

FAQs

(i). Do I need a permit to import or export wildlife / specimens?

Ans. Export and import of the wild animals and their parts & products are prohibited. Wild animals are listed under Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Import, export and re-export of animals and plants not listed under Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, could be permitted subject to the provisions of CITES and EXIM Policy. Whether a species is listed in the CITES Appendices, can be checked from CITES listed species database available at CITES Website (www.cites.org). A species can be searched by its scientific name or common name.

(ii). How to Obtain a CITES permit?

Ans. A CITES permit can be obtained by a person who is in legal possession / ownership of a species or specimen, he wishes to trade. A certificate to this effect, in the form of Legal Procurement Certificate (LPC), can be obtained from the concern State Wildlife Authority. This LPC has to be submitted to the CITES Assistant Management Authority concerned along with CITES Permit application. CITES Permit application form can be downloaded from WCCB Website. At the time of import, the CITES Import Certificate is to be surrendered to CITES Assistant Management Authority. However, if a species or specimen has to be re - exported, the CITES Re - export Permit application should be accompanied by a copy of CITES Import Permit/ Certificate (for imports outside Customs notified area), in addition to LPC from State Wildlife Authority. It is also mandatory for CITES applicants to register on e-sanchit portal of customs (<https://www.icegate.gov.in/eSANCHIT.html>).

(iii). What clearance is required for species not covered under CITES and Wild Life Protection, Act, 1972 ?.

Ans. Export and import of the species not covered under CITES or Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, are subject to Foreign Trade Policy

(<https://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cst1819-010219/cst1819-0102-idx>).

(iv). Who is the national authority in charge of the implementation of CITES in India?

Ans. The national authority responsible for implementing CITES is called the CITES Management Authority. The Additional DG (Wildlife), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, has been designated CITES Management Authority of India. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) Regional Deputy Directors at New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata, are designated as CITES Assistant Management Authorities. Their contact details are available at MoEFCC (www.envfor.nic.in) and WCCB (www.wccb.gov.in) Websites.

(v). I am not familiar with the scientific (Latin) names, how can I find the common names and respective scientific names of the species?

Ans. Database of CITES - listed species is available on CITES Website (www.cites.org), and a species can be searched by common name or scientific name.