October 23, 2026

DAHD

# DAHD clarifies six clauses of the bovine serum import certificate

A DAHD office memorandum of October 23, 2026 clarifies six statements in the veterinary health certificate for importing bovine serum into India.

THE DEPARTMENT OF Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, issued an Office Memorandum dated October 23, 2026, File No. L-110109(4)/13/2025-Trade (E-36492), on "Clarification on certain clauses of the Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Bovine Serum into India". It refers to addendum notification G/SPS/N/IND/333/Add.2, dated April 22, 2026, which notified the "Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Bovine Serum into India" to the WTO SPS Committee. The clarification is issued "to facilitate ease of doing business and ensure a clear understanding of the prescribed requirements for their effective implementation", with the approval of the Competent Authority. It is addressed to all the stakeholders and signed by Dr. Aniruddha Udaykar, Deputy Commissioner (Trade). The clarifications are in an enclosed table covering six statements of the certificate.

KEY FACTS

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Office Memorandum, File No. L-110109(4)/13/2025-Trade (E- 36492)

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Under General Information No. I.14, "Seal No." refers to the seal number made by the customs authority of the exporting country on the container in which the final product is dispatched. Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(ii) of the certificate states that the country of origin of raw material and final product is free from Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus as per WOAH listing or, where the import is from a "Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus positive country", that the consignment should be accompanied with a certificate of quality analysis and tested negative for both viruses. The clarification states that where the exporting country is not "officially recognised as free from Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus (BVDV) or Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)", the consignment shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Quality Analysis confirming that it has tested negative for "BVDV/FMD/both antigen(s) for which country freedom has not been established".

Statement No. II.(iv) states that the source animals originate from an approved establishment and that a documented animal traceability system is in place; "approved establishment" refers to the farm or holding operating under the oversight of the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country. Statement No. II.(vi) states that the product has been collected by the expert and trained team approved by the competent authority of the country of origin, as per standard and approved procedures approved by the official authority of the country of origin, as per international guidelines related to laboratory bio-safety and bio-security; the clarification is that those guidelines refer to the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines. Under Statement No. II.(viii), on guidelines for international transfer, the clarification restates the two options, the IATA guidelines or other internationally approved guidelines including triple-layered packaging, and adds that one of them "shall be followed irrespective of mode of transport", as per the category and nature of the product, with spillage and leakage strictly avoided.

Statement No. II.(x) of the certificate gives two options: serum should be sterile, or serum should be tested negative for diseases namely Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), Blue Tongue, Reoviruses, Adenoviruses (as relevant), Enzootic Bovine Leukosis (EBL) and Rift Valley Fever (RVF). The

clarification states that the serum should be tested negative for the presence of antigen of the stated diseases, and that the term "as relevant" refers to "notifiable stains of the virus (Reoviruses and Adenoviruses) in the exporting country", as printed. It does not address the first option, that the serum should be sterile.

The memorandum does not reissue or reproduce the full certificate, and it does not state that the certificate's wording is amended. It sets no date from which the clarifications apply and says nothing about consignments already shipped. It does not say who is to issue the Certificate of Quality Analysis or what test methods are to be used, and it does not list which strains are notifiable in any exporting country. It covers six statements of the certificate and no others.

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| Issued by | Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying |
| Document | Office Memorandum, File No. L-110109(4)/13/2025-Trade (E- 36492) |
| Dated | October 23, 2026 |
| Subject | Clarification on certain clauses of the Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Bovine Serum into India |
| Refers to | Addendum notification G/SPS/N/IND/333/Add.2, dated April 22, 2026, to the WTO SPS Committee |
| Applies to | Imports of bovine serum into India; addressed to all the stakeholders |
| Statements clarified | Six: General Information No. I.14 and Sanitary Information Statement Nos. II.(ii), II.(iv), II.(vi), II.(viii) and II.(x) |
| Purpose | "to facilitate ease of doing business and ensure a clear understanding of the prescribed requirements for their effective implementation" |
| Takes effect | No date stated |
| Signed by | Dr. Aniruddha Udaykar, Deputy Commissioner (Trade) |

## Clarification on statements in the Indian Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Bovine Serum into India

| Statement | In the certificate | Clarification |
|---|---|---|
| General Information No.: I.14 | Seal No. | The "Seal No." refers to the seal number made by the customs authority of exporting country on the container in which the final product is dispatched. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(ii) | The country of country of origin of raw material and final product is free from Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus as per WOAH listing; Or In case the import is from the Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus positive country, the consignment should be accompanied with a certificate of quality analysis and tested negative for Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus. | In cases where the exporting country is not officially recognised as free from Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus (BVDV) or Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), the consignment shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Quality Analysis confirming that the consignment has tested negative for BVDV/FMD/both antigen(s) for which country freedom has not been established. |
| Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(iv) | The source animals originate from an approved establishment and the documented animal traceability system is in place. | The term "approved establishment" refers to the farm or holding operating under the oversight of the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country. |
| Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(vi) | The product has been collected by the expert and trained team approved by the competent authority of country of origin as per standard and approved procedures as approved by the official authority of country of origin as per international guidelines related to Laboratory bio-safety and bio-security. | The international guidelines related to Laboratory bio-safety and bio-security, refers to the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines. |
| Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(viii) | Guidelines for International transfer (IATA guidelines) or other Internationally approved guidelines including packaging (Triple layered) shall be followed as per the category and nature of the product and spillage and leakage must be strictly avoided. | Guidelines for International transfer (IATA guidelines) or other Internationally approved guidelines including packaging (Triple layered). One of the above method shall be followed irrespective of mode of transport as per the category and nature of the product and spillage and leakage must be strictly avoided. |
| Sanitary Information Statement No. II.(x) | Serum should be sterile; Or Serum should be tested Negative for diseases namely Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), Blue Tongue, Reoviruses, Adenoviruses (as relevant), Enzootic Bovine Leukosis (EBL), Rift Valley Fever (RVF). | The serum should be tested negative for the presence of antigen of stated diseases. The term "as relevant" refers to notifiable stains of the virus (Reoviruses and Adenoviruses) in the exporting country. |

The office memorandum (PDF, 1.1 MB)

Source: DAHD's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on October 27, 2026.

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