



**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
COMMISSIONERATE OF FOOD SAFETY
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
LOWER LACHUMIERE, MEGHALAYA :: SHILLONG**



No. CFSM/DC.Enforcement/2025.66/2210

Dated: Shillong, the 15th August, 2026

STATUTORY ORDER

**Subject: Withdrawal of Interim State-Wide Freeze and Prohibition
on Sale, Stocking and Distribution of 'STING' Energy Drink**

WHEREAS, certain reports appeared in the local media, including the Highland Post dated: 12th August, 2026, regarding public health concerns arising from the reported death of a student and referring to an alleged association with consumption of the caffeinated beverage marketed under the brand name "STING";

AND WHEREAS, representations were also received requesting the Food Safety authorities to examine the matter and, as a precautionary measure, to temporarily restrict the sale and distribution of the said beverage pending verification of the facts;

AND WHEREAS, considering the nature of the reported incident and the public concern arising therefrom, the Commissionerate of Food Safety considered it appropriate, purely as a precautionary and **interim measure**, to **temporarily** freeze the sale, stocking and distribution of "STING" pending inquiry and verification;

AND WHEREAS, accordingly, vide Order No. CFSM/DC.Enforcement/2025.66/2207 dated: the 14th August, 2026, an interim state-wide freeze and prohibition on the sale, stocking and distribution of "STING" was imposed;

AND WHEREAS, the aforesaid interim action was taken in the interest of public health pending ascertainment of facts and did not constitute any finding or determination that the product had caused or contributed to the reported incident, or that the product or its manufacturer was in violation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006;

AND WHEREAS, the Commissionerate simultaneously caused an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the reported incident to be conducted by the Food Safety Officer vide Letter No. CFSM/DC.Enforcement/2025.66/2209 dated: Shillong, the 14th August, 2026;

AND WHEREAS, the Food Safety Officer, after conducting the inquiry and verification of the relevant facts and circumstances, submitted an Inquiry Report - dated: Tura, the 14th August, 2026, reporting that the inquiry did not establish any causal relationship between consumption of "STING" Energy Drink and the reported death;

AND WHEREAS, upon consideration of the said Inquiry Report and the material presently available on record, no ground exists on account of the aforesaid reported incident for continuation of the precautionary interim restriction;

NOW, THEREFORE, in continuation of Order No. CFSM/DC.Enforcement/2025.66/2207 dated: the 14th August, 2026, I, Dr Joram Beda, IAS, Commissioner of Food Safety, Meghalaya, hereby order that the interim state-wide freeze and prohibition on the sale, stocking and distribution of "STING" Energy Drink stands WITHDRAWN WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

It is clarified that the withdrawal of the interim restriction is based on the findings of the inquiry relating to the reported incident and shall not be construed either as an adverse finding or as a special certification or endorsement of any particular product or manufacturer.

All Food Business Operators shall continue to comply with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the Rules, Regulations, directions and advisories issued thereunder. Routine surveillance, sampling and regulatory enforcement shall continue in the ordinary course in respect of all food products in the State.

This Order shall come into force with immediate effect from the date and time of its issuance.

Sd/-

Dr Joram Beda, IAS
Commissioner of Food Safety
Meghalaya, Shillong

Memo No. CFSM/DC.Enforcement/2025.66/2210-A

Dated: Shillong, the 15th August, 2026

Copy to:

1. P.S to Dr Sampath Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, to the Government of Meghalaya, Health & Family Welfare Department, Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of information.
2. The Commissioner & Secretary, to the Government of Meghalaya, Health & Family Welfare Department, Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of information.
3. The Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills, Shillong/West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin/Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh/West Garo Hills, Tura/West Jaintia Hills, Jowai/East Garo Hills, Williamnagar/South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat/East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat/South Garo Hills, Baghmara/North Garo Hills, Resubelpara/South West Garo Hills, Ampati/Eastern West Khasi Hills, Mairang for the favour of information and kind assistance.
4. The Superintendent of Police, East Khasi Hills, Shillong/West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin/Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh/West Garo Hills, Tura/West Jaintia Hills, Jowai/East Garo Hills, Williamnagar/South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat/East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat/South Garo Hills, Baghmara/North Garo Hills, Resubelpara/South West Garo Hills, Ampati/Eastern West Khasi Hills, Mairang for the favour of information and kind assistance.

5. The Joint Secretary, to the Government of Meghalaya, Health & Family Welfare Department, Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of information.
6. The Joint Commissioner (Food Safety), Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of information.
7. The Director of Information and Public Relation, Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of kind information **with a request** to publish the above Notice in all leading local English, Khasi and Garo Newspapers. **It is also additionally requested to disseminate this information via official Social media handles for wider digital outreach.**
8. The Director of Health Services (MI), Meghalaya, Shillong for the favour of information.
9. All Asst. Commissioners of Food Safety (DOs) concerned for the favour of information and necessary action.
10. All Food Safety Officers, Food Safety Administration, Meghalaya for the favour of information and immediate necessary action.



15/08/2026

Smti D.B.S Mukhim

Deputy Commissioner (Enforcement)
Commissionerate of Food Safety
Meghalaya, Shillong