

# Customs Regulations in India

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Passport for all family members
- Visa (to reside in India for at least one year)
- Inventory, valued in English (indicating date purchased) and itemized (brand, model and serial number of all major appliances must be noted and in English)
- Indian Customs Declaration Form (to be signed in presence of Customs Officer)
- Diplomatic shipments require Duty Exemption Certificates from the government of India
- Insurance policy

## CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

- **CUSTOMER MUST BE PRESENT IN INDIA AT THE TIME OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE IN ORDER TO SIGN A DECLARATION OF CONTENTS**
- Used household goods and personal effects are duty-free for foreign nationals and Indians transferring residence to India provided:
  - The goods have been owned and used for a minimum of one year prior to importation
  - Indian Citizens have resided outside the country for two years and intend on staying in India for a year
- Foreign nationals produce a visa valid for one year
- All shipments 100% inspected
- Sea shipments must be shipped within 30 days of customers arrival and air shipments within 15 days of shippers arrival.

## DUTIABLE/RESTRICTED ITEMS

- Large quantities of cosmetics, toiletries, food, etc.
- Tobacco and alcohol products (alcoholic products attract duties over 200%)
- Electronic equipment and appliances (only one of each is allowed)
- New items and consumables
- Professional equipment may be imported duty-free with evidence/certificates proving qualifications of profession to Customs
- Manufacturers cartons should not be used for shipping; it is recommended that goods be re-packed and tags and brochures (for new items) not be put in the cartons
- Gold or silver in any form other than ornaments

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Weapons, firearms and ammunition (unless licensed in advance)
- Live plants
- Walkie-talkies
- Pornographic material
- Narcotics
- Politically sensitive literature

## MOTOR VEHICLES

- ALL VEHICLES including boats are subject to DUTY and very high taxes
- Prior to Customs clearance, foreign nationals are required to furnish a bank bond for import trade authorities, stating not to sell the car for a specified period
- Indians can sell the car immediately upon Customs clearance
- Indians can import brand new cars up to 1600cc
- Cars exceeding 1600cc must have been registered in the importers name abroad for at least one year
- Documents required:
  - Owner's passport indicating two years residence abroad (original)
  - Manufacturer's invoice (original)
  - Customs Clearing Permit/Import License
  - Insurance Policy
  - Auto Registration Certificate
  - Keys
  - List of extras and purchase date

## PETS

- Health Certificate, rabies and other vaccinations required
- One only of cat, dog, or parrot

## DUTY AND TAX RATE %

- All used Household Goods (more than 1 year old) are duty-free
- All new articles, whether furniture, crockery, etc., are charged a duty of at least 50%.
- The following items are dutiable at 25% (new or used)

-TV	-Air Conditioner
-VCR	-Refrigerator
-Washing Machine	-Deep Freezer
-LPG cooking Range	-Microwave Oven
-Dishwasher	-Video Camera
-Music System	-Word Processor
-Personal Computer	-FAX Machine

- If the *total* value of the above items exceeds RS 150,000,(approximately \$4250) or items that exceed the one-piece limit will attract a dut of approximately 62%.