

Trade Unit.

Trade in livestock and livestock products are regulated as per the Foreign Trade Policy–Export Import Policy (EXIM) of Government of India which is implemented by Department of Commerce.

However, to prevent ingress of Exotic Diseases through import of livestock and livestock products, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries regulates trade in such products as per provision of Section 3 and Section 3A of the Livestock Importation Act., 1898.

Import of live animal's falls under the category of restricted list (it is not free to import) as per EXIM Policy for which importer has to obtain license from Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). The DGFT issues license on the recommendation of this Department. This Department makes a decision on recommendation based on the risk analysis and the related germplasm policy. Central Government is empowered to regulate, restrict and prohibit import of live animals in accordance with Section 3 of the Live-stock Importation Act., 1898. Notifications S.O. 1495(E) and 1496(E) dated 10th June, 2014 under Section 3 of Livestock Importation Act has been issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. Through these notifications, Department has notified the classes of animals that can be considered as "Live-stock" and requirement of veterinary health certificate for their import and quarantine procedure of live animals.

Livestock products are categorized under Open General License (OGL) as per EXIM Policy. Central Government is empowered to regulate, restrict and prohibit import of live-stock products in accordance with Section 3A of the Live-stock Importation Act., 1898. In this regard, the Department has issued notification S.O. 2666(E) dated 17th October, 2015 listing out the livestock products and procedure for import of livestock products. The import of these products is basically allowed subject to Sanitary Import Permits (SIPs) which are guided by risk analysis done through veterinary health certificates to be accompanied with the import of livestock products. The Department issues SIPs for livestock products are valid for one year or six month depending upon the nature of product and may be used for multiple consignments.

A Sanitary Import Permit is not a licence, but a certificate certifying India's sanitary requirements. Imports of animal and animal products are only allowed through sea ports/ air ports of Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Mumbai where animal quarantine and certification services are available. Imports of fish products are allowed through the sea port of Vishakhapatnam (in the State of Andhra Pradesh), Sea and airport of Kochi and the Land Custom Station at Petrapole (for imports from Bangladesh only).

Functions of Trade Unit.

The Trade Unit of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Government of India performs the following works:

- Implementation of Livestock Importation Act, 1898 by issuing of notification for regulation of import of livestock products.
- Receiving of applications for Sanitary Import Permits(SIPs) and issuance of SIPs
- Communicates recommendation of the Department on the proposals received from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade(DGFT) for issuance of license by DGFT for import and export of livestock and livestock products under restricted list category.
- Communicates recommendation of the Department on the proposals received from Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for issuance of license by them for import, manufacturing and marketing of veterinary medicines and biological in the country.
- Deals with trade policy matters within Department.