

**Directorate of Fisheries
Government of Goa**

Dayanand Bandodkar Marg, Panaji Goa.

Tel: (O) 2224838 Tel: (Dir) 2227780 Fax: (0832)2231049

Email: dir-fish.goa@nic.in Website: www.fisheries.goa.gov.in

Ref. No. DF/GB/SOC-47/Omega-FIP/ 5806

Dated: -13/02/2024

To,
The General Manager,
Omega Fishmeal & Oil Private Limited,
Plot No. G-3, Mirjole MIDC,
Ratnagiri, Maharashtra-415639.

Sub: - Information on Monitoring Control & Surveillance (MCS) activities
Undertaken...


Ref: your email dated 19/07/2023

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed herewith the details of Monitoring Control & Surveillance activities undertaken by the Directorate of Fisheries for submission to MRAG.

This is for your kind and necessary action.


Yours faithfully


(Dr. Shamila Monteiro)
Director of Fisheries

Copy to:

1. O/C

2. Guard file

Dispatch on	13/02/2024
By	

Information on

1) **Details on compliance of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) requirements by the vessel operators**

2) **Details of training imparted to Indian Coast Guard and Coastal Police alongwith communities to strengthen & implement the MCS system is as under:**

- As per the ISPS circular: NT/ISPS/5/20119 issued by DG Shipping, the Department has instructed all the fishing vessels more than 20 meters to mandatorily install **AIS system** on their vessel. The same is being implemented. Till date, 153 AIS systems have been installed onboard sea going fishing vessels.
- The use of 'UIDAI Database for verifying antecedents of Marine Fishermen in the High Seas' is being implemented as per the Central Government Guidelines. The **Aadhaar card enabled QR code** is made mandatory document as **Fishermen ID cards**.

Thus, from August 2020, QR code enabled Aadhaar cards has come into force.

- The Department Officials comprising of Fisheries Surveyors are deputed 24x7 at the fishing jetties (Chapora, Malim, Vasco and Cutbona) on rotational basis for issuing **fishing pass to the fishing vessel** before the vessels ventures into the sea for fishing. The detailed records are maintained in the movement register, mentioning the date and time of departure, its expected arrival date, number of crew members sailing, checking carriage of Aadhaar cards, checking carrying of adequate numbers of safety equipments, communication devices, VTS/SRB etc onboard before voyage. This is not only done in order to ensure the tracking of movement of fishing vessels but as a safety measure in case of any mishap/emergency. In such cases, the concerned rescue agencies/ coast guard would have real time information about the missing crew/fishing vessel which ventured into the sea.
- The Department has set up a full fledged **24x7 Control Room** for receiving and disseminating weather warnings/ alerts to fishing boats received from Meteorological Departments or other communications received from security agencies. This is to ensure that there is enough time for the fishing vessel to move in order to avoid getting stuck in severe weather conditions such as cyclones etc. Further, the Control room is well equipped to monitor the movement of vessel equipped with VTS. The 267 nos of VTS have been installed.

1) Measures taken to avoid overfishing of commercial fish and avoid fishing of ETP species

- The State implements a complete 61 days Monsoon Fishing Ban commencing from 1st June to 31st July. Traditional crafts are exempted from this fishing ban.
- Mechanised fishing is prohibited within an area of 5 km from the sea coast.
- Mesh size is regulated wherein no person is allowed to use mesh size less than 24mm for catching fish and 20mm for catching prawns.
- Construction of new trawlers/purseiners is not allowed. However, old trawlers/purseiners are allowed to be replaced.

2) Measures taken to avoid overfishing of commercial fish and avoid fishing of Endangered, Threatened or Protected (ETP) species

- Fishermen operating Non- mechanised/mechanised fishing vessels are sensitized to take appropriate preventive measures so as to avoid fishing of ETP species such as Turtles, seal, cetaceans, sharks etc.

3) Sanctions/ penalties imposed due to violations

- 19 cases have been registered for year 2023-24 against fishermen for violating the fishing rules and regulations.
- Cases have been initiated against the erring fishermen and Rs. 40,000/- has been collected as penalty.

4) Compliance of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) requirements

- The Department of Fisheries, Goa has been implementing the ISPS circular: NT/ISPS/5/20119 issued by DG Shipping, wherein all the fishing vessels > 20m should be installed with AIS system, mandatorily. Till date, 153 AIS systems have been installed onboard sea going fishing vessels.
- The use of 'UIDAI Database for verifying antecedents of Marine Fishermen in the High Seas' is being implemented as per the Central Government Guidelines. The **Aadhaar card enabled QR code** is made mandatory document as **Fishermen ID cards**. Thus, from August 2020, QR code enabled Aadhaar cards has come into force.
- The Department Officials comprising of Fisheries Surveyors are deputed 24x7 at the fishing jetties (Chapora, Malim, Vasco and Cutbona) on rotational basis for issuing **fishing pass to the fishing vessel** before the vessels ventures into the sea for fishing. The detailed records are maintained in the movement register, mentioning the date and time of departure, its expected arrival date, number of crew members sailing, checking carriage of Aadhaar cards, checking carrying of adequate numbers of safety equipments, communication

- devices, VTS/SRB etc onboard before voyage. This is not only done in order to ensure the tracking of movement of fishing vessels but as a safety measure in case of any mishap/emergency. In such cases, the concerned rescue agencies/ coast guard would have real time information about the missing crew/fishing vessel which ventured into the sea.
- The Department has set up a full fledged **24x7 Control Room** for receiving and disseminating weather warnings/ alerts to fishing boats received from Meteorological Departments or other communications received from security agencies. This is to ensure that there is enough time for the fishing vessel to move in order to avoid getting stuck in severe weather conditions such as cyclones etc. Further, the Control room is well equipped to monitor the movement of vessel equipped with VTS.
- The state of Goa has amended the Goa Daman and Diu – MFR Act 2019 in order to grant more power to the field officials. The Government of Goa has authorized the additional staff such as Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries, Fisheries Officer and Junior Technician, of the Directorate of Fisheries to exercise the power conferred and discharge the duties imposed upon the authorized officers in the State of Goa under the MFR Act. This helps for implementation of Act on block level by the concern officers

5) Fitment of transponders on Fishing Vessels:

- The ministry of Fisheries, Government of India has taken initiative in fitting 1,00,000 transponders across India for making marine and Fisheries safe and secure.
- The ISRO based Transponders will be fitted on mechanized fishing vessels where 60% share will be from Central Government and 40% from the State Government.
- Under monitoring, control and surveillance, the State of Goa has been allotted 1000 units of Transponders to be fitted to Marine fishing Vessels.
- The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has requested to transfer the 25% State share to new space India Limited, a unit under ISRO (which is under process)

6) Awareness programmes

The Department conducted various programmes at Panchayat Level under Swayampurna Goem to create awareness of the State Schemes and PMMSY Schemes of the Department. A total of 431 programmes were conducted, thereby providing information about the Department schemes at the village level for about apprx. 7619 participants