

# Officials collect samples from fish market

STAFF REPORTER

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Random picks: Food Safety officials collecting samples from Gourbert Fish Market in Puducherry on Monday. | Photo Credit: S. S. KUMAR

## To test for formalin; results expected in a week

Upon receiving oral instructions from the Secretary of Health, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Puducherry, Food Safety Officer along with other officials from the Department of Food Safety on Monday collected fish samples from Goubert Fish Market to test for formalin.

Food Safety Officer I. Danaraju said they collected samples from fish merchants between 6 a.m. and 7.30 a.m., and between 9.30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

**15 samples**

“Based on the complaints that formalin is being used to preserve fish, we collected at least 15 samples from different fish species on Monday morning and sent them for test. We are expected to get the test results within a week,” he said.

Mr. Danaraju said that they collected the samples of fish from Andhra Pradesh, Nagapattinam, Karaikal, Villupuram and even Puducherry. “If the samples test positive for formalin, action will be taken against the merchants. Depending upon the offence, a fine of either ₹50,000 or ₹1 lakh would be imposed,” he said.