

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Fruit traders made aware of carbide use

Nawanshahr, July 20

Under the Tandarust Punjab Mission, the Food Safety Department has intensified a campaign to implement the Food Safety and Standards Act.

The department on Friday organised an awareness meeting of fruit traders of vegetable market, Banga, under the guidance of Manoj Khosla, Assistant Commissioner, and Sangeeta Sehdev, Food Safety Officer, to make fruit sellers aware of the use of carbide and its negative effects on health.

The traders were apprised of that the use of carbide was banned under the Food Safety Act, as consuming of artificially ripened fruits could cause mouth ulcers, gastric ulcers, nervous breakdown and cancer. The traders were advised to sell only naturally ripened fruits. They were asked to get themselves registered and take food safety licence. The team raided three banana ripening units situated at new vegetable market and Kajla Banga and various fruit sellers in different areas and collected seven samples of mangoes and bananas, which would be sent to the state food lab.

Manoj Khosla said to ensure quality fruits being sold to the public, a special drive was being carried out to check the quality of fruits.

Checking of all establishments of food business operators would be intensified in the coming days," he said

Sangeeta Sehdev said strict action would be taken against the violaters and cases would be registered against them.