

**The**  
  
**Kolkata Gazette**  
सत्यमेव जयते  
*Extraordinary*  
Published by Authority

SRAVANA 7]

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022

[SAKA 1944

PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

**Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture, Aquatic Resources & Fishing Harbours,  
IT Building, 31, GN Block, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 091**

No. 1640-FI-99/28/2022

25<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**ORDER**

In West Bengal, Fisheries Sector plays an important roll for economic upliftment of the people at large. Due to the greater potentiality for aqua culture for fish, shrimp etc., the Department of Fisheries has been conducting awareness Programme, Workshops, Meeting, Training programme, Interactions etc. to create awareness on the Sops & BMPs among the fish farmers and other stakeholders to enhance Production & Productivity besides promoting sustainable culture practices in the state.

2. The use of antibiotics in Aquaculture is strictly prohibited as their use may result in development of pathogens resistant to such drugs and the transfer of these pathogens into human beings and also the residue might result in development of resistance to pathogens in human body.
3. Serious concerns over the instances of detection of antibiotic residues that can jeopardize Indian Shrimp exports have been revised by authorities of Union and State governments and they have emphasized the importance of control measures to prevent rejection of consignments from this state, They further desired strict monitoring of use of Antibiotic in aqua farming by Fisheries Department involving other departments like Food Safety, Drugs Control, MPEDA etc. The Sea Food Exporters Association of India (SEAL) have also requested for immediate action to curb the problem of antibiotic residues of in shrimp.
4. The Export Inspection Council (EIC), the body authorised to keep checks on marine product exports from the country, has also expressed concern over contamination of Feed/ Feed supplements used in aquaculture farming with antibiotics like Nitrofurantoin and Chloramphenicol and these are available at the local market without any proper check. There is no control whatsoever on the Feeds/Feed supplements by any specific Govt., regulatory thereby some unscrupulous traders have been taking the advantage of the situation to mix antibiotics in aqua products as

5. The Coastal Aquaculture Authority, banned 20 antibiotics/ pharmacologically active substances and notified the maximum permissible Residual levels (Annexure-III and IV) for use in shrimp culture. CAA also imposed regulation to register all aquaculture inputs free from antibiotics. So far, a total of 654 products from 95 Manufacturers/ Distributors have been registered as antibiotic-free under 8 categories (Feed additive, Pro-biotics, Larval feed, Adult feed, Chemicals, Disinfectant, Immune-stimulants and Drugs).
6. Recently, the European Commission vide No. (E U) 2016/1774 of 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 has decided to enhance sampling plan as:  
"Member States shall, by using appropriate sampling plans, ensure that official Samples are taken from at least 50% of consignments presented for import at border inspection posts on their territory. In Case a consignment consists of aquaculture products from more than one establishment of origin samples shall be taken for each individual establishment"
7. Due to this new strict measures there is likelihood of rejection of more consignments of shrimp exported to European Union.
8. The European Mission on milk, honey and aquaculture products will be visiting India during 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022 to assess whether the necessary mechanisms to control use of antibiotics in aquaculture are put in place and are implemented and to check whether the production of fish exported from India to European Union (EU) is in line with the relevant requirements laid down in EU regulations.
9. It is globally recognized as an emerging Public Health threat as Antibiotics are becoming increasingly ineffective against diseases caused by bacteria. Antibiotic misuse & overuse accelerates Antibiotic Resistance (ABR) in human beings and animals. Indiscriminate usage leads to biomagnifications of antibiotic residues and resistant bacteria into human beings through direct contact.
10. Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India has requested to constitute a multi disciplinary task force to monitor the production and sale of aquaculture inputs for presence of banned antibiotics and to take necessary action towards preventing use of such substances.
11. In view of the above, decision has been taken in the Department of Fisheries, West Bengal to constitute District Level Task Force Committee to undertake stringent measures to curtail the usage of Banned Antibiotics in Aquaculture.
12. The Department of Fisheries, West Bengal hereby constitutes District Level Task Force Committee as given in the Annexure I.
  - a. The Task Force Committee is authorised to make frequent raids/random checks on all shops, Manufacturing units/ companies and suppliers of Drugs, Pro-biotics, Chemicals, Feeds/Feed supplements, Farms, Hatcheries etc., and verify and take action on the un-authorised possession of the products.
  - b. TFC should ensure that CM registered products are alone sold in Aqua Shops.
  - c. TFC should ensure that the Aqua shops not to sell veterinary grade products and encourage Aqua grade Drugs registered with CAA only.
  - d. TFC should take random samples from different Aqua shops and send the sealed samples to Drugs Control Authority and Food Safety Departments/ any other Govt. Institute for analysis & report for taking further action.
  - e. TFC should inspect whether proper labeling is made on the product with information, such as, name of the product, Net weight of the product, Composition, Date of manufacture, Date of Expiry, Maximum Retail Price of the product etc.
  - f. If found any Veterinary Grade / Banned aqua products, TFC shall seize the same and impose penalty of Rs 25,000/- as first offence.
  - g. In case of violation for second time, the defaulter is liable for penalty of Rs 50,000/-, cancellation of the License of the Aqua shop and prosecution.

- 
- h. To send proposals for establishment of Quality Control Laboratories to conduct screening tests for Antibiotic Residues in tissues of aqua products.
  - i. TFC to conduct awareness & campaigns among the stakeholders on the impact of indiscriminate usage of Antibiotics in Aquaculture.
  - j. TFC should create awareness among the manufacturers/suppliers/ Marketers/ aqua shops to get their products registered with CAA.
13. The Director of Fisheries, West Bengal shall take necessary action in the matter, accordingly.

By order of the Governor,

AVANINDRA SINGH  
*Secretary to the Government of West Bengal*

**ANNEXURE-I****DISTRICT LEVEL TASK FORCE COMMITTEE - CONSTITUTION & FUNCTION**

Sl. No.	Composition of DLC	Designation	Role
1	District Magistrate of concerned district	Chairman	Conduct regular meetings with the DLC members, supervise, action & report etc.,
2	ADF/DFO's of concerned District	Member Secretary	Convene meetings, inspection, raids, sampling, reports, awareness camps etc.,
3	District Officer of Drug Control Authority	Member	Raids, sampling, sealing of the samples, sending for analysis, report, Action etc.
4	District Officer of Food Safety Department	Member	Raids, sampling, sealing of the samples, sending for analysis, report, action etc.
5	Representative from Revenue Department (Nominee of DM)	Member	Assisting Fisheries, Drug control Authorities, Food Safety officers etc.
6	Representative from Police Department (Nomine of SP)	Member	Law & Order, Public Nuisance etc.
7	Representative from MPEDA	Member	Conduct awareness camps/ workshops, Convene meetings, inspection, raids, sampling, reports etc.
8	Stakeholders (Aqua farmer/ Hatchery Operator/Feed Plant Operator/ Exporter/Marketer/ Aqua shop Assn. etc.	Member (2-3)	Participatory approach in implementation of the decisions taken by DLC

## ANNEXURE-II

## List of Antibiotics and other pharmacologically active substances banned for using in shrimp aquaculture

Sl. No.	Antibiotics and other Pharmacognically Active Substances
1	Chloramphenicol
2	Nitrofurans including: Furaladone, Furazolidone, Furfuramide, Nifuratel, Nifuroxime, Nifurprazine, Nitrofurantoin, Nitrofurazone
3	Neomycin
4	Nalidixic acid
5	Sulphamethoxazole
6	Aristolochia spp and preparations thereof
7	Chloroform
8	Chlorpromazine
9	Colchicine
10	Dapsone
11	Dimetridazole
12	Metronidazole
13	Ronidazole
14	Ipronidazole
15	Other nitroirnidazoles
16	Clenbuterol
17	Diethylstilbestrol (DES)
18	Sulfonamide drugs (except approved Sulfadimethoxine, Sulfabromomethazine and Sulfaethoxypyridazine)
19	Fluroquinolones
20	Glycopeptides

## ANNEXURE-III

## Maximum Permissible Residual Levels for Fish and Fishery Products

Sl. No.	Substance	Permissible (ppm)
<b>A. Antibiotics and other Pharmacologically Active Substances</b>		
1	Tetracycline	0.1
2	Oxytetracycline	0.1
3	Trunethoprim	0.05
4	Oxolinic acid	0.3
<b>B. Substances having anabolic effect and unauthorised substances</b>		
1.	Stilbenes, stilbene derivatives and their salts and esters.	Nil
2	Steroids	Nil
<b>C. Veterinary drugs</b>		
1	Antibacterial substances, including quinolones	Nil
2	Ante helminthic	Nil
<b>D. Other substances and environmental contaminants</b>		
1	Organochlorone compounds including PCBs	Nil
2	Mycotoxins	Nil
3	Dyes	Nil
4	Dioxins	4 picogram per gram, fresh weight
<b>E. Pesticides</b>		
1	BHC	0.3
2	Aldrin	0.3
3	Dieldrin	0.3
4	Endrin	0.3
5	DDT	5.0
<b>F. Heavy Metals</b>		
1	Mercury	1.0
2	Cadmium	3.0
3	Arsenic	75
4	Lead	1.5
5	Tin	250
6	Nickel	80
7	Chromium	12