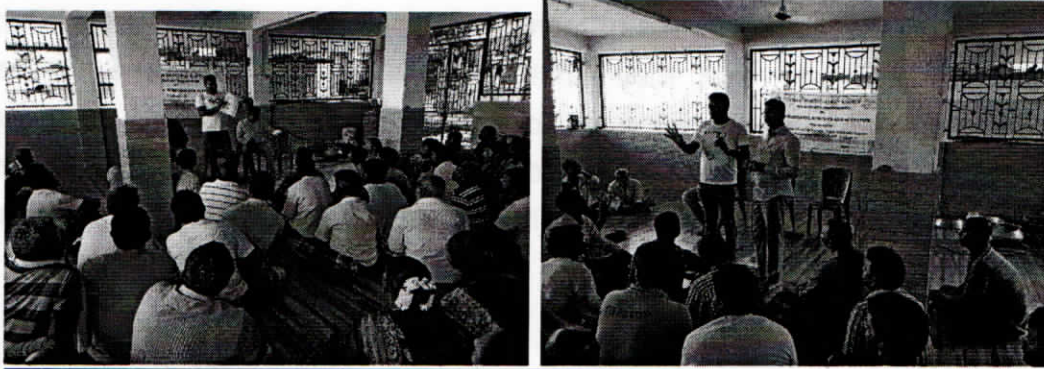


PRESS RELEASE


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The Zonal Fisheries Office, N& M Andaman, Mayabunder in association with Food Safety officials have conducted a sensitization cum Awareness Programme under **AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV** for Fishermen, Fish Vendor, Trader/ General Public on various aspects of Marine Food Safety and Hygiene. Addressing the gathering, the Assistant Director of Fisheries, N & M Andaman said that the importance of such sensitization Programme is to develop good management practice right from catching of fish in high seas to selling in Market. The Designated officer (Food Safety) has told the fishermen and particularly to the fish vendor to comply upon all the Do's and Don'ts issued by their Department for vending of fishes. Personal hygiene, Proper sanitation of the fish weighing balance, utensils used to sell fish is very important. He also stressed that the vendor must gradually adopt hand gloves, apron, head cap, etc. during selling of fishes to the consumer.

The ADF told the fishermen to sell fish in fresh condition to satisfy the customer and also maintain ethics in fish trade. Referring to viral video and news article on unethical and contaminated fish being sold in market by the fishermen of Mayabunder, it was advised that the fishermen and vendor shall refrain from any such unethical practice that could be hazardous to customer and fish trade as whole. The Fishermen community and Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Mayabunder have shown anger and displeasure in the manner such viral video and newspaper publishing chemical contaminated fish being sold in the market. In the sensitization camp, the fishermen community requested the food safety officials and Fisheries Department to analyze chemical contamination of their fishes so as to prove that no unethical practice is being done by them, this will bring confidence to the consumer who otherwise are reluctant to purchase fish from Mayabunder Fishermen, thus hampering the business.

Finally, in the sensitization camp it was decided that in the coming days fish sample shall be collected randomly from fish market to analyze chemical contamination. It was urged to the General Public and consumers that fishes are very safe to consume since no chemical are added in fish to increase their shelf life. The General Public and consumers are informed that they shall intimate to the concerned government Department regarding any suspicion on food adulteration rather than uploading it to social media without verifying the scientific study and authenticity of the matter. Such joint sensitization camp shall be conducted in various parts of the District in coming days.


10/6/2022

सहायक निदेशक (मत्स्य)

Assistant Director of Fisheries

क्षेत्रीय मत्स्य कार्यालय, उत्तर तथा मध्य अण्डमान
Fisheries Zonal Office, N&M Andaman