

No. 18-5/2014-PP.II  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001  
Dated, the 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2020

To

The Plant Protection Adviser,  
Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage,  
NH-IV, Faridabad.

**Subject : Relaxing the conditions for Import of Onion into India - regarding**

Sir,

I am directed to inform that the competent authority has decided, in the light of public concern over high prices of onion in the market, to allow relaxation from the condition of fumigation and additional declaration on Phytosanitary Certificate as per the Plant Quarantine Order, 2003, for imports up to 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 on the following conditions:

- 1) Such consignments of imported onions which arrive in Indian port without fumigation and endorsement to that effect on the PSC, would be fumigated in India by the importer through an accredited treatment provider. The consignment would be inspected thoroughly by quarantine officials and released only if found free from pests and diseases of concern to India;
- 2) Relax the requirement of endorsement of Additional Declaration in the Phytosanitary Certificate;
- 3) During inspection, if Smut (*Urocystis cepulae*) or Dry rot (*Embellisia allii*) is intercepted, the particular container to be rejected and deported;
- 4) If Stem and bulbs nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*) or Onion maggot (*Hylemia antiqua*) is detected, these should be eliminated through fumigation and the consignments to be released with no additional inspection fee;
- 5) An undertaking to be obtained from the importers that the Onions will be used only for consumption and not for propagation;
- 6) Such consignments of onions for consumption will not be subjected to the four times additional inspection fees on account of non compliance of conditions of import under the PQ Order, 2003.

2. It is requested that instructions may be sent to all Plant Quarantine Stations for necessary action and compliance immediately.

Yours faithfully,

  
( R. Rajeev )

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India