

(c) The stables at the facility are actually "rooms" with very compact covered alleys in front of these rooms which do not support standard requirements of horse stabling, especially for warm blood sporting breeds that require higher ceilings and minimum 12' x 12' stalls, along with the right padding on walls and floors.

(d) The rental for stabling at quarantine facility have been increased from Rs 250/- to Rs 1200/- per horse per day which is rather high.

(e) The process of import paperwork is very complex as there are no standard approved formats with exporting countries.

(f) The current quarantine period is too long.

(g) Presently, 30% custom duty has to be paid for import of each horse. Keeping in view the high price of good quality warm blood sporting horse being imported, the custom duty adds on to the purchase cost.

3. Some of the suggestions of the National Federation to ameliorate the difficulties of athletes of Equestrian Sports are as under :-

(a) Riders be permitted to forward the details of the horses to DGFT and Ministry of Agriculture after obtaining licence from concerned authority so that minimum expenditure and time is incurred towards up keep of the horse prior to its import.

(b) The quarantine period should not be more than 7 to 8 days.

(c) Stabling facility with proper specification for sporting horses may be created at Kapashera.

(d) A well maintained proper size arena (60 m by 20 m at a minimum or larger) with proper footing, fit for sporting horses should be constructed so as to enable riders to exercise their horses.

(e) A well negotiated standard format with at least the main exporting countries must be worked out in consultation with the respective counterparts of exporting countries.

(f) The rental for stabling at quarantine facility may be reduced for sporting horses.