

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

The Ministry of Commerce

No. 870/MOC

**NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO
NOTIFICATION No 175/MOC ISSUED ON 04/04/1994**

To: All Heads of Commerce Divisions, provincial, municipal and Vientiane and throughout the country

Subject: Regulations on prohibited categories of goods, both for export and import.

In order to comply with the Business Law and to provide a basic method for the management of commercial sector goods, the Ministry of Commerce is co-ordinating with other sectors on the regulations on banned categories of import and export goods. List No.1 lists those state-controlled goods, which cannot be imported or exported. List No. 2 lists those goods of a technical nature.

All authorized officers from all the various sectors are therefore requested to be responsible for the implementation of checking the regulated goods categories from the date of the receipt of this announcement.

The Ministry of Commerce is continuing to study and research those goods which will be added to or removed from the prohibited lists.

Lists No.1 and 2 are attached.

Vientiane, dated 19/09/1996
The Minister.
The Ministry of Commerce.

List No.1

Prohibited Goods for Import or Export
With Reference to Article 13 of The Business Law of the Lao PDR.

1. **Banned Categories of Goods for Import**

1. Weapons of all kinds
2. All right hand drive vehicles
3. All animal parts, such as bones, hides, feet, wings, heads
4. Addictive drugs such as; opium, heroin, morphine, cannabis, *pheutkatom*¹, all substances and narcotics including those which affect the emotions and the nervous system, and poisons and chemicals which can be used for the production of narcotics.
5. Various medicines, containing the following ingredients
Framycetin
Caffeine
Amphetamine and similar substances
Bearing the trademarks: *yabuathay*² *yatanchay*, *yabuatboula*, *yabuatdtkok*, *yadaka*,³ Avilon, Colicidine-D and others.
6. Cultural Items
 - Any books, newspapers, magazines, pictures, and videos depicting Lao and foreign groups in a poor light abroad
 - Books on sociology and politics, and any literature which has the purpose of attacking and destroying the state, the Party or socialism in general
 - Pornographic books and magazines
 - Pornographic photographs, videos and films
 - Items for gambling purposes such as: cards and so on
 - Any items of clothing which flaunt tradition: such as revealing blouses, mini-skirts, shirts with inappropriate patterns.
7. Agricultural products which are produced domestically such as:
 - chilies
 - aubergines
 - tomatoes
 - bananas
 - sapota
 - lemons
 - other seasonal fruits
8. Dangerous chemicals and industrial products.

¹ a variety of plant

² Thai trade name for aspirin

³ various trade names

2. Banned Categories of Goods for Export

1. Rifles, guns, which have been fired, shotguns, any similar guns, bullets of all types, and all parts of guns.
2. Archaeological artifacts and antiques such as: ancient history books, histories of the country, Buddha images, ancient and valuable ornamental items belonging to local villages, rare coins, and any items of historical value registered with the Ministry of Information and Culture.
3. Any containers containing drugs such as: opium, morphine, heroin, cannabis, cocaine, *pheutkatom*, substances and narcotics of all kinds including those which affect the emotions and the nervous system, and poisons and chemicals which can be used for the production of narcotics.
4. All kinds of logs (except in special cases)
5. Timber of 15 x 80 cm and above (length is not limited)
6. All raw rattan and processed rattan.
7. All wild animals

* The Ministry of Commerce strictly prohibits the import or export of all goods as specified above.

List No. 2

**State Controlled Goods in accordance with Article 13 of
The Business Law of the Lao PDR.**

1. State controlled strategic imports
 1. All petroleum products
 2. All construction steel
 3. All kinds of cement
 4. All types of rice
 5. All vehicles
 6. Electricity
 7. Minerals
 8. Tobacco
 9. Timber and timber products

2. State controlled strategic exports
 1. All logs, tree stumps and wood products
 2. Tree trunks including branches and stumps with roots?
 3. Electricity

3. State controlled special imports
 1. All food products
 - pork (including whole pigs)
 - beef (including whole cows)
 - buffalo meat (including whole buffaloes)
 - all freshwater fish
 - certain kinds of milk products
 - all canned food (including canned fruit)
 - frozen fish and seafood
 - condiments and seasoning (fish sauce, sauces, vinegar, chili sauce, tomato juice, mono-sodium glutamate)
 - all kinds of sweetstuffs (cakes, candies)
 - all food colorings
 - certain kinds of chemical products
 - sugar substitutes
 - drinks (pure water for drinking, alcohol and beer)

 2. Natural products
 - all species of plants
 - all live animals

 3. All fertilizers, including chemical fertilizers

4. Cultural goods
 - videos and cassettes which are not in keeping with tradition
 - films
 - religious books
 - luxury items to attract the minds of children and young people such as: computer games
 - tools for sculpture, art and engraving
 - satellite dish receivers
 5. Communication goods
 - all types of communication vehicles
 6. Medical Products
 - all types of medicines except for those already listed under No. 5 List No. 1
 7. Chemicals
 8. Minerals
 9. Sporting guns
 - pump guns
 - Vanderling guns
 - shot guns
 10. Sport
 - snooker
4. State controlled special exports
1. agricultural products
 2. forestry products
 3. leather products
 4. timber, sawn wood and lumber
 5. minerals
 6. chemicals.