



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 53
Series of 2020

SUBJECT: REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION OF TWO (2) FOREIGN MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS OF INDIAN BUFFALO MEAT

WHEREAS, in compliance to the DA Administrative Circular No. 12 series of 2015 Updated Rules and Regulations Governing the Allocation, Importation and Utilization of Fresh Frozen Buffalo Meat from India, the technical experts of Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) conducted a DA Inspection Mission (DAIM) in India on nineteen (19) foreign meat establishments last March 2020 as part of the required yearly surveillance audit of all accredited foreign meat establishments (FMEs) for Indian Buffalo Meat (IBM);

WHEREAS, based on the report of DAIM India, there are two (2) non-operational FMEs during the actual conduct of audit namely APEDA 119 (M/S HMA PRIVATE LIMITED) and APEDA 201 (M/S AL SUPER FROZEN FOODS PRIVATE LIMITED) thus these FMEs were not visited by the DAIM India auditors;

WHEREAS, the BAI and NMIS received a report from a stakeholder that APEDA 119 has been suspended by Indian authorities since March 2019 due to violations on pollution regulations;

WHEREAS, it was also mentioned in this report that APEDA 119 committed forgery by fabricating fake veterinary health certificates and misusing the official stamps and signatures of government officials on its export of IBM;

WHEREAS, upon further investigation of Bureau of Animal Industry on the veterinary health certificates (VHC) issued by the veterinary services of India to APEDA 119, it was found out that some VHCs have the same quick response (QR) codes and inconsistent reference numbers and country of destination as written in the actual VHCs;

WHEREAS, the two (2) FMEs have committed non-compliance on the yearly surveillance audit requirements set by this Department on IBM and that the fraudulent VHCs of APEDA 119 on its export to the Philippines is a serious offense to defraud the Philippine Government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, by the power vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following measures regarding the accreditation of two (2) FMEs from India:

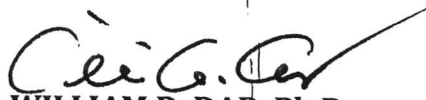
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1. The **immediate revocation of the accreditation** of APEDA 119 and APEDA 201;
2. Suspension of processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Import Clearance to all IBM from APEDA 119 and APEDA 201;
3. Cancellation of all approved SPSICs to APEDA 119 and APEDA 201 which have not yet left India after the issuance of this Order;
4. Acceptance of IBM consignments which are already **IN TRANSIT** after the issuance of this Order provided all the VHCs must be further verified by veterinary quarantine officers in the international ports of entry with the use of QR codes embedded in the document. In the event of any inconsistencies in the VHCs and the APEDA websites, the consignment shall be dealt with as per provisions of DA AO 9 s2010 Section VII. D

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

Done this 22nd day of October, 2020


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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