

P.R.NV.370

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PRESS RELEASE

LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SELLERS OF EXPIRED GOODS

Recently in a weekly magazine a news item has been published that in Chennai City commodities (especially food products) are being sold after expiry date. On the basis of information, a godown in Royapuram in Chennai City was raided and it was found that commodities including food products after expiry date have been stored and are being sold. These expired goods have been seized and action has been initiated to launch criminal prosecution against the dealer.

It has been specifically provided under Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 that manufacturing date and Expiry date have to be printed on the packages in which food products are sold. If food products packed in packets without mentioning manufacturing date and expiry period, legal action will be taken against the concerned producers and dealers. Under Rule 5 of Packaged Commodities (Regulation) Order 1975, sale of packaged commodities without details such as date of manufacturing, maximum retail price, producer's name and address is banned. Severe action will be taken against the producers / dealers who are violating the above statutory provisions by the Legal Metrology Department.

Packaged commodities are to be removed from the godown and destroyed after date of expiry. But in recent times, information received indicating that certain traders, including large retailers, are selling expired food and other products to small dealers who in turn, are selling these to poor and illiterate people. By such activities, the health of general public, especially poor and illiterate people, will be severely affected. Hence, if any trader or retailer fails to remove and destroy the expired products from its godowns and destroy them or indulges in selling these expired goods to small dealers action will be taken under section 273 of Indian Penal Code and section of 7 of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 against such retailers or retailer chain.

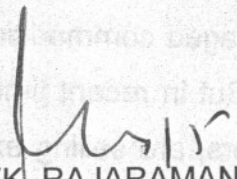
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Further, if any commercial organization and retailers indulge in selling of expired food and other products without concern for health and welfare of the society and future generations, action will be taken by the District Collector under Section 12 (d) of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 against such commercial organizations and retailers. District Consumer Dispute Redressal Fora and State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission are empowered to ban sale of such goods under section 14 (1) (g) of Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Further, District Consumer Dispute Redressal Fora and State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission can order removal of hazardous goods under section 14 (1)(h) and order payment of compensation to consumers for the health hazards caused to them under section 14 (1) (hb) of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

If members of public or consumer groups have information about sale of sub-standard and expired packaged commodities, they can give information to State Consumer Helpline in telephone No: 044 - 28 59 28 28 and send their complaints through e-mail schtamilnadu@gmail.com or file their complaint in website www.consumer.tn.gov.in Further, complaints can also be given directly to the Chairman, District Consumer Protection Council viz., District Collector.

Government of Tamil Nadu has great concern for health and general welfare of consumers. In future, any retailer or retailer chain indulging in sale of expired or adulterated goods will be dealt with sternly under Law.

Date: 03/05/2010
Place: Chennai


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வெளியீடு, இயக்குநர்
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