

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

MPN 97/3

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MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 129

**AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
THRU THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY,
TO IMPORT 200,000 MT OF RICE DUTY/TARIFF-FREE**

In support of the Targeted Rice Distribution Program (TRDP) for Poor Families, the Department of Agriculture (DA), through the National Food Authority (NFA), is hereby granted the authority to initially import 200,000 metric tons of rice (plus or minus 10%) during the first quarter of 2001 free of duty/tariff.

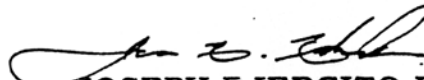
In preparation for the lean months of July to September 2001, and to ensure that rice prices remain stable and affordable, the DA, thru the NFA, may further import an additional 250,000 metric tons (plus or minus 10%) duty/tariff-free to arrive during the second quarter of 2001.

The DA, thru the NFA, is also authorized, if warranted by the situation, to undertake on a negotiated government to government basis, the above importations in order to protect the domestic rice market.

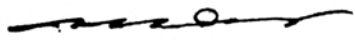
The Department of Finance and other concerned agencies are hereby directed to grant the NFA duty/tariff-free privileges for the abovestated importations.

This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila this 19th day of December in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand.


JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA

By the President:


RAMON B. CARDENAS
Senior Deputy Executive Secretary



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Received

JAN 11 2001

Date

