Import of dog/cats- General information

Import Policy of Pet (dogs/cats) is “restricted” and is permitted for import, only with an authorisation from DGFT. Import of Pets are allowed only for the following specific purpose-

i. Dogs imported by the R&D Organisations for conducting research with the recommendation of CPCSEA

ii. For the internal security by the Defence and Police Force

iii. Pet Dog as therapy animal/ Emotional support dog on production of medical certificate along with prescription of treatment of the applicant and certificate regarding Emotional Support Dog. However on return from India the applicant has to take back the dog with them and they had to submit

a) Necessary proof (copy of return flight ticket & live cargo receipt) to be submitted to Regional Authority (RA) of DGFT from where license is issued. List of RA is available on DGFT website http://dgft.gov.in-policies-Forms Appendices and ANF+-Appendices2015-20-Appendix1A

b) A local address with ID proof of the local host/relative/family who has to submit an undertaking that in case the applicant fail to take back the pet, he/she shall be liable for action under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 as amended from time to time. Further the host/relative also has to submit an undertaking that the RA from where the license has been issued is informed of taking back of the Pet with evidence.

iv. Dogs which have been with the applicant for a considerable period (at least for 2 years at the time of making application) as “pet” may be considered for import subject to satisfaction of other conditions like proof of the “Pet” staying with the applicant for the above time/duration / the applicant is transferring their residence to India after 2 years of continuous stay abroad etc,

v. Dogs for commercial purposes like breeding/as gift or other purposes are not allowed to be imported.

vi. New born puppies are not allowed.

vii. Import of pets is allowed without authorisation for persons shifting residence permanently to India. (Custom’s Baggage Rules).


Q. What’s the policy for import of Pet?

Ans. Import of live animals including cat/dog/ rabbit is restricted in India.

Generally, import of pets is allowed without authorisation for persons shifting residence permanently to India. (Custom’s Baggage Rules). Others have to apply for import authorisation.

Q. Is import of pet allowed for short duration?
Q. What is the procedure for import of PET?
Ans. Import of Pet (dogs/cats) are restricted and permitted for import only with an authorisation from DGFT. Import of Pets are allowed only for the following specific purpose-

i. Dogs imported by the R&D Organisations for conducting research with the recommendation of CPCSEA

ii. For the internal security by the Defence and Police Force

iii. Pet Dog as therapy animal/ Emotional support dog on production of medical certificate of the applicant and certificate regarding Emotional Support Dog.

iv. Dogs which have been with the applicant for a considerable period (atleast for 2 years) as pet may be considered subject to other conditions like proof of dog staying with the applicant and that the applicant is transferring their residence to India after 2 years of continuous stay abroad etc,

Dogs for commercial purposes like breeding and other purposes are not allowed.

New born puppies of less than 7 months are not to be allowed.
Ans. Import of cat/dogs/rabbit for short duration (as a tourist) is generally not permitted/allowed. However the cases are examined on case to case basis and permission is granted in rare cases on the basis of justification along with supporting documents. The import of pet for short duration is allowed subject to the following conditions –

(a) If the pet is meant for medical reasons of the applicant i.e. Pet Dog as therapy animal/ Emotional support dog. This is subject to production of medical certificate along with prescription of treatment of the applicant over period and certificate regarding Emotional Support Dog by the applicant.

(b) The applicant will have to take back the pet with them on their return from India and necessary proof (copy of applicants (and pets) return flight ticket & live cargo receipt) to be submitted to RA from where license is issued.

(c) The applicant has to submit a local address with ID proof of the local host/relative who has to submit an undertaking that in case the applicant fail to take back the pet, he/she shall be liable for action under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 as amended from time to time. Further the host/relative also has to submit an undertaking that the RA from where the license has been issued is informed of taking back of the Pet with evidence.

(c) The applicant should ensure that the RA from where the license was issued is informed of taking back of the Pet with evidence failing which action will be initiated against the local contact after the date of return mentioned by the applicant in their application.

Q. What is the procedure for importing Pet?

Ans. An application for grant of an Import Authorisation to import PET may be made online by filling up Form 2M (ANF 2M) along with documents prescribed therein. Link for online application is [http://dgft.gov.in/services-ECOM-online ECOM Application- e-filling of Application (http://dgftcom.nic.in/ecomapplications.html)] restricted items for import license/authorisation. You may use your own importer Exporter Code, if you already have one or else you may use the permanent IEC No. IIHIE0153E.

Details may also be seen in the Trade Notice No. 49 dated 15th March, 2019 at the following link [http://dgft.gov.in-policies-Trade Notice].

The applicant has to attach pet book and vaccination certificate of the pet along with ANF 2M form and supporting documents. The names and contact nos. of RAs are available on DGFT website.

Q. What is the procedure of approval?
Ans. After an application is received, it is forwarded to D/o Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries for comments/NoC. If that Department issues NOC, the case will be considered in an Inter-ministerial committee meeting called Exim Facilitation Committee. The meeting of the Committee (EFC) is held once every month. If the case is considered and approved by the Committee, online approval is sent to the concerned Regional Authority (RA) of DGFT to issue import license/authorisation for import of pet.

On the basis of online approval, the RA issues the license based on the application submitted by the applicant and the conditions imposed in the license/authorisation.

With this license the applicant needs to approach the AQCS.
Circular No.25 /2013 - Customs

F. No. 495/16/2012-Cus.VI
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs

To,

All Chief Commissioners of Customs,
All Chief Commissioners of Customs (Preventive),
All Chief Commissioners of C.Ex., Customs & S.Tax.
All Director Generals.

Sir/Madam,

Subject: Import of Pets under Baggage – reg.

Attention is invited to Board’s Circular No. 15/2013 - Customs dated 08.04.2013 on the above cited subject.

2. Board has received several representations regarding problems being faced in re-import of pets at airports. In this regard the undersigned is directed to inform that re-import of pets is not covered by Circular No. 15/2013 - Customs dated 08.04.2013. Therefore, it is clarified that re-import of pets as baggage is allowed subject to establishment of identity of pets by Customs authorities, production of the required health certificate from the country of export and examination of said pets by the concerned Quarantine Officer at this end.

3. These instructions may be brought to the notice of the trade / airlines / carriers by issuing suitable Trade / Public Notices. Suitable Standing orders/instructions may be issued for the guidance of the field officers.

4. Difficulties faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(A.K. Goel)
STO (TU)
Circular No. 15 / 2013-Customs

F. No. 495/16/2012-Cus.VI
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs

To,

All Chief Commissioners of Customs,
All Chief Commissioners of Customs (Preventive),
All Chief Commissioners of C.Ex., Customs & S.Tax.
All Director Generals.

Sir/Madam,

Subject: Import of Pets under Baggage – reg.

Attention is invited to Board’s Circular No. 94/2002- Customs dated 23.12.2002 on the above cited subject wherein it was provided that import of pets up to two numbers per passenger may be allowed at one time subject to the production of the required health certificate from the country of origin and examination of the same by the concerned Quarantine officer.

2. Board has re-examined the present policy of import of two pets by passengers in view of representations received in this regard. Accordingly, it has been decided to allow import of two pet animals as baggage only to persons transferring their residence to India after two years of continuous stay abroad in terms of Baggage Rules 1998 subject to production of the required health certificate from the country of origin and examination of said pets by the concerned Quarantine Officer at this end. This new dispensation shall come into force with effect from 15th April 2013. Import of animals (pets) in general would continue to be governed by DGFT policy.


4. These instructions may be brought to the notice of the trade/airlines/carriers by issuing suitable Trade / Public Notices. Suitable Standing orders/instructions may be issued for the guidance of the field officers.

5. Difficulties faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(S.C. Ganger)
Under Secretary (Customs)
8th April, 2013
F.No.495/27/2001-Cus.VI
Government of India Department of
Revenue
Ministry of Finance & Company affairs
(Central Board of Excise & Customs)

Subject: Import of pets under Baggage – Regarding.

I am directed to refer to Board's instructions issued vide Circular No.9/2002 dated 30th January, 2002 on the above mentioned subject, wherein it was reiterated that bonafide pet animals brought by passengers may be allowed to be brought into the country only against an import sanitary permit issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying or against an import licence issued by the DGFT.

2. In this connection, several references have been received from the passengers, as also the field formations, pointing out the difficulties being faced in implementing the above instructions. The matter has since been re-examined in consultation with the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and it has been decided that the import of pets (dog and cat only) upto two numbers per passenger may be allowed at one time subject to the production of the required health certificate from the country of origin and examination of the said pets by the concerned Quarantine Officer. In such cases, the passengers may not be asked to produce the import licences or import sanitary permits. A copy of standard health protocol to be followed by the passengers while bringing pet animals (dogs and cats) with them is enclosed at Annexure I and II.

3. Necessary instructions may please be issued to all concerned for compliance. Difficulties faced, if any, in implementation of the above instructions may be brought to the notice of the Board.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt.
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF DOG INTO INDIA

I. OWNER

Name and address

II. DESCRIPTION

Species of animal:
Age or date of birth:
Sex:
Breed:
Colour:
Coat type & marking/Distinguish mark:
Identification number:

III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Country of origin:

Countries visited over the past years as declared by the owner (give dates):

IV. DESTINATION OF ANIMALS

Country of destination:
Name and address of consignee:

Nature and identification of means of transport:

V. SANITARY INFORMATION

The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the animal/s described above and examined on this day:

a) shows no clinical sign of diseases including rabies, canine distemper, parvo virus infection, leptospirosis etc..

b) has been vaccinated for rabies (in case it is more than three months of age) within the time limit recommended by the manufacturer of vaccine licensed and approved by the exporting country (name of the vaccine, batch number and the date of vaccination must be shown on the veterinary certificate)
Annexure:

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF CAT INTO INDIA

I. OWNER

Name and address: .................................................................................................................................

II. DESCRIPTION

Species of animal: .................................................................................................................................
Age or date of birth: ...............................................................................................................................
Sex: ........................................................................................................................................................
Breed: ...................................................................................................................................................
Colour: ...................................................................................................................................................
Coat type & marking/Distinguish mark: ..............................................................................................
Identification number: ........................................................................................................................

III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Country of origin: ................................................................................................................................
Countries visited over the past years as declared by the owner (give dates): .......................................

IV. DESTINATION OF ANIMALS

Country of destination: ...........................................................................................................................
Name and address of consignee: ...........................................................................................................
Nature and identification of means of transport: ....................................................................................
............................................................................................................................................................
V. SANITARY INFORMATION

The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the animal(s) described above and examined on this day:

a. shows no clinical sign of diseases including rabies, feline enteritis, feline pan leukopenia, leptospirosis etc.

b. has been vaccinated for rabies (in case it is more than three months of age) within the time limit recommended by the manufacturer of vaccine licensed and approved by the exporting country (name of the vaccine, batch number and the date of vaccination must be shown on the veterinary certificate)

Official stamp:

Issued at .................................. on ..................................

Name and address of Veterinarian.................................................................

Signature: .................................................................................................

6/6
To be published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section - 3, Sub-Section (ii)
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Directorate General of Foreign Trade

Notification No. 3/2015-2020
New Delhi, Dated: 25 April, 2016

Subject: Introduction of policy conditions on import of dogs in Chapter 01 of ITC (HS), 2012–Schedule–1 (Import Policy).

S.O. (E): In exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 of FT (D&R) Act, 1992, read with paragraph 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-2020, as amended from time to time, the Central Government hereby introduces policy conditions on import of dogs under Chapter 01 of ITC (HS), 2012 – Schedule – 1 (Import Policy) as under:

(7) Import of dogs is allowed only for the following specific purposes:
   i. Pet dog with valid pet book and relevant records/documents in the name of importer.
   ii. Dogs imported by the R&D Organisations for conducting research with the recommendation of CPCSEA.
   iii. For the internal security by the Defence and Police Force.

(8) Import of commercial dogs for breeding or any other commercial activities other than the purposes mentioned above is not permitted.

2. Effect of this Notification: Import of commercial dogs for breeding or any other commercial activities is not permitted.

(Anup Wadhawan)
Director General of Foreign Trade

[Issued from F.No. 01/89/180/200/AM-02/PC-2 (A)]