



Dated: 15.05.2018 (Tuesday)

FDA to ask food business units to use blue colour in industrial ice

PANAJI: The food business operators (FBOs) across the state will have to use blue food colour in the manufacturing of industrial ice to differentiate it from edible ice, which will remain colourless.

The food and drugs administration director Jyoti Sardesai on Monday said that a circular will soon be issued in this direction to the FBOs, who are engaged in the production of ice, asking them to mandatorily comply with the orders from June 1, 2018

“The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued guidelines to bring out a distinction between industrial and edible ice and the same will soon be communicated to the FBOs in Goa,” said Sardesai, adding that, it will ensure that the ice consumed by citizens is safe.

The FSSAI guidelines say that the use of non-edible ice, which is made from non-potable water, for edible purpose, is a health hazard.

“With a view to check the misuse of non-edible ice as edible ice, it has been decided that food colour (Indigo Carmine or Brilliant Blue up to 10 ppm) must be used in production of non-edible ice, including non-edible ice blocks coming in contact with food products during preservation/storage/transportation of perishable food commodities, to give it a bluish look/appearance so as to enable clear differentiation with edible ice which must remain colourless,” states the order issued by FSSAI.

The FSSAI has also directed FDA to enhance surveillance/ enforcement on the sale of non-edible ice so as to ensure compliance with this directive.