

Dear Members,

We would like to inform you that the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage has issued an Office Memorandum regarding Relaxation of Methyl Bromide (MBr) fumigation requirement for import of Agricultural commodities from MBr phased out countries dated 16th June 2023 instructing the officer-in-charge of RPQs/PQs to refer to the Gazette Notification issued vide S.O 4871 (E) dated 13.10.2022 (Annexure I) for amendment in chapter II, Clause V of Plant quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 with regard to phased out the use of Methyl Bromide (MBr) for quarantine and pre-shipment purposes.

In continuation to this, NPPO, India has communicated to 194 IPPC member countries and sought their MBr phased out status for quarantine and pre-shipment purposes along with the copy of relevant documents, such as Gazette notifications, resolution, decree or any legal documents as evidences. In response to this, till date 53 NPPOs have replied their methyl Bromide phased out status. The letter/documents submitted by some NPPOs are not in English, which require translation. There is delay in finalization of MBr phased out list of countries, due to which, many imports agricultural consignments at various Indian Ports are held up for want of import release.

Considering the above ambiguous situation, the Competent Authority, DA&FW has decided to grant 02 months' time i.e., till 31st August 2023 to consolidate and finalize the list of MBr phased out countries, as per the requirements specified in the Gazette notification issued vide S.O. 4871(E) dated 13.10.2022. During this time (i.e., till 31st august 2023), the Competent Authority in DA&FW has approved to allow the import of all Agricultural commodities without offshore MBr fumigation from the 57 MBr phased out Counties.

Detailed information mentioned in the following: -

1. Gazette Notification issued vide S.O 4871 (E) dated 13.10.2022 (**Annexure I**)
2. Directorate letter issued under F.No. 99-74/2018-PQD dated 20th May 2019 (**Annexure II**)
3. Inspection fee in accordance with the directions issued by DA&FW vide O.M No 8-125/2019-PP II dated 12th October 2022 (**Annexure III**)
4. Directorate's O.M. dated 17th May 2023 (**Annexure IV**)
5. Office Memorandum dated 16th June 2023.

To view the above [Click here](#).

However, the list of MBr phased out countries will be discontinued till 31st August 2023. Further to this. w.e.f 01st September 2023 the fresh list of MBr phased out countries will be strictly implemented based on the valid documents furnished by MBr phased out/banned countries towards its use for quarantine and pre-shipment purpose or otherwise.

Regards,

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Dy CEO

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