

**ITC (HS), 2017**  
**SCHEDULE 1 – IMPORT POLICY**

*GENERAL NOTES REGARDING IMPORT POLICY*

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In terms of Paragraph 2.02 of the Foreign Trade Policy, all imported goods shall also be subject to domestic laws, acts, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods.

The following General Notes apply to imported goods.

**1. Imports not involving remittance of Foreign Exchange:**

Imports shall be allowed without an import license / authorization / permission from this Directorate to the following categories of importers, provided the imports do not involve any remittance of foreign exchange:

- (i) Import of goods by officials of the United Nations Organisation (<http://www.un.org/en>) and its specialised agencies who are exempt from payment of customs duty under the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947 (This Act can be accessed from website of Ministry of External Affairs – [www.mea.gov.in](http://www.mea.gov.in));
- (ii) Import under Baggage Rules (The Rules can be accessed from the website of Central Board of Excise and Customs – <http://www.cbec.gov.in/travellers.htm>) of used professional equipment, instruments or apparatus by professionals and doctors returning to India for permanent settlement;
- (iii) Goods imported as baggage by the members of foreign mountaineering expedition teams (details can be accessed from the website of Indian Mountaineering Foundation – <http://www.indmount.org>), subject to the condition of export of such items except items consumed;
- (iv) Paintings and other display articles required for competitions or exhibitions, subject to the condition of export of such items except consumables;
- (v) Food-stuffs, medicines, clothing and blankets received by any charitable organisation registered with Ministry of Tribal Welfare (<http://tribal.nic.in/index.asp>) / Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (<http://socialjustice.nic.in/>) and Ministry of Home Affairs under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (<http://mha.nic.in>), as a gift from any philanthropic organisation or person abroad, for free distribution either by itself or other charitable organisations to the poor and needy without any distinction of caste, creed or colour;

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However, this condition of 60% shelf life or *three months before expiry* stipulated above is not applicable to re-import for export purpose under para 2.46 of Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20). Re-import for export purpose will be subject to following conditions:

- i. Re-imported edible/food products to meet stipulated phytosanitary conditions;
- ii. Importers to give an undertaking to Customs that re-imported goods will not be sold in the domestic market;
- iii. On re-export importers to submit a certificate to such effect to the Customs<sup>iii</sup>

**(C) Meat and Meat Products including Poultry products:**

Import of meat and poultry products will be subject to the compliance of conditions regarding manufacture, slaughter, packing, labeling and quality conditions as laid down in Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006 and rules thereunder. All manufacturers of meat/poultry products exporting their goods to India shall be required to meet the sanitary and hygienic requirements as stipulated under the aforementioned Act and rules framed thereunder. The imported product shall also comply with the specified packaging, labeling and quality standards as laid down therein. Compliance of these conditions is to be ensured before allowing customs clearance of the consignment.

**(D) Food Import Entry Points:**

To ensure the mandate of safe food imports in India, FSSAI has notified Authorised Officers to handle food import clearance at 150 food import entry points [covering 27 sea ports, 15 airports, 31 land customs stations (LCSs) and 77 inland container depots (ICDs)] vide FSSAI's Notification dated 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 (F.No. 1-1715/FSSAI/Imports/2017) as per List A in Appendix-V to Schedule-I (Import Policy). The food import entry points restrictions shall be applicable for items against 1515 HS Codes as detailed in List B of Appendix: V to the Schedule-I of ITC (HS) 2017.<sup>iv</sup>

**5. Packaged Products:**

All such packaged products, which are subject to provisions of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011( as amended from time to time) when produced/ packed/ sold in domestic market, shall be subject to compliance of all the provisions of the said rules, when imported into India (These rules can be accessed from the website of the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs - <http://fcamin.nic.in> or <http://consumeraffairs.nic.in/forms/contentpage.aspx?lid=639> ). All prepackaged commodities, imported into India, shall in particular carry the following declarations:

- (a) Name and address of the importer;

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- (b) Generic or common name of the commodity packed;
- (c) Net quantity in terms of standard unit of weights and measures. If the net quantity in the imported package is given in any other unit, its equivalent in terms of standard units shall be declared by the importer;
- (d) Month and year of packing in which the commodity is manufactured or packed or imported;
- (e) Maximum retail sale price at which the commodity in packaged form may be sold to the ultimate consumer. This price shall include all taxes local or otherwise, freight, transport charges, commission payable to dealers, and all charges towards advertising, delivery, packing, forwarding and the like, as the case may be.
- (f) Consumer Care details, etc.

**6. Genetically Modified Food, Feed, Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs):**

Import of Genetically Modified Food, Feed, Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) will be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The import of GMOs / LMOs for the purpose of
  - (i) R & D;
  - (ii) Food;
  - (iii) Feed;
  - (iv) Processing in Bulk and
  - (v) For Environment release

will be governed by the provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Rules framed thereunder (Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Rules framed thereunder can be accessed from the website of the Ministry of Environment & Forests: <http://envfor.nic.in>).

- (b) The import of any Food, Feed, raw or processed or any ingredient of food, food additives or any food product that contains GM material and is being used either for Industrial production, Environmental release, or field application will be allowed only with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), set up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (the details of GEAC can be accessed from the website link of the Ministry: [http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/geac\\_home.html](http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/geac_home.html)).
- (c) Institutes / Companies who wish to import Genetically Modified material for