

## **CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORT OF LIVE ORNAMENTAL FISH**

### **Import of the live ornamental fish is authorized under the following conditions:**

1. Each consignment shall be accompanied by the original official **Health Certificate** duly signed by an authorised Officer of the country of origin to the effect that the fishes are free of diseases and parasites of human or animal origin and have been dispatched in sterile conditions. Import of certain species may be subject to specific conditions.
2. A **CITES** report certified by the competent authority in the country of origin shall accompany the live fish consignment.
3. Live fish shall be exported by an establishment approved for export by the competent authority of the country of origin (Approved No. of establishment to be mentioned).
4. The date and number of this import permit, the name of the importer, the vessel/carrier transporting the fish consignment, the scientific name and common name of the fish, the number of packages and the quantity shipped must be stated on the Health Certificate.
5. Sterile water and containers shall be provided for the transfer of live fish at the Port of entry/point of transfer where they will be treated with disinfectant on arrival.
6. The water used for transport (in the plastic bags) from the exporting country shall be treated with chlorine prior to discharge into an appropriate pit. Effluents from aquaria shall also be treated with chlorine prior to discharge in a pit. No effluents are to be discharged into culture ponds or any other water bodies.
7. All packaging material used for transportation of the live fish shall be destroyed by burning in presence of an officer from the Ministry.
8. Live fish shall be kept for a period of not less than seven days prior to sale. Should any disease be observed to develop during this period, the Ministry should be informed immediately.
9. Imported aquarium fish shall be kept in confinement separated from locally cultured species and in no circumstances be released into the environment.
10. Any dead fish found in the consignment shall be disposed of in the same manner as stated at paragraph (7) above.
11. Should any disease be observed to develop, the consignment will be disposed of by burning under the supervision of an authorised officer, without any compensation.
12. This permit is issued in respect of one shipment only and is valid for a period of four months only as from the date of issue.
13. If any of the above conditions is not complied with, the fish consignment may be forfeited without any compensation.
14. The importer shall inform this Ministry at least three days in advance of the carrier, flight number and date of arrival of the consignment, to enable arrangements for quarantine clearance at the port of entry.
15. The above conditions may be amended or new conditions added at any time should such a need arise.
16. This permit is issued subject to the payment of a fee of Rs. 2,000.