

International Trade Canada (PST), Ottawa, the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi, or the Canadian Consulate in Bombay.

Imports are divided into three categories — Open General Licence (OGL), restricted or banned.

Usually an import is allowed to an actual user only when the item is specifically notified or canalized through a state agency. Goods on the OGL list are allowed to be freely imported by actual users. Products that may be imported under OGL include various types of machine tools and components, medical equipment, raw materials, various iron and steel products, pharmaceuticals and chemicals and electronics components.

All restricted imports require import licences and special procedures. The restricted list contains by far the most products, including various chemicals, engineering items, textiles, and components for machinery or steel projects.

The list of banned imports contains those products which normally cannot be imported into India under any circumstances. It includes such items as gold, silver, many types of raw materials and capital and consumer goods. However, industrial units which either export all their products (the 100 per cent export-oriented units) or are located in the Free Trade Zones are allowed to import everything they require for production including imports which are otherwise "restricted" or banned.

Indo-Soviet Rupee clearing accounts facilitate balanced trade and enhanced penetration of markets in the U.S.S.R. as well as in some other Eastern European countries as long as there is a minimum value addition in India either in an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) or at export-oriented units.

**Documentation.** Import and export licences are obtained from the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Licences are usually issued for a 12-month period, but may be valid for as long as 18 months, depending on the commodities involved. For certain classes of capital goods, licences may be valid for up to two years.

**Samples.** India is a signatory to the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Materials. India does not recognize the International Carnet System. The following may be imported without restriction: