

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) ON
CATTLE TRANSPORTATION IN ASSAM

1. Transportation of cattle in Assam is allowed only for bonafide agricultural or animal husbandry purposes. "Transportation of cattle for trade" by Farm/Agency for the said purposes is also allowed.
2. Transportation of cattle involves interstate, inter-district & intra-district transportation.
3. The transportation of cattle in Assam is governed by
 - (a) Assam Cattle Preservation Act, 2021
 - (b) The Assam Cattle Preservation Rules, 2022
 - (c) Transportation Animals Rules, 1978
 - (d) Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960(Cruelty aspects)
 - (e) Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Transportation of Cattle on Foot) Rules, 2021
 - (f) Motor Vehicle Act, 1988
 - (g) Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989
 - (h) Advisory on Livestock transportation notified vide No.VFV.244/299/2014/544 dated 18/12/2020.
4. The definition of cattle under Assam Cattle Preservation Act, 2021 does not include "buffalo" and hence no permit is required for buffalo transportation.
5. Permit is required for
 - (a) Inter- state transportation of cattle for bona fide agriculture or animal husbandry purposes.
 - (b) Inter-district transportation of cattle provided the destination district shares international border.
6. No permit is required for intra-district and inter-district transportation of cattle. However, permit is required for inter-district transportation provided that the destination district shares international border.
7. The Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Assam is the sole authority to issue Permit for transportation of cattle as notified by the Government of Assam.
8. Applicant must apply for permit in prescribed Form (in Form C annexed with Assam Cattle Preservation Rules, 2022) online in Department's website (ahvd-cattletrans.assam.gov.in) for interstate transportation.
9. For permit for transportation of cattle, the applicant must upload one colour photograph, scanned copy of signature, Adhar card (both side), "physical verification report of farm" either issued by the District A.H. &Veterinary Officer ("DVO" hereinafter for short) of the concerned district or countersigned by him on the Certificate issued by the concern Veterinary

Officer/Block Veterinary Officer ("VO/BVO" herein after), land document – Jamabandi copy or lease deed wherever applicable.

10. Applicants need to pay Permit fees online @ Rs 20/per adult cattle and Rs. 10/ per calf after receipt of online approval of the application by the Director.
11. The physical verification report issued by the DVO of the concerned district is the most important document which is considered by the Directorate as authenticated document regarding existence and infrastructure of the farm making it eligible/ineligible for the permit. Therefore, the DVO must issue the report with utmost caution. However, the DVO may send VO/BVO for physical verification but the report prepared by the VO/BVO should be countersigned by the DVO. The physical verification report should contain the information including the name and address of the farmer, total area of the farm, number of existing animal sheds and space for animals to be housed, estimated number of cattle that can be housed in the sheds, water and electricity facilities etc. Verification report should be accompanied with three/four colour photographs of the farm. The DVO of the concerned district should maintain the records of the Farm including land documents, in his establishment along with the photograph (and video clip of 2 minutes if possible) for future reference.
12. After obtaining Permit, the farmer/transporter may transport cattle. However, Permit is not the only document to make transporter eligible for transportation of cattle. Apart from the Permit, the farmer/transporter/Farm/Agency must produce the following 2 (two) documents along with challan/purchase receipt.
 - (a) Fitness/ Health Certificate as required under rule 47 of Transport of Animal Rules, 1998.
 - (b) Transit Certificate as required under rule 96 of Transport of Animals Rules, 1978.
13. While transporting animals, the transporter shall not subject the animals to cruelty and arrange sufficient feed and water for the animals. The transporter shall also provide required space to the animals in the vehicle as per specification provided in the Transport of Animals Rules, 1978.
14. The transporters, in case of road transport, shall carry the cattle by the vehicles (road) having livestock permit issued by the District Transport Officer/Regional Transport Officer.
15. While applying for subsequent permit for transportation of cattle, utilization details of the previous consignment shall have to be furnished by the farmer/transporter/Agency as per sub-rule (8) of rule (6).—

The DVO of the respective district shall issue the Utilization Certificate after getting it verified by VO/BVO. Such documents are subjected to scrutiny by

the Director, AH & Veterinary Deptt. or any other officer authorised in this behalf. Directorate of AH & Veterinary Deptt. highly depends on this document of DVOs while issuing extension of Permit/subsequent Permits for transportation of cattle.

16. The Farm/Agency intended to trade on cattle as provided under rule 7 of the Assam Cattle Preservation Rules, 2022 must have registration certificate of the Farm/Agency from the Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Assam for the purpose of trading on cattle for bonafide agricultural or animal husbandry purpose.
Any Farm/Agency which is registered **for the purpose of trading cattle** under any law applicable in other State, if intends to transport cattle through Assam, shall also have to be registered in the State of Assam
17. Farm/Agency, **if interested to trade on cattle**(not required for other purposes) must apply for Registration Certificate in prescribed format online in Department's website (ahvd-cattletrans.assam.gov.in)
18. (a) The applicant Farm or Agency shall have to pay a Registration fees of Rs. 10,000/- along with application to obtain Registration Certification for the purpose for trading of cattle for bonafide agricultural or animal husbandry purposes. The Registration Certificate so obtained shall have to be renewed after every 3 (three) years paying renewal fees of Rs. 10,000/-.
(b) The Registration fees may be reviewed from time to time by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Govt. of Assam " and issue notification in this regard.
19. Cattle transportation shall be presumed to be illegal and for slaughter purposes if the transporter fails to produce relevant documents during inspection of documents by police. Accordingly, prescribed punishment may be imposed on the transporter as per Section 13 of the Assam Cattle Preservation Act,2021.
20. The copy of Permit shall be communicated to all concerned including the Director General of Police, Assam; Superintendent of polices of the route districts including the destination district and also to the DVO of the concern district & Officer-in-Charge of the local police station where the animals are transported to.

Signed by

Secretary to the Government of Assam
A.H. & Veterinary Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6
Date: 21-09-2024, 13:28:30