



കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
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Friday

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25th August 2023

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Fisheries and Ports (B) Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O. (P) No.45/2023/F&PD.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 25th August, 2023

09th Chingam, 1199.

S. R. O. No. 912/2023

WHEREAS, clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Kerala Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1980 (10 of 1981) provides that the Government may by order notified in the Gazette regulate, restrict or prohibit the catching in any specified area of such species of fish and for such period as may be specified in the notification;



AND WHEREAS, the Government of Kerala have declared the “specified area” vide G.O. (P) No. 22/88/F&PD dated 2nd July, 1988 and published as S. R. O. No. 830/88 dated 2nd July 1988 as per clause (h) of section 2 of the said Act.

AND WHEREAS, sub-section (2) of section 4 thereof provides that while making an order under sub-section (1) the Government shall have regard to the matters such as the need to protect the interest of the different sections of persons engaged in fishing, particularly those engaged in fishing using traditional fishing craft such as Catamaran, country craft or canoe, the need to conserve the fish and to regulate fishing on scientific basis and the need to maintain law and order in the sea;

AND WHEREAS, it has come to the notice of the Government that different species of juvenile fishes are being caught by some fishermen to sell the same for the use as manure, fish feed etc.

AND WHEREAS, the Government has found that catching of different species of juvenile fishes will adversely affect the marine ecosystem and significant depletion in the income of fishermen, particularly those fishermen engaged in fishing using traditional fishing crafts, fish mongers and other persons engaged in connected trades;

AND WHEREAS, the Government had decided to prohibit the catching a total of 58 species of juvenile fishes mentioned in the schedule thereof in the above specified area for a period of 5 years in pursuance of notification issued under G.O. (P) No. 40/2015/F&PD dated 24th July, 2015 and published as S. R. O. No. 477/2015 in the Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1760 dated 24th July 2015 and G.O. (P) No. 11/2017/F&PD dated 17th May 2017, and published as S. R. O. No. 266/2017 in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1001 dated 17th May 2017.

AND WHEREAS, the catching of the 58 species of juvenile fishes mentioned in the schedule thereof in the above specified area was further prohibited till 31st May 2023 in pursuance of notification issued under G.O. (P) No. 19/2022/F&PD dated 06th May, 2022 and published as S. R. O. No. 434/2022 in the Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1484 dated 07th May 2022 and G.O. (P) No. 22/2022/F&PD dated 16th May 2022, and published as S. R. O. No. 484/2022 in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1594 dated 17th May 2022.



AND WHEREAS, the catching of the 58 species of juvenile fishes mentioned in the schedule thereof in the above specified area was further prohibited for a period of either three months with effect from 1st June 2023 or until anew notification in this regard is issued by Government, whichever is earlier in pursuance of notification issued under G.O. (P) No. 38/2023/F&PD dated 31st May, 2023 and published as S. R. O. No. 624/2023 in the Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1825 dated 01st June 2023 and this prohibition expires on August 31st, 2023.

AND WHEREAS, the Director of Fisheries has recommended to extend the prohibition for a further period of five years based on the recommendations submitted by the technical committee constituted for the study on impact assessment of MLS implementation in the marine fishery along the coast of Kerala.

AND WHEREAS, the Government has considered the matter in detail and has decided to prohibit the catching of 58 species of juvenile fishes in the schedule thereof in the above specified area for a further period of five years from the date of publication of the notification;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (c) of sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Kerala Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1980 (10 of 1981) the Government of Kerala hereby prohibits catching of the following fifty eight (58) species of juvenile fishes having less than the size noted against their names in the area specified in the Schedule hereunder for a period of five years from the date of publication of the notification.

SCHEDULE

No.	Species Name	Common Name	Vernacular Name	Recommended MLS (cm)	Decision Logic	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Major Pelagic Fish Stocks						
1	<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>	Oil sardine	മത്തീ/ നെൽച്ചുറ്റ	10TL	SSD(length of transition from juvenile to adult) MSM is 13 cm	This is a small pelagic having high abundance in the ecosystem. Recruitment is subject to environmental changes and stock is capable of withstanding high fishing pressure. Juvenile fish shoals can be voluntarily avoided by fishers



2	<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>	Indian mackerel	അയല	14 TL	MSM	This is also a small pelagic but its abundance is not as high as oil sardine, and therefore needs a more conservative protection measure like MSM
3	<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Little Tuna	കേര ചുര	31 FL	MSM	
4	<i>Axis thazard</i>	Frigate tuna	എലി ചുര, ഉരുളൻ ചുര	25 FL	MSM	
5	<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i>	Ribbon fish	പാമ്പട	46 TL	SSD	
6	<i>Decapturus russelli</i>	Indian scad	തിരിയൻ ചാമ്പൻ	11 TL	MSM	
7	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Skipjack tuna	വരയൻ ചുര	35 FL	MSM	
8	<i>Thunnus albacores</i>	Yellow fin tuna	കേര ചുര	50 FL	MSM	
9	<i>Auxisrochei</i>	Bullet tuna	എലി ചുര	18 FL	MSM	
10	<i>Sardaorientalis</i>	Bonito	നെയ്യിൻ ചുര	35 FL	MSM	
11	<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	Longtail tuna	കാര ചുര	44 FL	MSM	
12	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	Dogtooth tuna	പള്ളൻ ചുര	50 FL	MSM	
13	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	King Seer	അയ്യൻ/നെയ്യിൻ	50 FL	MSM	
14	<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>	Spotted seer	സീല നെയ്യിൻ	37 FL	SFM	The more conservative SFM is applied due to the fact that the stocks are in declining status
15	<i>Rachycentron candum</i>	King fish	മോത	61 FL	SFM	„
16	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Dolphin fish	പുള്ളി മോത	38 FL	MSM	„
17	<i>Megalapsis cordyla</i>	Horse mackerel	വടട	19 TL	SSD	„
18	<i>Selarcruenophthalmus</i>	Big-eye scad	അയിലകണ്ണി	16 TL	MSM	„
19	<i>Cynoglossus macrostomus</i>	Malabar sole	മാന്തൽ/നങ്ങ്	9 TL	MSM	„
20	<i>Nemipterus randalli</i>	Threadfin bream (red)	കിളിമീൻ/പുതിയ ാപ്പ കോര	10 TL	MSM	„
21	<i>Saurida tumbil</i>	Greater Lizard fish	അരണ മീൻ	17 TL	MSM	„
22	<i>Saurida</i>	Lizard	അരണ മീൻ	10 TL	MSM	„



	undosquamis	fish				
23	Pampus argenteus	Silver pomfret	വെള്ള ആവോലി	13 TL	MSM	„
24	Parastromateus niger	Black pomfret	കറുത്ത ആവോലി/മച്ചാൻ	17 TL	MSM	„
25	Prichanthus hamrur	Bull's eye	ഉടുപ്പൂരി / കലവക്കട്ടൻ	14 TL	MSM	„
26	Otolithes ruber	Tiger toothed croaker	കോര	17 TL	MSM	„
27	Otolithes cuvieri	Lesser tiger toothed croaker	പല്ലി കോര	16 TL	MSM	„
28	Johnius sina	Sin croaker	മട്ടി കോര	11 TL	MSM	„
29	Johnius carutta	Karut croaker	കട്ടൻ കോര	15 TL	MSM	„
30	Johnius belangerii	Belanger's croaker	കോര	14 TL	MSM	„
31	Johnitus glaucus	Pale spotfin croaker	കട്ടൻ കോര	15 TL	MSM	„
32	Nibea maculate	Blotched croaker	കൊറുക്ക	14 TL	MSM	„
33	Pennahiaanea	Bigeye croaker	കോര	13 TL	MSM	„
34	Epinephelus diacanthus	Spiny cheek grouper	കലവ	18 TL	MSM	„
35	Himantura imbricate	Sealy whipray	മുക്കാന്തിരണ്ടി	14 DW	MSM	„
36	Himantura jenkinsi	Pointed nose stingray	തിരണ്ടി	61 DW	MSM	„
37	Gymnura poecilura	long tailed butterfly ray	പെരുംതിരണ്ടി	29 DW	MSM	„
38	Rhizoprionodon oligolinx	grey sharp nose shark	പാൽ സ്രാവ്	53 TL	MSM	„
39	Charybdis feriatius	Crucifix crab	കരിൾ ഞണ്ട്	5 CW	MSM	Berried (with egg) female crabs are easily identifiable by fishermen and they should be encouraged to release such crabs back into the sea
40	Portunus	Spotted	കാവലൻ ഞണ്ട്	7 CW	MSM	„



	sanguinolentus	crab				
41	Protunnus pelagicus	Blue crab	കാവലൻ ഞണ്ട്	9 CW	MSM	”
42	Metapenaeus dobsoni	Flower tail prawn	പൂമ്പാലൻ ചെമ്മീൻ	6 TL	MSM	”
43	Parapenaeopsis stylifera	Kiddi prawn	കരക്കാടി ചെമ്മീൻ	7 TL	MSM	”
44	Metapenaeus monoceros	Speckled prawn	ചൂടൻ ചെമ്മീൻ	11 TL	SFM	This species is depleted and needs additional protection, and therefore the SFM is used as conservative measures.
45	Metapenaeus affinis	Jinga prawn	കഴുത്തൻ ചെമ്മീൻ	9 TL	MSM	”
46	Plesionika quasigrandis	Oriental narwhal shrimp	ഡീപ്പ് സീ ചുള്ളൻ	8 TL	SFM	Both these are deep sea shrimps have low regeneration capacities and hence as a conservative measure SFM is used as the metric to decide the MLS.
47	Aristeus alcocki	Arabian red shrimp	റെഡ് റിംഗ്	13 TL	SFM	”
48	Urotcuthis photololigo duvauceli	Indian squid	കൂത്തൽ / ഓലക്കണ്ണവ	8 DML	MSM	”
49	Sepia pharaonis	Pharaoh cuttlefish	കാലൻ / ഓലക്കണ്ണവ	11 DML	MSM	”
50	Amphioctopus neglectus	Ocellate octopus	നീരാളി / കിനാവള്ളി	5 DML	MSM	”
Major Demersal Fish Stocks						
51	Nemipterus jaonicus	Threadfin breem (yellow)	കിളി മീൻ പുതിയാപ്ള കോര	12 TL	MSM	
52	Lactarius lactarius	White fish	പരവ/അടവ്	10 TL	MSM	
Major Crustacean Stocks						
53	Panulirus homarus homarus	Scalloped Spiny lobster	കടൽ കൊഞ്ച്	200g	WFM	Notified as MLS for export by MPEDA
54	Panulirus polyphagus	Mud spiny lobster	കടൽ കൊഞ്ച്	300g	WFM	
55	Panulirus ornatus	Ornate spiny lobster	കടൽ കൊഞ്ച്	500g	WFM	
56	Thenus unimaculatus	Sand lobster	അടിപ്പൻ	150	WFM	



	(= <i>T.orientalis</i>)					
Major Molluscan Stocks						
57	<i>Pabhia Malabarica</i>	Short neck clam	കളളി കക്ക	2 APM	SFM	
58	<i>Villorita cyprinoides</i>	Black clam	കറുത്ത കക്ക	2 APM	SFM	

Abbreviations:- TL – Total Length, FL – Fork Length, MLS – Minimum Legal Size, MSM – Minimum Size at Maturity or the size of the smallest mature fish, WFM – Weight at First Maturity or weight of animal were 50% fishes are mature, SFM-Size at the first maturity or the Size at which 50% of fishes are mature, APM-Anterior Posterior Measurement of Length or Bivalves, g – gram.

By order of the Governor,

K. S. SRINIVAS

Principal Secretary

Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

It has come to the notice of the Government of Kerala that tonnes of juvenile fishes are being caught by mechanized fishing vessels to cater exclusively to the requirement of fish meal plants outside the State of Kerala. Along with the juvenile fishes, other non-edible biota, which are vital to the existence of marine ecosystem, are being landed on a daily basis at different fishing harbours in the State. This type of unscientific, uncontrolled practice of fishing will lead to heavy destruction of juvenile fishes and will affect adversely the bio-diversity of the marine ecosystem and the livelihood of traditional fisher folk. Therefore the Government prohibited the catching 58 species of juvenile fishes in pursuance of notifications issued under G.O. (P) No. 40/2015/F&PD dated 24th July, 2015 and published as S. R. O. No. 477/2015 in the Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1760 dated 24th July, 2015 and G.O. (P) No. 11/2017/F&PD dated 17th May 2017, and published as S. R. O. No. 266/2017 in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1001 dated 17th May 2017 and G.O. (P) No. 19/2022/F&PD dated 06th May, 2022 and published as S. R. O. No. 434/2022 in the Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1484 dated 07th May, 2022 and G.O. (P) No. 22/2022/F&PD dated 16th May, 2022, and published as S. R. O. No. 484/2022 in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1594 dated 17th May, 2022 and G.O. (P) No. 38/2023/F&PD dated 31st May, 2023, and published as S.R.O. No. 624/2023 in Kerala Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1825 dated 01st June, 2023 from the date



of respective notifications. The period of prohibition expire for a period of three months with effects from 1st June 2023 or until a new notification in this regard is issued by Government, whichever is earlier. The Director of Fisheries has recommended to extend the prohibition for a further period of five years based on the recommendations submitted by the technical committee constituted for the study on impact assessment of MLS implementation in the marine fishery along the coast of Kerala. Hence, the Government have considered the matter in detail and have decided to prohibit the catching of fifty eight (58) species of juvenile fishes in the above specified area mentioned in the schedule for a period of five years from the date of publication of the notification;

The notification is intended to achieve the above object.

