

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

## **Rapid fish testing kits now available at 6 pharmacies**

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Panaji: The state government has made the CIFT (Central Institute of Fisheries Technology) rapid testing kits available for the public at six pharmacies in the vicinity of fish markets in Panaji, Margao and Ponda.

The advocate general informed the high court of Bombay at Goa that it directed Yogeshwari agency, the authorized agency at Ponda with whom the kits are available, to have these distributed to six pharmacies from where other pharmacies can easily purchase them from.

When advocate, Nikhil Pai, representing one of the three petitioners, asked that this be given publicity, the high court asked the directorate of food and drugs administration to put up the details on its website.

The high court, at the last hearing, inquired about the availability and price of the kits. When it found that these were only available with the authorized agency at Ponda, the court asked the government to make these easily available for the public.

The high court asked the FDA as to what was the difficulty in making them easily available and stated that the consumers could buy them and use them for themselves. The advocate representing the Food and Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) asked for two weeks to file its reply in the fish in formalin matter while the judge granted him one week.