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## Govt suspends shipment of Fukushima sand lances

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The government has instructed Fukushima Prefecture to suspend shipments of a small fish caught off its coasts found to have radioactive contamination, and to warn people not to eat them.

The restrictions announced on Wednesday are being applied to marine products for the first time, amid ongoing troubles at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The instruction follows a health ministry report that the fish called sand lance caught on Monday near Iwaki city, south of the plant, was found to contain 14,400 becquerels per kilogram of radioactive cesium. That's 29 times the safe limit.

Ministry testing also found 3,900 becquerels, or twice the limit, of radioactive iodine in the fish. Excessive amounts of radioactive cesium were detected in sand lances caught in the same area on April the 7th and 13th.

The government says the fish are not on the market, as fishery cooperatives in Fukushima are not operating.

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