

Regulation of Import of Live Pet Dogs and Cats under the Livestock Importation Act, 1898, and Amendments Made from Time to Time – Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

The following guidelines are hereby brought to the notice of all stakeholders regarding the import of live pet dogs and cats through the notified ports in India:

1. ATITHI 2.0 Portal: The ATITHI 2.0 portal, developed by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), is operational at all notified ports for the import of pet dogs and cats. All passengers intending to import their pets under the Baggage Rules shall apply through the portal to obtain an Advance No Objection Certificate (NOC).
2. Generation of Advance NOC: Upon successful submission of the online application through the ATITHI 2.0 portal, an Advance NOC shall be generated. The Advance NOC can be downloaded by both the passenger and the Customs authorities.
3. Verification of Documents: The Advance NOC shall be issued only after due verification of all relevant health documents of the pet, including the Veterinary Health Certificate and the pet's vaccination records.
4. Responsibility of Airlines: Airlines shall transport pet dogs and cats from the foreign port of embarkation only if the passenger possesses a valid Advance NOC issued through the ATITHI 2.0 portal.
5. Responsibility of Passengers: Passengers are required to register on the ATITHI Portal using their own passport details and must not share their login credentials or account access with any third party. Any misuse, unauthorized access, or consequences arising from such sharing shall be the sole responsibility of the passenger. No third-party involvement is required for obtaining an Advance No Objection Certificate (Advance NoC), and passengers are advised to complete the application process directly through the ATITHI Portal.
6. Health Examination at Port of Arrival: Upon arrival of the pet at any notified port, the Animal Quarantine and Certification Services (AQCS) staff shall examine the original documents of the pet and issue the Final NOC at the port of entry.
7. Customs Clearance: The pet shall be cleared by the Customs authorities in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations, based on the Final NOC issued by AQCS.
8. Non-Compliance: Any passenger attempting to import a pet without a valid Advance NOC, or using a fake, forged, tampered, or altered NOC, shall be issued a deportation/re-export order by AQCS in accordance with the applicable provisions.

Standard Operating Procedure for Import of Pet Dog(s) in to India:

Pre Arrival Requirements:

1. Minimum 07 days before embarkation, the application will be submitted through ATITHI 2.0 PORTAL by the applicant along with supported documents

Supporting Documents includes: Vaccination and Microchip certificate, Official Health certificate along with Annexure 1.1.1 signed by competent authority, Air ticket/Airway bill, passport copy etc.

2. After examining the uploaded forms, Advance No Objection Certificate (NOC) will be issued by the concerned Animal Quarantine & Certification Station (AQCS) within 1 working day

3. **On Arrival at the Port of Entry**

1. The AQCS's Staff will carry out physical examination of the dog(s) as per the prescribed format and verify original documents at the port of entry.
2. In case the dog(s) is/are found sound and healthy, final NOC (Annexure 1.5) will be issued at the port of entry itself.
3. In case the dog(s) fails to clear physical examination or exhibits clinical signs of diseases, it will be taken to the Quarantine Station and will remain under quarantine for 15 days.

During Quarantine Period at AQCS

1. Everyday examination record will be maintained and testing will be done. If any signs/symptoms will be found, the same will be recorded or updated online. The applicant will bear the charges for testing.
2. Final NOC (Annexure 1.5) will be issued in case negative test reports are obtained for the dog(s) under quarantine.
3. In case of the positive testing reports or if the pet dies of disease, deportation/Post –Mortem and incineration will be done at the cost of owner.

***Complete process of clearance is depicted at annexure 1a, 1b and 1c.**

Note: If owner of pet(s) is unable to apply for NOC at ATITHI 2.0 personally, he/she may authorize his/her representative (Annexure 1.6).

Process for Importing Pet Dog(s) into India under Transfer of Residence- Ease of Understanding

Case 1. – Transfer of Residence

Application Filing

Minimum 7 working days before embarkation, applicant will submit the following documents on ATITHI 2.0 PORTAL for obtaining Advance No Objection Certificate (NOC) from AQCS;-

Before filling application, please make sure that you are eligible for Transfer of Residence (Proof of two years overseas stay and visa cancellation/relocation proof)

Application form (Annexure 1.1)

Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Pet dogs (Annexure 1.1.1)

Provisional Decision

If documents are proper

Advance No Objection Certificate (Annexure-1.2) along with format for physical examination (Annexure 1.3) is issued and Bill of Entry will be cleared online by AQCS (If coming by cargo)

If there is deficiency in documents

Applicant will be informed back with point wise reasons for rejection on the portal itself.

Airline will not lift the dog(s) until advance NOC is obtained by the applicant.



Post Arrival Examination

AQCS's Staff will examine the animal(s) as per the prescribed format (Annexure 1.3) and documents

Decision on Arrival at port of entry

FIT- Final NOC
(Annexure-1.5)

Unfit-Animal exhibiting clinical signs of diseases will be quarantined at respective AQCS (15 days) and necessary testing will be carried out.

FIT cases-Final NOC
(Annexure-1.5) will be issued after Quarantine period in AQCS

Operations in Quarantine

Testing parameters for confirmatory diagnosis. Everyday examination record (Annexure-1.4) and concerned test reports will be recorded or updated online.

UNFIT-Treatment may be suggested with consent of owner/Death cases-Post mortem and Incineration

Process for Importing Pet Dog(s) into India under Reimport-Ease of Understanding

Case 2. Re-import(As per Circular No. 25 / 2013-Customs)

Application Filing

Minimum 7 working days before embarkation, applicant will submit the following documents on ATITHI 2.0 PORTAL for obtaining Advance No Objection Certificate (NOC) from AQCS;-

Before filling application, please make sure that you are eligible for Re-import (Copy of earlier Veterinary health certificate for export issued by AQCS India)

Application form (Annexure 1.1)

Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Pet dogs (Annexure 1.1.1)

Provisional Decision

If documents are proper

Advance No Objection Certificate (Annexure-1.2) along with format for physical examination (Annexure 1.3) is issued and Bill of Entry will be cleared online by AQCS (If coming by cargo)

If there is deficiency in documents

Applicant will be informed back with point wise reasons for rejection on the portal itself.

Airline will not lift the pets until advance NOC is obtained by the applicant.

Post Arrival Examination

AQCS;s Staff will examine the animal(s) as per the prescribed format (Annexure 1.3) and verify the documents

Decision on Arrival at port of entry

FIT- Final NOC (Annexure-1.5)

Unfit-Animal exhibiting clinical signs of diseases will be quarantined at respective AQCS (15 days) and necessary testing will be carried out.

FIT cases-Final NOC (Annexure-1.5) will be issued after Quarantine period in AQCS

Operations in Quarantine

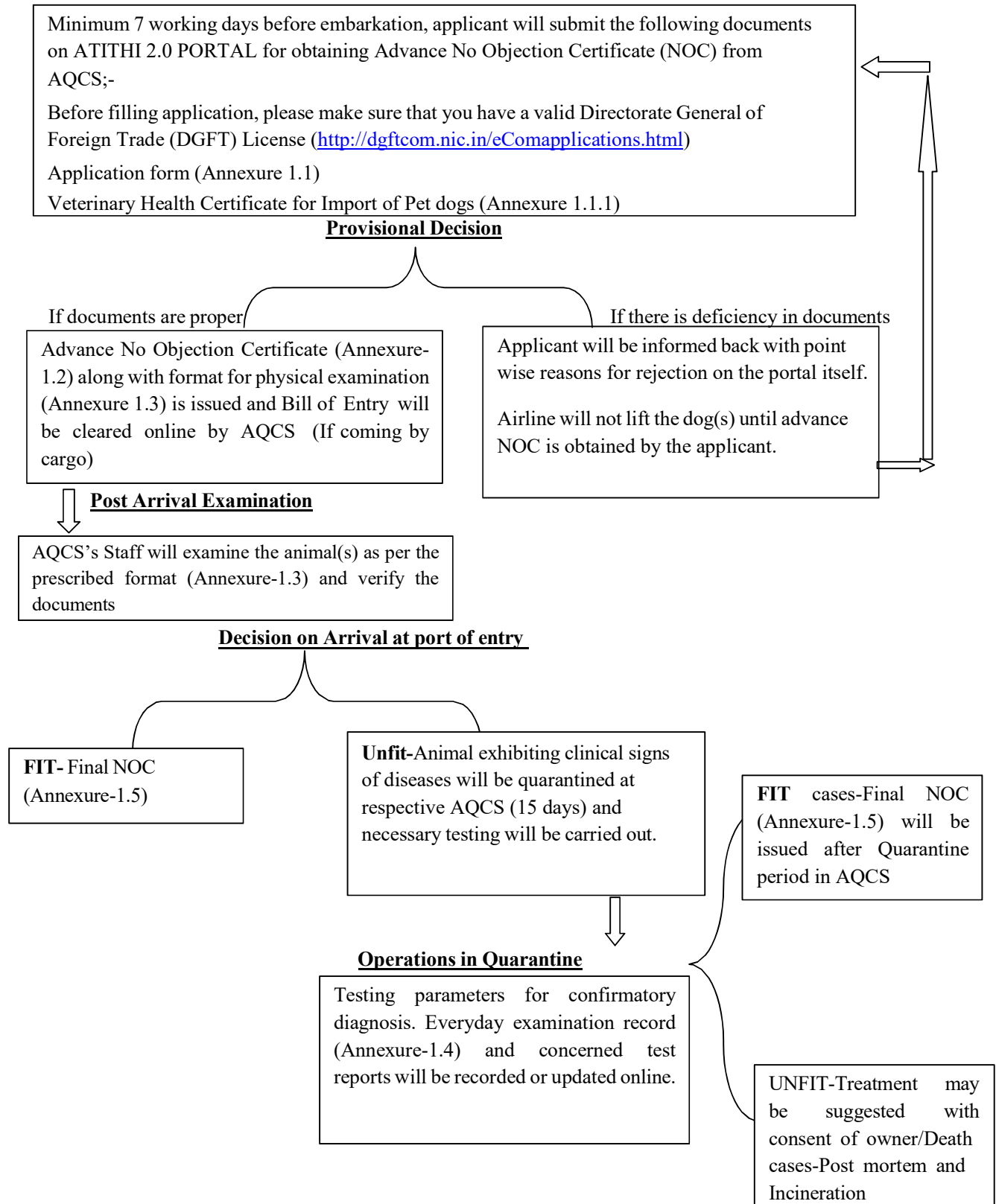
Testing parameters for confirmatory diagnosis. Everyday examination record (Annexure-1.4) and concerned test reports will be recorded or updated online.

UNFIT-Treatment may be suggested with consent of owner/Death cases-Post mortem and Incineration

Process for Importing Pet Dog(s) into India under Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)- Ease of Understanding

Case 3. – For Short Stay in India (Under DGFT)

Table 1.



Annexure-1.1



Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Government of India

Animal Quarantine and
Certification Services

Livestock Importation Act, 1898 amended in 2001

Application Form for obtaining No Objection Certificate from Animal Quarantine and Certification Services, India for import of Pet Dog(s)

1. Animal Quarantine and Certification Services			
New Delhi		☐	
Mumbai		☐	
Bangalore		☐	
Hyderabad		☐	
Chennai		☐	
Kolkata		☐	
2. Name & address of the Applicant:	3. Date of import	4. List of enclosures attached:	
		- Annexure 1.1.1-Veterinary Health Certificate for Pet dogs ☐ - Pet passport/ Pet book/ Pet health card ☐ - Flight Ticket/ Airway bill/ seaway bill ☐	
Tel.No. : Email Id:			
5. Purpose of the import	6. Bill of entry issued by the Customs (if applicable)		
7. Description of the Dog(s)			
Name		Sex	
Breed		Date of birth	
Microchip No.		Country of origin	
Colour			
8. General Declaration		For official use only	
I (Mr./Mrs/Miss)..... am an applicant for import of dog(s) mentioned above and declare that the information furnished on this form, to best of my knowledge and belief are true, correct and complete in every respect. Date: Sign. Medical Condition Declaration (If applicable) It is declared that dog(s) mentioned above are under supervision of a registered Veterinarian. Details of clinical condition and medication is mentioned in the health card (attached with this form) Date: Sign.		1. Acknowledgement No. 2. Unfit for clearance on account of deficiency in - Veterinary Health Certificate for Pet dogs - Pet passport/ Pet book/ Pet health card - Flight Ticket/ Airway bill/ seaway bill - Application format Official Veterinarian' Signature	

Format for authorization to apply for obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) at Animal Quarantine & Certification Services (AQCS)

To,

The Officer-In Charge

Animal Quarantine & Certification Services

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries,

Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying

Government of India

General Declaration

I, Dr./Mr./Ms/Mrs. with the details mentioned below, am intending to import/exportnos. of Pet (dog(s)/cat(s)) under baggage rule from.....into/ from India. For the purpose of obtaining NOC from Animal Quarantine & Certification Services and documentation, I hereby authorize Mr /Mrs..... (Whose details are given below) on my behalf.

***Note: I am well aware that application processing charges of Rs 1000/- for import and Rs 500/- are levied by AQCS for the purpose of NOC issuance with respect to Import and Export of Pets. The payment is to be made through Bharatkosh Portal**

Details of the applicant

- a. Name
- b. Address
- c. Passport Copy
- d. Destination
- e. Place of embarkation/disembarkation
- f. Mobile No.
- g. Email ID

Details of the authorized Person:

- a. Name
- b. Address
- c. Copy of Aadhar Card/Election ID/ Passport/Driving license
- d. Mobile No.
- e. Email ID

Annexure-1.1.1

Veterinary Health Certificate for Import of Pet Dogs into India

1. OWNER

Name and Address of the owner(s) of the dog(s).....

Contact No:

Email:

2. Description

Breed of Dog:.....

Age or date of birth:.....

Sex:.....

Colour:.....

Coat type and marking/ Distinguish mark:.....

Identification/ Microchip number:.....

3. Additional Information

Country of origin:.....

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

.....

4. Sanitary Information

I, the undersigned, Official Veterinarian hereby certify that the dog(s) described above and examined on this day:

a) Show/shows no clinical sign of any disease including rabies, canine distemper, parvo virus infection, leptospirosis, Infectious Canine Hepatitis, Scabies and Leishmaniasis.

b) Has/have been vaccinated for rabies (in case it is more than three months of age) Canine distemper, parvo virus infection, leptospirosis within the time limit recommended by the vaccine manufacturer licensed and approved by the exporting country (name of the vaccine, batch number, and the date of vaccination must be shown on the passport/pet book/health card of dog(s) as the case may be).

c) Has/have been under treatment (if any) with following details

(i) Type of treatment

(ii) Type of medication

Official Stamp:

Issued at on.....

Signature.....

Name and address of Official Veterinarian

Registration No. :.....

Email:

Contact no.