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भारत सरकार

Government of India

मत्स्य पालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

पशुपालन और डेयरी विभाग

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying

कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली -110 001,

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001,

दिनांक / Dated the 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2026.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**


**Subject: Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Equids/Non-Equid perissodactyls (Wild Ass, Zebra, Hippopotamus, Tapir, Rhinoceros and other similar species) into India- reg.**

Please find enclosed a copy of "Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Equids/Non-Equid perissodactyls (Wild Ass, Zebra, Hippopotamus, Tapir, Rhinoceros and other similar species) into India".

2. The said veterinary health certificate will serve as official veterinary health certificate requirements for import of Equids/Non-Equid perissodactyls (Wild Ass, Zebra, Hippopotamus, Tapir, Rhinoceros and other similar species) into India. It will be completely in force after transition / migration period of sixty days from the date of notification to the WTO SPS Committee.

This has the approval of the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

**Encl: As above.**

  
06-04-2026

(डॉ गगन गर्ग)

(Dr. Gagan Garg)

संयुक्त आयुक्त (व्यापार)

Joint Commissioner (Trade)

**Distribution:**

- (i) All Regional Officers / Quarantine Officers, Animal Quarantine and Certification Service, Delhi / Mumbai / Bengaluru / Chennai / Kolkata / Hyderabad to disseminate the information with all the stakeholders including importers through facilitation channels.
- (ii) Joint Secretary (Customs), Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Department of Revenue, New Delhi.
- (iii) SPS Division, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, with a request to notify to WTO SPS Committee for information of member countries at the earliest.
- (iv) NIC, DAHD, with a request to upload on the Departmental as well as AQCS's website.

**Veterinary Health Certificate for Import<sup>1</sup> of Equids/Non-Equid perissodactyls (Wild Ass, Zebra, Hippopotamus, Tapir, Rhinoceros and other similar species) into India**

**(a) General Information**

Name and address of the Consignor:	Certificate reference No.
	Veterinary Authority:
Name and address of the consignee:	
Country of Origin and port of departure:	
Country of destination and port of entry:	
Name and address of the approved establishment of pre-import quarantine (specify the duration of stay with exact dates) of equid/non-equid perissodactyls:	
Date of shipment: (specify flight number and date of journey. If there is break in journey, indicate the details of break journey)	
Details of the official veterinarian who have examined the equid/non-equid perissodactyls and premises at the which the animals were examined:	
Details of the country visited over the last two years preceding export:	
Purpose of Import:	
Import License number and date: (Issued by the Director General of Foreign Trade)	

**(b) Details of the equid/non-equid perissodactyls**

Species	Breed	Name and microchip number/Identification details	Sex	Age/Date/Year of Birth	Number of identification document	Colour, coat type and marking

<sup>1</sup> Import of livestock products into India is subjected to fulfilment of the Live-stock Importation Act, 1898 and the rules / regulations there under as notified time to time.

### **(c) Sanitary Information**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the equid/non-equid perissodactyls described above has been examined on this day and certifies that:

(1) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls show/shows no clinical signs or symptoms of any infectious or contagious diseases related to the equid/non-equid perissodactyls as relevant to the animal species on the day of shipment including African Horse Sickness, Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM), Japanese Encephalitis, Dourine, Equine Viral Arteritis, Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis, Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1) and Glanders.

(2) \*the .....(name of the country of origin) is free from African Horse Sickness Virus (AHSV) for the last two years preceding the export as per World Organisation for Animal Health listing and African Horse sickness (AHS) is a notifiable disease in the whole country;

or

the equid(s):

(i) showed no clinical sign of African Horse Sickness on the day of shipment;

(ii) has/have not been vaccinated against African Horse Sickness within the last forty days;

(iii) was/were held in isolation in an approved pre-export vector-protected establishment (Quarantine station):

a. for a period of at least twenty-eight days and a serological test to detect antibodies against the African Horse Sickness Virus group, was carried out with a negative result on a blood sample collected at least twenty-eight days after introduction into the approved pre-export vector-protected establishment; *or*

b. for a period of at least fourteen days and an agent identification test was carried out with a negative result on a blood sample collected not less than fourteen days after introduction into the approved pre-export vector-protected establishment;

(iv) was/were protected from Culicoides attacks at all times during transportation (including transportation to and at the place of shipment);

(v) has/have not travelled to or through any country infected with African Horse Sickness for the last two years preceding the exportation.

**\* Not applicable for non-equid perissodactyls.**

(3) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls has/have been kept in establishment for three months preceding the date of exportation, where no infectious or contagious diseases of equid/non-equid perissodactyls as relevant to the species including Glanders, Dourine, Equine Piroplasmiasis, Equine Rhinopneumonitis, Japanese Encephalomyelitis, Venezuelan Encephalomyelitis, Equine Influenza, Equine Infectious Anaemia, West Nile Virus infection and Vesicular Stomatitis has not been reported and no such disease have been occurred on any adjoining premises during the same period of time.

(4) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls has/have been vaccinated with Equine Influenza virus vaccine and the last such vaccination should be within thirty days prior to embarkation and shall not be less than fourteen days immediately preceding the exportation.

(5) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls has/have been found to be free from ectoparasites and have been treated with antihelminths.

(6) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls has/have been vaccinated against Rabies (for the animals above three months of age) with the vaccine licensed and approved by the country of origin (name of the vaccine, batch number, date of vaccination and validity) must be mentioned in the certificate.

(7) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls being exported has/have been kept in pre-export isolation of at least thirty days in an approved Government quarantine station and subjected to the following tests as relevant to the species with negative results:

**TEST TABLE**

Sl. No.	Disease	Diagnostic Test	Condition	Date of test
1	**Glanders	Complement Fixation Test	During fifteen days immediately preceding exportation.	
2	**Dourine	Complement Fixation Test	During fifteen days immediately preceding exportation.	
3	**Equine Infectious Anaemia (EIA)	Coggins (Immunodiffusion) Test	During thirty days immediately preceding exportation.	
4	Infectious Equine Abortion (Salmonella abortusequi)	Serum Agglutination Test (titre not greater than one or three thousand)	During fifteen days immediately preceding exportation.	
5	**Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA)	Virus isolation or Polymerase Chain Reaction	Two occasions at least fourteen days apart with negative result during twenty-eight days immediately preceding exportation.	
6	Vesicular Stomatitis	Complement Fixation Test (CFT) and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)	At least twenty one days after the commencement of pre-export quarantine.	
7	**Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)	Culture of Micro-organisms	Are subjected to tests for the detection of the agent (Bacterial isolation and identification) with negative results, carried out on samples collected on three occasions	

			<p>within a twelve days period, with an interval of no less than three days between sample collections, the last one being carried out within thirty days prior to shipment. Equids have not been treated with antibiotics for at least seven days nor subjected to antiseptic washing of genital mucous membranes for at least twenty one days prior to the first sample collection, and have not been mated or inseminated after the first sampling.</p> <p>and, in case of non-pregnant equid at least one of these three samples must be taken during oestrus, in an approved pre-export Government Quarantine station within the pre-export quarantine period of thirty days.</p>	
8	Equine Piroplasmosis (Babesia equi and Babesia caballi)	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)	During thirty days immediately preceding exportation.	
9	**Hendra and Nipah virus	Real Time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (Real Time RT- PCR)	During twenty one days immediately preceding exportation.	
10	West Nile Virus	Nested reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (Nested RT-PCR) or Real Time reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (Real Time RT-PCR) or Virus isolation in tissue culture.	To be tested negative seven to ten days immediately preceding exportation.	

11	**Japanese Encephalitis	Real Time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (Real Time RT- PCR)	To be tested negative seven days immediately preceding exportation.	
12	**Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis	reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)	Not less than fourteen days after the commencement of pre-export quarantine.	
13	Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1)	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)	During thirty days immediately preceding exportation.	

**Note:**

1. No Testing is necessary in respect of such diseases for which freedom status has been certified as per World Organisation for Animal Health listing.
2. \*\* No testing is required for non-equid perissodactyls.

(8) all feed and bedding supplied for the equid/non-equid perissodactyls during the period of quarantine and transportation were fresh, clean and hygienic.

(9) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls was/were transported using stalls, vehicles, vessels or aircrafts disinfected in advance in a manner officially approved by the competent authority in the country of dispatch. Throughout the transport to the port of entry in India, the equid did not come in contact with equidae of a lesser health status or with livestock animals that are not quarantined in the same pre-export isolation and not accompanied by the same certificate.

(10) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls was/were protected from insect vectors during pre-export quarantine and transportation from pre-export establishment to place of shipment directly. In case of emergency stopovers, the equid(s) will not normally be removed from its stall.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Place:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and address of the Veterinarian

Date:

(Official Stamp)

**(The signature and the stamp must be in a different colour to that of the printing)**  
**\*For advance no objection certificate within seven days of shipment, the official veterinary health certificate without date of shipment examination may be accepted. However, the equid/non-equid perissodactyls shall be examined on the day of shipment and the date shall be mentioned in the final official veterinary health certificate.**

## **Post-import Quarantine:**

(i) on arrival into India, the consignment of equid/non-equid perissodactyls shall be examined as per the guidelines and procedure for import of livestock mentioned in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries S.O. 1495 (E) and 1496 (E), dated 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2014.

(ii) hay, bedding material, feed/fodder available in air float shall not be allowed to disembark with the equid/non-equid perissodactyls and shall be send back to the country of origin along with air float or destroyed at quarantine station or place of quarantine.

(iii) the equid/non-equid perissodactyls shall be kept in quarantine for minimum period of thirty days at the Government approved Quarantine Station. In case of adverse clinical observations and long term treatment (more than three days) of the animal during quarantine, the opinion and/or examination by Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar shall be taken. In case of death of the animal during quarantine observation, the post-mortem shall be conducted and samples shall be sent to Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar for detailed examination and scientific disposal of carcass and animal waste shall be carried out in the quarantine station including disinfection.

(iv) during the quarantine period, the equid/non-equid perissodactyls shall be subjected to standard culture and serological examination as relevant to the species for African Horse Sickness (equid), Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1) (equid and non-equid perissodactyls). In case of any other disease need to be tested the approval of the competent authority shall be taken based on the clinical findings.

(v) in the case of Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM): only equid(s) (not the non-equid perissodactyls) shall be subjected to tests for the detection of the agent, with negative results, carried out on samples collected on three occasions within a twelve days period, with an interval of no less than three days between sample collections and in case of non-pregnant equid(s) at least one of these three samples must be taken during oestrus.

(vi) in the event of any animal found positive or doubtful certification from the exporting country for any exotic disease, the same shall be deported back to the country of origin or destroyed at the quarantine station as deemed fit at the cost of the importer.

(vii) all costs of the above-mentioned tests conducted in India to be borne by the importer.

(viii) after Import animals shall not be shifted to any other place or establishment other than import premises, if required, the permission from Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Central Zoo Authority shall be obtained.