



सत्यमेव जयते

सचिव
भारत सरकार
Secretary
Government of
India

CHARUSHEELA SOHONI

कृषि मंत्रालय
पशुपालन, डेयरी और मत्स्यपालन विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110 001
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

Dated the 15th September, 2006

F. No. 50-26/1998-LDT (AQ)

Sub: NOTIFICATION FOR THE DECLARATION OF FREEDOM AGAINST AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS (AHS) IN INDIA

Dear *Dr. Vallat,*

This is in continuation of letter of even No. dated 22nd June 2006, vide which India had forwarded a detailed Dossier for considering India free from AHS. While appreciating the countries efforts in this direction you had requested that the Department may proceed as per OIE stipulation of self-declaration.

As per the provision of Article 1.1.2.3 contained in the chapter 1.1.2 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code on "*Notification and Epidemiological information*" the veterinary administration of India complies with the above provisions and in accordance with the provision laid down under the article 2.5.14.2 mentioned in the chapter 2.5.14 entitled *African Horse Sickness* of the Terrestrial Code, India declares itself free from *African Horse sickness* disease.

This recognition is based on the documentation collated by the veterinary services of India and submitted to OIE on 22nd June. The summary indicating fulfillment of requirements of the Terrestrial Code for *African Horse Sickness* free country as applicable to India is Annexed.

Encl: as Above

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Charushéela Sohoni)

Dr. Bernard Vallat,
Director General,
Office International Des Epizooties
12, Rue De Prony – 75017,
PARIS (France).

FULFILLMENT OF REQUIREMENT
FOR
AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS (AHS) FREE COUNTRY

(Article 2.5.14.2 of the Terrestrial Code)

- African Horse sickness is a notifiable disease in India.
- The disease has not been reported for more than last 40 years. The last occurrence of AHS was reported in 1963.
- There has been no vaccination against AHS in the country since 1980.
- Production of AHS vaccine in the country was stopped in 1979 and importation of AHS vaccine in the country is not allowed.
- Serological evidence in all thorough bred horses as well as in other species of horses has been carried out as per the testing procedure of OIE. More than 20000 equine sera from various agro geographical areas against AHS disease has been tested with negative status.
- Equines are regulated and imported through approved Govt. quarantine Stations which are situated at the four international air ports of Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Horses are kept in isolation and subjected to various diagnostic tests before they are allowed to introduction into the various registered studs of the country.
- Importation of livestock into India is regulated through Livestock importation Act 1898 (Act 9 of 1898) as amended by *Livestock importation amendment Act 2001 (Act 28 of 2001)*. The import of horses is allowed from the countries which are free from African Horse sickness.