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Popular Article

Rules for Transportation of Dogs and Cats

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Dogs and cats can be transported in a variety of ways, including by road, air, rail, and water. A form of transportation may be better than another depending on the final destination. For example, driving across the country is not a feasible option, even though it would be appropriate while visiting a nearby city. Similarly, because of its relatively quick travel durations and security, air travel is chosen for longer domestic and international distances. Nonetheless, some locations are too far to travel by car and are not reachable by direct flights. Railways would therefore be a wise choice. In addition to being longer than flying, rail travel is also substantially less expensive. The benefit is that trains frequently travel through isolated sections of the nation where it is difficult to find direct flights or reliable car service. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960) in India is found in Section 38, clause (h), subsection (2). The Central Government hereby makes the following rules i.e., Transport of Animals Rules, 1978.

Some important rules regarding transport of Dogs and Cats

All breeds of dogs and cats must follow the rules when being transported by rail, road, inland waterway, sea, or air.

1. (a) Each consignment must be accompanied by a valid health certificate, in the format specified in Schedule - A, from a qualified veterinary surgeon attesting to the fact that the dogs and cats are in good enough health to travel by rail, road, inland waterway, sea, or air and are not showing any signs of infectious or contagious diseases, including rabies.



- (a) The carrier will not accept the consignment for transportation if there is no such certificate.
2. No dog or cat may be transported during the early stages of pregnancy.
3. (a) Cats and dogs traveling in the same container must belong to the same breed and species.
 - (a) Kittens' unweaned puppies cannot be transported with any adult cats or dogs besides their mothers.
 - (c) No female cat or dog that is in estrus (the mating season) may travel with any male.
4. (a) Any dog or cat reported to be vicious or exhibiting a vicious disposition shall be transported individually in a cage, muzzled and labelled to give warning to the handlers.
- (b) In extreme cases, the dogs and cats shall be administered with sedative drugs by a qualified veterinary surgeon.
4. (1) If a dog or cat is going to be transported over a long distance, they must:
 - (a) be fed and provided water at least two hours beforehand; they also cannot be packed for transportation if they are dehydrated or hungry. They ought to be used as late as feasible prior to dispatch.
 - (b) Every four hours in the summer and every six hours in the winter, they must be provided with enough water to drink.
 - (c) In compliance with the instructions of the consignors, if any, they must be fed once every twelve hours for adult dogs or cats and once every four hours for puppies and kittens.
 - (d) Sufficient preparations must be made for their supervision and care during the journey.
- (2) If the dogs or cats are to be transported by rail for more than six hours, an attendant must accompany them to provide them with food and water along the way, and the attendant must have access to the dogs or cats for this purpose at all stations. No dog or cat shall be exposed to a direct blast of air during such journey.
5. When transporting dogs or cats over short distances by road in a public vehicle, the following precautions must be taken:
 - (a) they shall be put in a cage, and the cage containing the dogs or cats shall not be put on the roof of the vehicle, but shall be placed within the vehicle, preferably near the end of the vehicle.
 - (b) The vehicle conveying the dogs or cats shall maintain a constant speed as much as practicable, avoiding sudden stops and minimizing the effects of shocks and jolts.
 - (c) At least one attendant shall be present at all times during travel to ensure that suitable transit conditions are met and to replace food and drink as needed.



7. When transporting dogs or cats by air, the cages must be cleaned and disinfected before the animals enter.
 - (b) adequate paddy straw, sawdust, or paper cuttings shall be provided for cats in cages as resting material.
 - (c) For international transit, the dogs or cats must be maintained in a pressurized chamber with a controlled temperature.
8. The size and type of crates for transporting dogs and cats must be as specific as possible to the sizes and types prescribed in Schedules B and C, respectively.
9. All containers containing dogs or cats must be clearly labelled with the consignor's name, address, and phone number (if applicable).
10. The consignee must be informed of the train or transport arrival or flight number and time of arrival in advance.
11. Consignments of dogs or cats to be transported by rail or road must be booked by the next passenger, main train, or bus and should not be kept after accepting the booking.

