

## **Importation of a Used Motor Vehicle under Import Control License**

Following conditions and documents will be applicable for issuance of import licenses in importation of the under-mentioned used motor vehicles.

### **1. General Guidelines**

- i Motor vehicle imported should be right-driven.
- ii Motor vehicle should be registered in Sri Lanka in the name of the licensee within two weeks from the date of release from the Port and should not sell, transfer or alienate until 2 years from such date of registration.
- iii An Assessment Report from an accepted institution of the relevant country should be furnished.
- iv Applicant should pay the license fee to the Department, based on the CIF Value (Cost, Insurance and Freight Value) or age of the vehicle in terms of Gazette Notification No. 1953/28 dated 11.02.2016 after the license is approved by the Controller General of Import and Export.
- v All imports are subjected to the tariffs and other levies imposed by the Director General of Customs from time to time.
- vi The motor vehicle itself for which the license is issued should be imported.
- vii Application should necessarily bear the signature of the importer. In the case of a partnership or a company, a partner should be named by the other partners to deal with the Department by a letter delegating the relevant authority, and its letterhead should contain essential information of the business. Any change in the letterhead effected until the time of debiting the license should be immediately notified to the Department.
- viii All motor vehicles except vintage vehicles should comply with accepted vehicular emission standards and safety measures in Sri Lanka.
- ix A Certificate from an institution acceptable to the Department should be furnished to the effect that the vehicle is devoid of mud and soil (only the original).
- x No other motor vehicle is permitted to be imported under non-foreign exchange basis, except motor vehicles purchased under foreign exchange earned abroad by Sri Lankans and motor vehicles donated for state institutions.
- xi Letters of Credit should be opened for all the other motor vehicles.

- xii If translations are submitted for documents, such translations should be duly certified by a recognized translator with his seal affixed.
- xiii Application for motor vehicle should be submitted by the applicant in person.
- xiv All applications can be downloaded from the official website of the Department ([www.imexport.gov.lk](http://www.imexport.gov.lk)).

**2. Following documents should be submitted in importation of a motor vehicle (General):**

- i Duly completed Application IECD - II
- ii Proforma Invoice furnished by the foreign supplier
- iii Certificate of Cancellation of Registration of Vehicle / Certificate of Registration of Vehicle
- iv Clear photographs showing the front and back side of the vehicle
- v Documents of proof of the identity of the applicant
- vi Valid Certificate of Registration of Business Name and a copy of Form 20 stating the board of directors as relevant
- vii Certificate of Registration from Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) (depending on the motor vehicle imported)
- viii A letter head with the official stamp of the entity and specimen signature (Letterhead should include business address, telephone numbers and email address of the business and any change in such details effected after handing over of the application should be informed immediately.)
- ix Documents published or prescribed by the Controller General of Import and Export from time to time may be applicable.

### 3.1 Tractors for agricultural purposes

3.1.1 Issuance of import licenses will be considered for those fulfilling the following eligibilities, with regard to importation of tractors for agricultural purposes. Tractors imported should be in conformity with age categories specified in the classification and the age of the tractor will be determined from the date of its manufacture.

- i. Importer should support with a certificate issued by an Agricultural Instructor or Agricultural Research and Production Assistant of the region that he is engaged in agricultural development activities.
- ii. The motor vehicle should be registered under the name of the applicant and the vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 03 years.

Age as per type of vehicle classified under Harmonized Code:

8701.20.20 } from 05 to 10 years to the maximum  
8701.30.20 }

8701.10.10, 8701.91.20, 8701.91.40 }  
8701.92.20, 8701.92.40, 8701.93.20 } from 10 to 15 years to the maximum  
8701.93.40, 8701.94.20, 8701.94.40 }  
8701.95.20, 8701.95.40 }

## **3.2 Motor Vehicles**

3.2.1 Motor vehicles used by the staff members of foreign missions who come to Sri Lanka on service, are permitted to be brought for their use during the period of service in this country, for which the following conditions will be applicable:

- i. Recommendation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sri Lanka
- ii. Age of the motor vehicle imported should not be more than 10 years from the date of manufacture.
- iii. Motor vehicle cannot be sold or transferred within the period of service in Sri Lanka.
- iv. Motor vehicle should be re-exported after the period of service. In case the motor vehicle is expected to be sold, rented out, mortgaged, donated or disposed, import levies payable at the time of importation of such motor vehicle should be settled with the Government.
- v. Certificates from registered institutions should be furnished to support that the motor vehicle is in compliance with accepted vehicular exhaust emission standards and safety standards in Sri Lanka.
- vi. A Certificate from a recognized institution of the country from which the motor vehicle is imported should be furnished to the effect that the vehicle is devoid of mud and soil.
- vii. Certification is necessary to the effect that air conditioners do not use CFC gas.

### **3.2.2 Motor Vehicle purchased by Sri Lankans under foreign exchange earned abroad**

- Issuance of licenses will be considered, subject to the following conditions, for importation of motor Car/ Jeep aged between 03-07 years from the date of manufacture to Sri Lanka, by Sri Lankans who have purchased such motor vehicles under foreign exchange earned from employment abroad.
  - i. License will be issued under this scheme only for migrant workers who return to the country after foreign employment.
  - ii. Applicant should have remitted a minimum of 50,000 USD as foreign exchange time to time during the period of foreign employment.
  - iii. Confirmation is required to the effect that the motor vehicle has been registered in the name of the licensee and used not less than a year in the country from which the motor vehicle is imported.
  - iv. If such confirmation is not made at the time of debiting of the license, import license will be annulled, even if the motor vehicle has already been imported.
  - v. Motor vehicle should not be older than 07 (Seven) years from the date of manufacture at the time of imported.
  - vi. The motor vehicle should be registered under the name of the applicant and the vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 03 years
  - vii. If the applicant is abroad at the time of applying for a license, a letter of authorization carrying the name, address and National Identity Card No. of the person authorized to submit the application and obtain the import license should be furnished through Sri Lankan Mission of the country from which the vehicle is imported.

- viii. Licensee should come to this Department in person at the time of debiting of the license, with his Passport and original of the Certificate of Registration of Vehicle (If the originals of the Certificate of Cancellation of Registration of Vehicle or Export Certificate of the Vehicle and other documents are in another language, their certified English translations should also be submitted).
- **The above conditions will also be applicable for motor cycles purchased from foreign exchange earned abroad, and engine capacity of such motor cycles should be below 350 CC.**

### **3.2.3 Following documents should also be submitted:**

- i. Salary Particulars, Bank Statements etc. should be submitted in support of sending earnings from foreign employment.
  - ii. Certified copy of Work Visa
  - iii. Proof should be produced to the effect that the motor vehicle is registered in the name of the applicant and used not less than a year in the relevant country (A certified copy of Certificate of Registration of Vehicle and its certified English translation, where the Certificate is in another language).
  - iv. Certified photocopies of the relevant pages of the Passport that contain name of applicant, date of cancellation of Passport, date of departure from and date of arrival at the country
  - v. An affidavit to the effect that the information containing in the application and the annexures thereto are true and accurate (Affidavit, if furnished in a foreign country should be signed in the presence of an officer of the Sri Lankan Mission in the respective country, for which stamps are not required).
  - vi. Letter of authorization to request the license (where necessary) and letters duly signed and certified
- **Licenses are issued under this scheme on the basis of ‘one license for one person for a life time’.**

### **3.3 Vintage vehicles manufactured before 30 November, 1956**

3.3.1 Vintage motor vehicles are those manufactured before 30 November, 1956. Issuance of import licenses will be considered for the Vintage Motor Vehicle Clubs and their members that have met the following eligibilities for importation of vintage motor vehicles.

- i. Vintage Motor Vehicle Club should have proper registration.
- ii. In case the applicant is a member of a Vintage Motor Vehicle Club, he should have membership of such Club for two years. Further, he should not have imported a motor vehicle over the last 5 years on licenses issued under foreign exchange earned.
- iii. Motor vehicle should be used only for exhibition purposes and not for passenger transport.
- iv. The motor vehicle should be registered under the name of the applicant and the vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 05 years

3.3.2. Following documents should also be submitted:

- i. Certification of Registration of Vehicle to prove that the motor vehicle was manufactured before 30 November, 1956
- ii. Where the applicant is a member of an approved Vintage Motor Vehicle Club, his Membership Card or a letter issued by such Club in support of his membership.

### **3.4. Hearses**

3.4.1 Issuance of licenses will be considered subject to the following conditions, for applicants who have met the following eligibilities for importation of Hearses. As per the classification, Hearses imported should come under the age category of over 3 years and not more than 10 years to the maximum from the date of manufacture.

- i. The entity should have at least 06 months' registration under caretaker services.
- ii. An affidavit should be furnished to the effect that the Hearse will not be converted into another vehicle.
- iii. Confirmation is required from Grama Niladhari and Divisional Secretary to the effect that the entity is an active business having a business address, telephone numbers etc.
- iv. The motor vehicle should be registered under the name of the applicant and the vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 03( Three) years.

### **3.5. Ambulances**

3.5.1 Issuance of import control licenses will be considered for those entities that have met the following eligibilities, for importation of ambulances over 3 years and not more than 10 years in age from the date of manufacture:

- i. The entity should be a state institution providing health services or a private institution related to health services having government registration for over 01 year.
- ii. Having relevant crew for the ambulance (excluding Driver)
- iii. Recommendation from the Secretary to the Ministry of Health / Provincial Secretary of Health
- iv. License will be issued for an institution once a year, for importation of only one ambulance.
- v. An affidavit should be furnished to the effect that the ambulance will not be used for any other purpose.
- vi. The motor vehicle should be registered under the name of the applicant and the vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 05 years.



- vii. Import licenses will be issued only for donation of ambulances and a written statement from the donor or / donor agency certified by the Sri Lankan Mission in the relevant country should be furnished in support of same. Where the written statement is not in English, it should accompany an English translation duly certified by the Foreign Mission.

### **3.6 .Special Purpose Vehicles (Freezers, Concrete Mixers, Cranes etc.)**

3.6.1 Issuance of import licenses will be considered for those institutions that have met the following eligibilities for importation of special purpose vehicles:

Vehicles imported should be in conformity with age categories specified in the classification and age of vehicle will be computed from date of manufacture.

Age as per type of vehicle classified under Harmonized Code:

8705.20.20, 8705.90.12, }  
8705.30.20, 8705.90.92 } from 07 to 10 years to the maximum  
8705.10.20, 8705.40.20, 8705.90.32 } from 10 to 15 years to the maximum

- i Certificate from Grama Niladhari to confirm that the applicant is actively engaged in a field of business for over 02 years that requires use of the above vehicles.
- ii Bank Statements of consecutive 06 months should be submitted.
- iii Vehicle should comply with accepted vehicular exhaust emission standards and security standards in Sri Lanka
- iv Entity should be actively engaged in the relevant field for minimum of 01 year, which needs to be supported with the Certificate of Registration of Business Name and Certificate of Construction Industry Development Authority.
- v Vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 02 years.

### **3.7 .Fire fighting vehicles**

3.7.1 Issuance of licenses will be considered for those institutions that have met the following eligibilities, for importation of vehicles to Sri Lanka which come under the age category of over 7 and not more than 10 years from the date of manufacture:

- i. Entity should be a state institution tasked with using fire extinguishing equipment. Personal recommendation of the Secretary to Ministry of Local Government or the relevant Ministry should be furnished, in the case of Government Institutions tasked with engaging of fire extinguishing equipment.
- ii. Issuance of import licenses will be considered for private institutions with high risk of fire.
- iii. Controller General of Import and Export will take the decision on issuance of import licenses as per recommendations made by a Committee appointed by the Controller General of Import and Export after considering its appropriateness. The following aspects will be considered in issuance of import license:
  - I. Financial capability to import and maintain a fire fighting vehicle
  - II. Nature of the business
  - III. Number of employees, nature of buildings and the surrounding of the place expected to keep the vehicle
- iv. Actively engaged in a business of the relevant field for over 01 year (Reports on production, investment made by the business should be submitted in support of same.)
- v. Vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 05 years.

### **3.8 .Heavy vehicles (Trucks)**

3.8.1 Issuance of import licenses will be considered for those institutions that have met the following eligibilities, for importation of vehicles (Trucks) which come under age category of over 10 years and not more than 15 years from the date of manufacture:

- i. Entity should be actively engaged in the field of business that requires use of the above vehicles for over 02 years, which needs to be supported with the Certificate of Registration of Business Name or Certificate of Construction Industry Development Authority.
- ii. Reports on contracts secured, nature of business etc. should be furnished in this regard.
- iii. Vehicle should comply with accepted vehicular exhaust emission standards and security standards in Sri Lanka
- iv. Vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until lapse of 02 years.

3.8.2 Not more than one license will be considered to be issued for a person per year for one type of vehicle.

### **3.9. Special purpose vehicles (Bowsers, Gully Bowsers, Garbage Compactors and Mobile Vehicles)**

3.9.1. Issuance of import control licenses will be considered for those entities that have met the following eligibilities, for importation of special purpose vehicles (Bowsers, Gully Bowsers, Garbage Compactors and Mobile Vehicles). Vehicles imported should be in conformity with age categories specified in the classification and age of vehicle will be computed from date of manufacture.

3.9.2 .Licenses for special mobile vehicles are issued only for State Institutions, for which personal recommendation of the Secretary to the relevant Ministry is required.

3.9.3. Entities eligible to make requests for importation of Gully Bowsers, Garbage Trucks:

- A Local Government Authority (Decision of the Local Government Authority to purchase such vehicle and recommendation of the Secretary to the relevant Ministry is required.)
- A business entity directly engaged in such business for over 02 years using such a vehicle

8704.31.12, 8704.32.43	}	from 05 years 10 years to the maximum
8704.21.14, 8704.22.52,		
8704.23.62, 8704.31.14		
8704.32.52		

8704.22.43, 8704.23.53	}	from 10 years 15 years to the maximum
8704.22.63, 8704.23.73, 8704.32.63		

8705.90.22	}	from 07 Years 10 years to the maximum
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**In the case of Private Institutions,**

- Entity should be actively engaged in the field of business that requires use of the above vehicles for over 02 years, which needs to be supported with the Certificate of Registration of Business Name or Certificate of Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA).
- Reports on contracts secured, nature of business etc. should be furnished in this regard.
- Vehicle cannot be sold, transferred or alienated until 02 years.

**04. Motor vehicles imported to Sri Lanka under the above licenses should be debited by this Department, prior to release from the Customs.**

**Required documents**

- i. Customs Declaration
- ii. Bill of Lading (BL)
- iii. Commercial Invoice (endorsed by commercial bank)
- iv. Pre-shipment Certificate issued by an institution acceptable to the Department
- v. Export License, Certificate of Registration or Certificate of Cancellation of Registration (Where the certificate is not in English, its translation certified by a recognized translator)
- vi. Certificate of Exhaust Emission Standards and Safety Standards obtained from an institution acceptable to this Department
- vii. Certificate to the effect that the vehicle is devoid of mud and soil
- viii. Certificate to the effect that the air conditioner of motor vehicle is free from Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC free Certificate)
- ix. Assessment Report
- x. Import Control License

***N.B:***

- **All the above are guidelines stipulated solely for the convenience of the general public.**
- **Importer is obliged to produce relevant documents other than the above, when requested.**
- **In case documents furnished are found to be forged, the Controller General of Import and Export will take steps to cancel the Import Control License, order for re-export, black-list the institution or the person or pursue any other legal action.**

However, the Controller General of Import and Export will reserve the right in terms of powers vested in the Import and Export (Control) Act, to take the final decision on issuance, amendment, suspending, and cancellation of a license or any other issue arisen out of the above.

**T. V. D. Damayanthi S. Karunarathne**  
**Controller General of Import and Export**  
**15.05.2019**