SCSSH)/Ice lollies notification/FSSAI-2018, dated 20<sup>th</sup> July,2018;
50. F.No. Stds/SP (Water & Beverages)/Notif(3)/FSSAI-2016, dated 20<sup>th</sup> July,2018;
51. F.No. Stds/CPL&CP/ Draft Notification/FSSAI-2017, dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018;
52. F.No. 1/Additional Additives/Stds/Notification/FSSAI/2016, dated 08<sup>th</sup> November, 2018;
53. F.No. Stds/03/Notification (CFOI&YC)/FSSAI-2017, dated 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
54. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification (7)/FSSAI-2017, dated 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018;
55. F.No. Stds/M&MP/Notification (02)/FSSAI-2016, dated 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018;
56. F.No. Stds/F&VP/Notifications (04)/FSSAI-2016, dated 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018;
57. F.No. 1-116/Scientific Committee (Noti.)/2010-FSSAI, dated 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2018;
58. F.No. 02-01/Enf-1(1)/FSSAI-2012, dated 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2019;
59. F.No. Stds/F&VP/Notification (07)/FSSAI-2018, dated 05<sup>th</sup> July, 2019;
60. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification (10)/FSSAI-2017, dated 05<sup>th</sup> July, 2019;
61. F.No. Stds/SP (Water & Beverages)/Notification (5) FSSAI-2018, dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019;
62. F.No. M&MP/Misc. Stds/Notification (03)/FSSAI-2018, dated 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019;
63. F.No.1-110/SP (Biological Hazards)/Amendment-1/FSSAI/2018, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2020;
64. F.No. Stds/CPL & CP/Notification/01/FSSAI-2018, dated 09<sup>th</sup> July, 2020;
65. F.No. Stds/CPL & CP/Notification/01/FSSAI-2017, dated 09<sup>th</sup> July, 2020;
66. F.No. Stds/ M&MPIP (3)/SP/FSSAI-2018, dated 09<sup>th</sup> July, 2020;
67. F.No. A-1/Standards/Agmark/2012-FSSAI (p+1), dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2020;
68. F.No. Stds./M&MP/Notification (04)/FSSAI-2019, dated 02<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020;
69. F.No. Stds/Additives-I/Notification/FSSAI/2018, dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020;
70. F.No. 1/Additional Additives-III/Stds/Notification/FSSAI/2017, dated 09<sup>th</sup> October, 2020;
71. F.No. Stds/Processing aids/Notification/FSSAI/2018, dated 09<sup>th</sup> October, 2020;
72. F.No. 1-116/Scientific Committee/Notif./2010-FSSAI, dated 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2020;
73. F.No. 1-116/Scientific Committee/Notif.27/2010-FSSAI(E), dated 04<sup>th</sup> March, 2021;
74. F.No. Stds/O&F/Notification (5)/FSSAI-2017, dated 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2021;
75. F.No. 1-116/Scientific Committee/Notif.28.4/2010-FSSAI(1), dated 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021;
76. F.No. 1-116/Scientific Committee/Notif.28.4/2010-FSSAI(1) (Pt.F), dated 03<sup>rd</sup> November, 2021;
77. F. No. Stds/SC/A-1.34/N-1, dated 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021;
78. F. No. M&MP/Notification(05)/FSSAI-2019, dated 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2021;
79. F. No. 1-116/Scientific Committee/Notif.28.4/2010-FSSAI(2), dated 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2022; and
80. F. No. STD/FA/A-1.30/No.1/2020-FSSAI(P-I), dated 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.

Annexure - C - 30-

Annexure - II

ANNEXURE-I

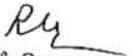
63

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT SHOWING FORMALIN TESTS CARRIED OUT AT DIFFERENT INSTITUTES, STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY AND AT DIFFERENT FISH MARKETS CARRIED OUT BY DISTRICT FISHERY OFFICIALS

Sl No	Period	Total Nos of Sample tested	Net Result	Remarks
State Public Health Laboratory	April-May 2023	86 Nos	Negative :77 Positive 9	1.Total District covered 17 Nos 2. Positive fund in sample in Market at Bongaigaon ( Bijni) Barpeta , Nagaon & Darrang 3. Consolidated Report enclosed
College of Fisheries ,Assam Raha	May 2023	-	13.89 mg/kg to 32.3= 46mg (Equivalent to 0.00134% to 0.00325%)	Detail Analysis done at CIFT Kochi, Kerala
Gauhati University	May, 2023	10 Nos	0.004-1.3% Formaldehyde	-
Nagaon College	December 2022 to March, 2023	8	Cadmium 0.002-0.003% Arsenic : 0.007-0.15%	
Dibrugarh University	-	6	Formaldehyde: 0.000629-0.000746%	
Fishery Departmental Officers at District Level	May - June 2023	26 nos District	All samples found Negative	District wise consolidated report enclosed

  
Director of Fisheries, Assam

Director of Fisheries  
Assam

  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt of Assam  
Fishery Department

Annexure - D

- 31 -  
Annexure III  
Annexure II

## LIST OF DISTRICT NODAL OFFICERS FOR THE CASE OF FORMALIN ADULTRATION IN FISH

Sl.	District	Name, Designation	Contact number
1.	Hojai	Biswajit Borah, FDO	9957211236
2	Karimganj	Md. Nurul Amin Ansary, FDO	8638624764
3	Morigaon	Md. Anuwar Hussain Khan, FDO	8638189400
4	Lakhimpur	Bonani Laskar, FDO	9635947121
5	Majuli	Manashree Deka Chintey, FDO	8134844069
6	Nagaon	Pranjal Kumar Das, FDO	8472983301
7	Dhubri	Kh. Jahanor Ikram, FDO	9476715634
8	Hallakandi	Imran Hussain, FDO	9954187886
9	Golaghat	Ganesh Ch. Talukdar, SDFDO	8638760253
10	Darrang	Rajashree Devi, FDO	8133850158
11	Sivsagar	Mr. Lakshminandan Phukon, FDO	9954842942
12	Goalpara	Saidul Islam, FDO	7002664621
13	South Salmara	Abdus Salam, FDO	8811809757
14	Dibrugarh	Jayanta Dutta, FDO	8732823122
15	Chirang	Amrit Das, JE	7002611898
16	Sonitpur	Sheikh Md. Abdullah Saeem, FDO	7002277065
17	Baksa, Mushalpur	Abhijit Choudhury, FDO	8472078273
18	Udalguri	Himangshu Bhattacharya, FDO	9577613382
19	Kamrup	Jyotish Ch. Das, FDO	9678349178
20	Kokrajhar	Gobinda Basumatary, FDO	9678212249
21	Jorhat	Silpisikha Gogoi, FDO (M)	7005834572
22	Dima Hasao	Rupjyoti Medhi, SDFDO	9435023595
23	Biswanath Chariali	Diganta Borah, FDO	9706367343
24	Dhemaji	Dipankar Saikia, FDO	8638460816
25	Charaideo	Kaustav Goswami, FDO	6002553486
26	Barpeta	Mohinur Alom Khan, SDFDO	970745411
27	Cachar	Debashish Mishra, FDO	7896880959
28	Tinsukia	Chand Mahammand Ali, FDO	6002299097
29	Karbi Anglong	Larlyn Katharpi, FDO	8789818309
30	West Karbi Anglong	Babulsing Kathar, FDO	9401807526
31	Bongaigaon	Kangkana Das	8011312537
32	Nalbari	Nilutpal Raja	8638330538

Anne Ann - E

32-65

Annexure III 35

~~Annexure III~~

Annexure IV

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES  
ASSAM, GUWAHATI

No. AF (P) 05/2023-24/2119A

Dated Guwahati the 15th May 2023

From: Director of Fisheries,  
Assam, Guwahati

To: The State Project Director  
ARIAS Society, Khanapara, Guwahati

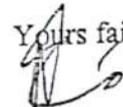
Sub: Submission of project proposal "Supply of Formalin Detection Kits to the  
Departmental Technical Officials for checking of Formalin in fish through  
APART financial assistance"-reg.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above I have honour to submit herewith a  
of project proposal "*Supply of Formalin Detection Kits to the Departmental Technical  
Officials for checking of Formalin in fish through APART financial assistance*" amounting  
to Rs 5,00,000.00 (Rupees Five lakh) only for favour of your kind approval and sanction and  
release of funds. Detailed justification of the proposal has been highlighted in the proposal.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary consideration.

Enclosed: As Stated above

Yours faithfully  


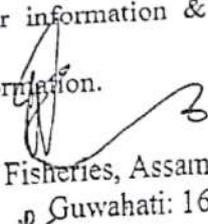
Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Guwahati: 16

Memo No. AF (P) 05/2023-24/ 2119B

Dated Guwahati the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Copy to:

1. The P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur for favour of kind appraisal to the Commissioner & secy.
2. The P.A. to the Secretary to the Govt of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur for favour of kind appraisal to the Commissioner & secy.
3. The Joint Secretary to the Govt of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur for favour of information.
4. The Joint Director of Fisheries, Assam, DoF for information.
5. The Marketing Officer, Fisheries, Meen Bhawaban, Guwahati for information & Necessary action.
6. The Nodal Officer, APART, PIU, Meen Bhawaban, Guwahati for information.

Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Guwahati: 16  




Annexure G - 34 -

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES  
ASSAM, GUWAHATI

~~Annexure VI~~  
~~Annexure VII~~

No. AF(P)05/2023-24/1909-42

Dated Guwahati the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

From: Director of Fisheries,  
Assam, Guwahati

To: The District Fishery Development Officer:  
Barpeta/ Bongaigoan/ Bajali/ Biswanath/ Baksa/ Cachar/ Chirang/ Charideo/  
Darrang/ Dhemaji/ Dhaubri/ Dibrugarh/ DimaHasao/ Golaghat/ Goalpara/ Hojai/  
Hailakandi/ Jorhat/ Kamrup(R) /Kamrup(M)/ Karbi Anglong/ Karimganj/ Kokrajhar/  
Lakhimpur/ Marigaon/ Majuli/ Nagaon/ Nalbari/ Sivasagar/ Sonitpur/ South-  
Salmara/ Tinsukia/ West-Karbi Anglong/ Udalguri.

Sub: Regarding purchase of Formalin Testing Kit in the fishes (both Chalani & Local).

Sir,

As you are aware that formalin adulteration in fish is a serious human health issue, which is being widely published in different media platforms during past few days. In this regard you are requested to make necessary arrangement to purchase Formalin Testing Kit and conduct test randomly to detect presence of Formalin in fish (both Chalani and Local) available in the fish markets in your district in a regular interval and the report of testing should be sent to Food Safety Department in regular interval with a copy to the undersigned.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

*Ramendu Kumar Barua*  
Director of Fisheries  
Assam, Guwahati

No. AF(P)05/2023-24/1943-45

Dated Guwahati the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Copy to:

- 1) PS to the Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-06 for favour of kind appraisal to the Hon'ble Minister.
- 2) PA to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur, Assam for favour of kind information.
- 3) The Joint Secretary to Govt. of Assam, Fishery Department, Dispur, for information and necessary action.

*Ramendu Kumar Barua*  
Director of Fisheries  
Assam, Guwahati

o/c

**DISTRICT: KAMRUP METEO**

**IN THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT**

**(THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM & ARUNACHAL PRADESH)**

**(CIVIL EXTRA ORDINARY JURDICTION)**

**PIL NO. 31 / 2023**

SRI HASIBUR RAHMAN

..... Petitioner

-Vs -

THE STATE OF ASSAM AND ORS

..... Respondents

-AND-

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Additional Affidavit filed by the respondent No. 3 to bring on record the updated status in the above mentioned PIL in compliance to Order of this Hon'ble Court dated 07/06/2023.

**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT**

I, Nirmal Kanti Debnath , son of Late J.K.Debnath , aged about 54 years presently residing at Kahilipara , Guwahati in the district of Kamrup (Metro) Assam do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows;

1. That at present I have been discharging my duty as Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Fishery Department and I have been authorized by the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Fishery Department who

has been impleaded as Respondent No. 3 in the instant PIL. A copy of the PIL filed by the petitioner has been served upon the Respondents through the Government Advocate, Assam and I have gone through the same and having understood the contents thereof I am competent to swear this affidavit .

2. That affidavit in opposition in this case has already been filed by the deponent and vide order dated 07/06/2023 of this Hon'ble Court after perusal of the said affidavit, the Hon'ble Court has directed to bring on record the updated status and actions taken so far for detection of formalin in imported Fish and the preventive measures taken for sale of such contaminated fish that are harmful for human consumption and as such this additional affidavit has been filed by the deponent.

3. That the deponent begs to state that that for detection of formalin in imported Fish, tests were carried out on imported Fish samples collected from different sources throughout the State by some reputed Agencies/ Institutions like State Public Health Laboratory, College of Fisheries, Raha, Guwahati University, Nagaon College, Dibrugarh University, CIFRI, NE Region, ICAR, Guwahati. Further, tests were also carried out by the district level Fishery Officials in fish markets in their respective jurisdiction and as per report of the Marketing Officer, it appears that tests were carried out on imported Fish samples collected from different sources throughout the State and presence of formalin in such fish sample found to be within the

permissible limits. A consolidated report of the tests carried out by different agencies regarding presence of formalin is as follows:

Sl No	Institute/organisation	Period	Total Nos of Sample tested	Net Result	Remarks
1	State Public Health Laboratory	April-May 2023	86 Nos	Negative :77 Positive 9	1.District covered 17 Nos 2.Positive found in sample in the Market at Bongaigaon (Bijni), Barpeta, Nagaon & Darrang 3. Consolidated Report enclosed
2	College of Fisheries, Assam, Raha	May, 2023	-----	13.89 mg/kg to 32.3=46mg (Equivalent to 0.00134% to 0.00325%)	Detail Analysis done at CIFT Kochi, Kerala
3	Gauhati University	May, 2023	10 Nos	0.004-1.3% Formaldehyde	-----
4	Nagaon College	December 2022 to March 2023	8 Nos	Cadmium 0.002-0.003% Arsenic 0.007-0.15%	
5	Dibrugarh University	-----	6 Nos	Formaldehyde: 0.000629-0.000746%	
6	Fishery Departmental Officers at District Level	May - June 2023	26 Nos of District	All samples found Negative	District consolidated report enclosed

4. That after receiving the Report, the Director of Fisheries, Assam has outlined some administrative measures in this regard based on the details as submitted in the Report. These are:

(i). Appointment of District Nodal Officer for monitoring with regular sample collection from Fish markets in their respective jurisdiction and a List

containing names of the Nodal Officers with name, Designation and Contact Nos especially for Formalin adulteration has been circulated.

A copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure A**

(II). Distribution of Formalin Detection Kits to District Fishery Officials of 18 Nos of undivided Districts of the State for Formalin testing has been ceremonially launched by the Hon'ble Departmental Minister of Fisheries procured through ARIAS Society, Assam, Khanapara under APART vide letter No AF(S) 05/2021302/2119A dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023

A copy of the said letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 is enclosed as **Annexure B**

(iii) Creating Public Awareness by the District Fishery Officials through interaction among the local people in the market places and other public places for which instructions have been issued by the Director of Fisheries vide letter No AF(S) 05/2023-24/3175 -208 dated 01/06/2023.

A copy the letter No AF(S) 05/2023-24/3175-208 dated 1.6.2023 is enclosed **Annexure C**

(iv) In case any of those districts not supplied with Formalin Testing Kits, the Director of Fisheries vide letter No AF(S) 05/2021302/1909-42 dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023, the District Fishery Development Officers have been instructed to procure Formalin testing Kits locally.

A copy of the letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023 is enclosed as **Annexure D**

. 39 .

5. That the statements made in this affidavit in paragraphs 1, 2 & 3 to the affidavit are true to my knowledge and those made in paragraphs 4 being matters of records which I verily believe it be true and the rests are my humble submissions before this Hon'ble Court.

I swear that my declaration is true, that it conceals nothing and that no part of it is false, so help me God.

And accordingly I sign this affidavit on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 at Guwahati.

Identified by me,

Advocate's Clerk

*Nirmal Kanti Debrah*

DEPONENT

GAHC010093822023



**THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT**  
(HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Case No. : PIL/31/2023

HASIBUR RAHMAN  
SON OF LATÉ HYDER RAHMAN,  
RESIDENT OF GREENLAND PATH,  
BAGHORBARI, GUWAHATI,  
KAMRUP METRO, ASSAM.

VERSUS

THE STATE OF ASSAM AND 3 ORS  
REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM,  
JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI.

2: COMMISSIONER AND SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT (FOOD SAFETY).

3: COMMISSIONER AND SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
FISHERY DEPARTMENT.

4: PRINCIPAL, NAGAON COLLEGE  
NAGAON, NAGAON DISTRICT, ASSAM

For the Petitioner : Ms. P. Agarwal, Advocate.  
Mr. B.J. Das, Advocate.

For the Respondent(s) : Mr. D.K. Sarmah, Additional Senior Government  
Advocate, Assam for respondent No. 1 to 3.  
Mr. S. Sarma, Senior Advocate assisted by Mr. A.  
Gautam, Advocate for respondent No.4.  
Mr. B.P. Borah, Advocate for the Intervenor.

- B E F O R E -  
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE SUSMITA PHUKAN KHAUND

**22.08.2023**

On the request of Ms. P. Agarwal, learned counsel representing the petitioner, list after 2(two) weeks.

**JUDGE**

**CHIEF JUSTICE**

Comparing Assistant

~~ANNEXURE-IX~~

Annex - July 42-

FISH-19/2/2023-FISHERY-Fishery Department

75

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
FISHERY DEPARTMENT: DISPUR:GUWAHATI-6

No.298007 /64

From : Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Fishery Department.To : Director of Fisheries, Assam  
Meen Bhawan, Guwahati-16

Sub : Formalin detection of imported fish samples

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to enclose the letter dated 19-05-2023 received from the special Chief Secretary, to the Govt of Andhra Pradesh and request you to furnish a report on the matter.

Yours faithfully

Signed by Nirmal Kanti  
Debnath

Date: 17-06-2023 11:12:23

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Fishery Department

Memo No.298007 /64-A

Copy for information to:-

1. The P.S to Hon'ble Minister, Fisheries, Assam.
2. The P.S to Commissioner & Secretary, Fishery Department for appraisal of Commissioner & Secretary.
3. The P.S to Secretary, Fishery Department for appraisal of Secretary.

By order etc.

Digitally Singed/-

Joint Secretary to to the Govt. of Assam,  
Fishery Department

File No. FISH-19/2/2023-FISHERY-Fishery Department (Computer No. 298007)  
51/2023/FISHERY

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEVELOPMENT & FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

From  
Gopal Krishna Dwivedi, I.A.S.,  
The Special Chief Secretary to Govt  
AP Secretariat  
Velagapudi  
Amaravati -522503

To  
Commissioner & Secretary to Govt of Assam  
Department of Fisheries  
Janatha Bhava  
"E" Block, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Dispur, Guwahati  
Assam State  
(e-mail: [fishassam@gmail.com](mailto:fishassam@gmail.com))

Letter No. 2085987/Fish/A2/2023, Date:19.05.2023

Sir,

Sub: AHDD&F Department - Rumors of formalin usage - Fish Supplies to Assam & North East States affected - PIL filed in Guwahati High Court seeking immediate ban on fish supplies to Assam - intervention by Government of Andhra Pradesh - Requested - Reg.

Ref: 1. Operative guidelines for Quality checks (Formalin / Ammonia Test ) in Fish intended to supply to other States in India  
2. From the Commissioner of Fisheries, A.P,Vijayawada, Lr.No.3766/P1/2018, Dated:18.05.2023 .

\*\*\*\*\*

I invite your kind attention to the subject and references cited.

2. The State of Andhra Pradesh is exporting fresh water fish to all the Sates in India and the North Eastern States are the principal and prime consumers of the Andhra Fish.
3. Of late, the fish farmers of Andhra Pradesh State have made a representation to the Commissioner of Fisheries, A.P, Vijayawada informing the following:-
  - a) The rumors are being spread in the States of Assam and other NE States that the fish supplied from Andhra Pradesh State contained Formalin, Cadmium and Arsenic which is causing jitters to the A.P fish farmers.
  - b) One section of the print and electronic media in Assam is literally running a campaign to stop the fish supplies from Andhra Pradesh.
  - c) In pursuit of the said objective of stopping the fish supplies from the State of Andhra Pradesh, a PIL was caused to be filed before the Hon'ble High Court, Guwahati Vide PIL NO. 31/2023 solely relying on the above stated fabricated rumors and sought for immediate ban on the supplies of fish from other States.
  - d) The state of Assam and the Fisheries and Food Ministries of the State of Assam are made as the parties in the said PIL and the real stakeholders i.e., the State of AP and its farmers are deliberately left out. The said petition is posted on 22.05.2023 and in

Office of the Comm. Secy.  
Fishery Department  
Diary No.....

the absence of a proper representation, there is a possibility of adverse orders against the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- c) Amidst these deliberate rumors, the State of Nagaland has already imposed a temporary ban on the supplies of fish from A.P State.
4. In this connection, I would like to bring to your kind notice the following:-
- a) A similar attempt was made earlier in the year 2018 when the State of Assam had banned the fish supply from A.P state on the allegations of use of formalin as preservative by the fish suppliers from A.P.
- b) In the above context, the Department of Fisheries, GoAP, vide reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, have brought out certain Operative guidelines for Quality checks (Formalin / Ammonia Test) in Fish intended to supply to other States in India for compliance by the District Fisheries officers of our State. The guidelines provides for issue of "Certificate of Quality" after testing the fish consignments meant for export to NE States.
- c) As result of the above, subsequently the fish supplies form the A.P State resumed to the NE States on issue of "Certificate of Quality" after testing the fish consignments meant for export to NE States.
- d) Now, in the light of the surface of recent allegations made in this regard in the some of the States of NE, the department of Fisheries, GOAP have issued instructions to the District Fisheries Officers to continue the process of issue of "Certificate of Quality" after conducting for Quality checks (Formalin / Ammonia Test) for the fish meant for export to NE States.

5. In view of the above, I request for your kind intervention in the above matter and inform all the concerned that, if any of the parties have any doubt about the quality of the fish exported from the State of Andhra Pradesh to Assam State, to insist for quality check / Certificate of Quality issued by the A.P Fisheries Department so as to dispel any doubts and prevent circulation of baseless allegations against the quality of fish exported from the State of Andhra Pradesh to Assam State and help in the cause in the interest of the Andhra Pradesh aqua farmers and the consumers of fish in Assam State.

6. I request for your kind intervention in the matter at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

Special Chief Secretary to Government

From:

Advocate, Gauhati High Court

To

Mr S. Banik

Reference:

O A No. 60 /20 23/EZ

Shri Arun Das

----- Petitioner

-Versus-

~~State of Assam~~

Union of India

----- Opposite Party

Sir,

Please find herewith a copy of a *reply* of the above referred case which is being filed before this Hon'ble High court.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of the same.

Received copy:

Smt. Hajit Banik

Yours faithfully,

Tanujam Mahajan Goswami

(Advocate, Gauhati High Court)