



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Ministry of Industry and Commerce

No. 1364 /MOIC.DIMEX  
Vientiane Capital, date 28 September 2018

**Minister's Order**

**On Termination of the Issuance of Import Licenses for Cement and Steel**

- To: - Cabinet Office, Departments, Institute under Ministry of Industry and Commerce.  
- Provincial and Vientiane Capital Department of Industry and Commerce.  
- Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Pursuant to Prime Minister's Decree No. 230/PM, dated 24 July 2017 regarding to the Organization and Operations of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.
  - Pursuant to Prime Minister's Order No. 02/PM, dated 01 February 2018 regarding to Improvement of Regulations and Coordination Mechanism for Doing Business in Lao PDR.

To roll out the Prime Minister's Order No. 02/PM, dated 01 February 2018 regarding to Improvement of Regulations and Coordination Mechanism for Doing Business in Lao PDR, in particular the 8<sup>th</sup> indicator "Trading Across Borders" which the Ministry of Industry and Commerce takes lead of the implementation in simplified and speedy manners, and reduce unnecessary procedures and documents.

**Minister of Industry and Commerce orders:**

1. The Office of Industry and Commerce in Provinces, Vientiane Capital to terminate the issuance of import licenses for cement and steel according to Decision no. 0450/MOIC.DIMEX, dated 01 March 2012.
2. The import of cement and steel to proceed the customs clearance at the border checkpoints directly, but shall comply with the technical regulations of concerned government agencies of Lao PDR or the country of destination as follow:
  - 2.1 Consistent with the national standards on product such as: production standard, Lao national product standard, packaging standard, labelling;
  - 2.2 The import of cement for distribution in Lao PDR shall be packed and labelled in consistent with the Decision of Minister of Science and Technology on the Management of Packed Products (Revised Version) No. 0542/MOST, dated 16 May 2017 and the Ordinance of the Minister of Industry and Commerce on products labelling in Lao language, No. 2501/MoIC.DTD, dated 16 Dec 2015;
  - 2.3 The import or export of cement and steel shall be only passed through the international border checkpoint.

3. The Office of Industry and Commerce in Provinces, Vientiane Capital takes lead to manage and issue the business operational licenses on import, export, production and distribution of cement and steel as following cases:
  - 3.1 The business operational license on import and export of construction materials and equipment including cement and steel for general distribution is issued by the Import and Export Sector;
  - 3.2 The business operational license on processing industry and handicraft for the cement and steel manufactories is issued by the Industry and Handicraft Sector;
  - 3.3 The business operational license on wholesale and retail of construction materials and equipment including cement and steel is issued by the Domestic Trade Sector;
  - 3.4 For an enterprise established earlier can continue the business by using its current enterprise certificate.
  - 3.5 An enterprise that wish to operate the business sector as indicated in 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 above after the implementation of new policy on enterprise registration according to Prime Minister's Order no. 02/PM, dated 01 February 2018 shall comply with the procedure as specified by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in separate regulations.
4. The Domestic Trade Department, the Office of Industry and Commerce in Provinces, Vientiane Capital to supervise the implementing organizations of trade inspection activities in each level to monitor and inspect as the roles and responsibilities. If the violation is found, shall comply with the Decision on the Implementation of Trade Inspection Activities no. 1499/MOIC.DTD, dated 08 September 2017.
5. The Department of Import and Export, the Domestic Trade Department and the Office of Industry and Commerce in Provinces, Vientiane Capital to take lead in collaboration with concerned government agencies and the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry to disseminate, raise awareness for the government officials and the relevant business units to be able to implement in harmonized manner.
6. The implementation of this Order shall commence on 01 January 2019.
7. This Order shall become effective from the date of signature and 15 days from the date of publication on Official Gazette. This Order replaces the Decision no. 0450/MOIC.DIMEX, dated 01 March 2012. Any contents of Decisions, Instructions or Orders in contradiction with this Order shall be annulled.

**Minister,**

**Khemani Pholsena**