

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
(Wildlife Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003

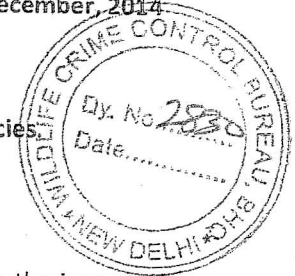
F. No. 3-10/WCCB/2010-Part

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Clarification about policy circular on import of hunting trophies of exotic species

Ref: 1. Policy Circular No 3-42/2013/WL- I dated 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2014  
2. Letter No. 3-2/2000 WL-I dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2001



Vide reference 1 above, the Ministry has issued a detailed policy to regulate the import of hunting trophies of exotic species into India. Prior to that, an advisory was issued to all Chief Wildlife Wardens vide letter at reference 2 above stating that import of trophies and animal articles of look alike species will not be allowed.

The definition of "trophy" for the purpose of the policy circular needs to be understood in context and cannot include a commercial consignment traded regularly. The essence of the policy as well as the letter referred above has been to stop import of animal hunting trophies meant for display and also to ensure that the tendency of acquiring such animal trophies does not encourage the illegal activities of hunting and trade of wildlife. Either of them were never meant to prohibit or put in greater control over the import of products of animals not listed in Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 or CITES and meant for commercial use.

It has come to the notice that officer of WCCB located at border point are holding back the trade consignments of wildlife products, for which proper licenses are available and pretext for such action is said to be the policy circular referred at reference no. 1. Import of animal products is regulated under the EXIM policy and the DGFT seeks comments from the Ministry before issue of import licence. Once the import licence has been issued, the enforcement authorities need to verify that the imported products are in accordance with the import licence. Specific role of the WCCB/AMAs is to ensure that only the item which are permitted under the accompanying documents are coming into the country and not illegal material, like another material being smuggled in the name of legally permitted material or materials for which there is no documentary authorisation.

Further, for the sake of utmost clarity, it is stated that when a comprehensive policy circular vide reference 1 above has been issued, the reference 2, which is only an advisory to the states not to recommend certain material for import, cannot override the policy.

*Shiv Pal Singh*  
(Shiv Pal Singh)

Joint Director (Wildlife)

Telefax: 011-24695397

Email: [jd-wl@nic.in](mailto:jd-wl@nic.in)

**Distribution**

1. All Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary in Charge of Forest and Wildlife
2. The Director-General of Foreign Trade, New Delhi
3. The Chief Wildlife Warden, All States/UTs
- ✓ 4. Additional Director, WCCB, New Delhi

**Copy to:**

1. PPS to DGF&SS
2. PPS to Additional DGF (WL)
3. PPS to IGF(WL)
4. PS to DIG(WL)
5. Research Investigator(WL) to post on website



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(Wildlife Division)

ParyavaranBhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110003

F. No. 3-42/2013/WL-I

Dated: 25 February 2014

**POLICY CIRCULAR**

**Sub: Regulation of import of hunting trophies of exotic species into India -reg.**

*Noting* that the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been enacted by the Parliament to accord protection to wildlife and its habitat in the country;

*Conscious* that import of hunting trophies of exotic species, that are hunted outside India is regulated under the provisions of CITES and that there is a need to take holistic approach towards conservation of wildlife in the country in the context of requests for import of hunting trophies into India;

*Realizing* that the uninterrupted import of such trophies for display in private or public, except in educational institutions and museums serves no public interest, and at times, can even accentuate the tendency of acquiring those of Indian wild life, thereby indirectly encouraging the illegal activities of hunting and trade of wildlife.

*Aware* that difficulty in distinguishing hunting trophies of exotic species from the look-alike Indian species protected under the various schedules of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 may camouflage the hunting of Indian wildlife and may also encourage killing of protected Indian species, rendering the enforcement of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 difficult;

*Recognizing* the need of a regulatory policy for import of hunting trophies into India to enable the enforcement agencies to prevent the illegal hunting/poaching of the species protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for trophy making;

*Acknowledging* that scientific institutes in the country have capacity of providing advice on look-alike exotic wild animal hunting trophies with reference to Indian fauna that are protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;

*Also, acknowledging* that it is expedient for the Ministry of Environment and Forests to prohibit import of all hunting trophies of exotic species into India that look-alike Indian fauna protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and to restrict the import of exotic hunting trophies to the possible extent;

It is here by decided that the import of the hunting trophies of exotic species will be restricted as below:

- a) No trophy will be permitted for import which is made from the species either listed in Appendix I of CITES, as amended from time to time as on date of receipt of application in the Ministry; or look-alike of any species protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;

*Shy*



- b) The number of trophies for import from other species not indicated above shall be limited to 20 (twenty) for each applicant in a year starting 1<sup>st</sup> April and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> March of the following year. Applications of only those individuals will be considered who themselves have legally hunted those animals in foreign countries in respect of which import permission is being sought.

The Ministry shall endeavor to display on its website a list of animals often hunted in foreign countries for trophy making along with corresponding look alike Indian fauna protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 coming within the purview of a) above, and also to update the same from time to time.

*Shw 25/2/14*  
(Shiv Pal Singh)

Joint Director (WL)

**Distribution:**

1. The Chief Secretary, All States/UTs
2. The Director General, DGFT, New Delhi
3. The Additional Chief/Principal Secretary (Forests)/Secretary(Forests), All States/UTs
4. The Chief Wildlife Warden, all States/UTs
5. The Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
6. The Addl. Director, WCCB, New Delhi

**Copy to:**

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Environment and Forests
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F), MoEF
3. PPS to DGF & SS, MoEF
4. PPS to Addl. DGF(WL), MoEF
5. PPS to IGF(WL), MoEF
6. PS to DIG (WL)
7. Research Investigator Wildlife Division for uploading on Website

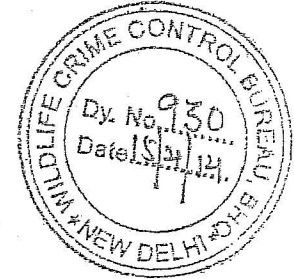


Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(Wildlife Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110003  
Date: 7 April 2014

F. No. 3-42/2013/WL - I

Mr. Rakesh Anand  
Director  
Brush Operations  
Indeutsch Industries Private Limited  
SDF E-7, Noida Special Economic Zone  
Noida - 201 305



Sub: Clarification on Policy Circular No. 3-42/2013/WL-I dated 25.02.2014 regarding restrictions on import of look-alike hunting trophies - reg.

Sir,

Reference is invited to your letter No. Nil dated 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014 on the above subject. In this context, this is to clarify that the policy circular cited above is to regulate import of hunting trophies into India to enable enforcement agencies to prevent illegal hunting/poaching of the species listed in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The policy circular is applicable to hunting trophies only and not any other material derived from wild animals which may be dealt with under the EXIM policy.

*Shiv Pal Singh*  
(Shiv Pal Singh)

Joint Director (WL)  
Telfax: -011-24364624  
Email: jd-wl@nic.in

Encl: As above:

Copy to:

1. The Additional Director, WCCB, New Delhi with a request for clarifying to the subordinates on the intent and content, which is given in the sufficient details in the procurement

Annexure No. 3

Kind Attention to

math: wce

E.No.3-2/2000 WL-1  
Dated: 4.7.2001

Telegam : PARYAVAHAN,  
NEW DELHI  
Telephone:  
E-Mail Address:

भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण एवं वन विभाग  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS  
परीवारण भवन, लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003  
PARYAVARAN BHAVAN, C.G.O. COMPLEX,  
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

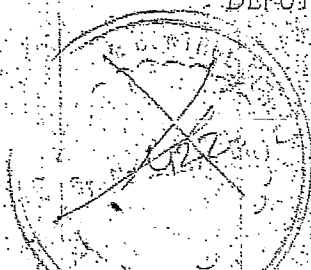
Sub: Import of trophy and animal articles of look alike species- reg.

This Ministry has been receiving several requests for the import of wildlife trophies and animal articles from various individuals. This Ministry has, after careful examination, decided that the import of trophies and animal articles of look alike species will not be allowed.

You are, therefore, requested to ensure that the 'No Objection Certificate' is issued only in case of those species that can be easily distinguished from the native species.

(ASEEM SRIVASTAVA)  
DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL (W.I.)

The Chief Wildlife Warden,  
All States/ Union Territories.



Copy to: Shri. H. C. Azad, Dy. Director, General of Foreign Trade, w.r.t. DGFJ  
G.O.No: 01/53/162/151/AM01/S-14/15-11/10 dated 10.4.2001

Handwritten initials or mark