

India Laws and Regulations on import of Agricultural Commodities.

India is a major buyer of Nepalese agro commodities. The export of plant & plant products and animal & animal products need to comply with various rules and regulations of India. The agencies for laws enforcement are Director General of Health Services and Directorate of Plant Health of India.

Animal and Animal products:

The procedure for import of livestock products into India applies to meat and meat product of all kinds, egg and egg powder, milk and milk products, bovine, ovine and caprine embryos, ova or semen and pet food products of animal origin.

For more specific information please visit <http://dahd.nic.in/order/livestockimport.doc>

Processed Food Products

There is no specific import regulation law that requires export certificates from the country of origin for import of processed food products. However, the processed food products should meet their domestic laws standards before entering into India. The different domestic laws are as follows:

- **The Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 2004**, focuses on regulatory standards for primary food products. The food additive on imported products, pesticide residues, packaging and labeling and regulation of sales. For specific conditions for different commodities please visit www.mohfw.nic.in.
- **The Standards and Weights and Measure Act, 1976** focuses on goods marketed in India by weight measure or number with labeling. For more detail please visit www.fcamin.nic.in
- **Meat Food Products Order, 1992**, focuses on the permissible quantity of heavy metals, preservatives, and insecticide residues for meat products. This order is applicable to domestic processors and imported meat. For more information please visit www.fssai.gov.in

- **Fruits Products Order, 1955** contains specifications and quality control requirements on the processed fruits, vegetables, sweetened aerated waters, vinegar and synthetic syrup. The imported processed fruits products comply this order. For more information please visit www.fssai.gov.in

The imported products like milk powder, condensed milk and infant food should comply with Indian quality standards. For detail visit (www.mohfw.nic.in; www.bis.org.in)

Plants and Plants Products:

The plants and plants related products are allowed to import into India if they comply with **Plant Quarantine Order 2003**. The restriction on import is basically done in order to prevent introduction of exotic pests and diseases in India from host nation. India government timely revised and listed the products name and exporting country name in its Plant Quarantine Order to allow import into India.

For more detail please visit: www.plantquarantineindia.org

The imported agriculture products should be accompanied with certificate of origin and phytosanitary certificate from Nepal because of Bio-Security and Sanitary and Phyto Sanitary issues. The Indo Nepal treaty of trade has granted recognition to the Sanitary and Phytosanitary certificates (including health certificates) issued by the competent authority of the exporting country, based on assessment of their capabilities, in the area of food and agriculture product (including primary, semi processed and processed), and shall allow entry of these products into their markets on the basis of these certificates subject to meeting the mandatory requirement of the importing country.

The import of animals and animal products should possess Sanitary Import Permit issued by Animal Health Department of Nepal. The exports of processed / manufactured products are traded with India only through manufacturing company of Nepal.