

## India - Situational Relaxing of Import Requirements

Please see the circular issued by the Indian Government.

- [OM 12 March 2026 on facilitation of import of Pets from Middle East Countries.pdf](#)

This circular issued by the **Government of India – Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (12 March 2026)** allows **special temporary relaxation for Indians returning from war-affected Middle East countries to bring their pet dogs or cats to India**, even if some normal export formalities cannot be completed.

### Key points in simple terms:

1. **Special One-Time Relaxation**
  - Due to the war situation in the Middle East, some standard pre-export procedures may not be possible.
  - The government is allowing **temporary flexibility** to help stranded Indians bring their pets back.
2. **Pre-Import Requirements**
  - Owner must declare the pet has been living with them for **at least 1 month**.
  - Provide **vaccination records / pet book / pet passport** (even if some vaccines are delayed).
  - If pets come from a nearby country, try to get them checked by **local veterinary authorities**.
3. **At Arrival in India**
  - **AQCS (Animal Quarantine)** will check documents and do a **clinical examination**.
  - If documents are complete → pet gets clearance.
  - If vaccination or health certificate is missing → **rabies vaccination may be done at the airport**.
4. **Quarantine**
  - If the pet shows health issues, **quarantine may be required**, and costs will be paid by the owner.
5. **Important**
  - This is a **special emergency relaxation only** and **cannot be used as a rule in the future**.