

This column is compiled by Consultant [EXIM Policy] of EPCH. It contains recent Public Notices, Notifications and Circulars of DGFT, CBIC and Department of Revenue. If a handicraft exporter has question[s] to ask on Foreign Trade Policy, he/she may please write / e-mail to EPCH at policy@epch.com

Impex # 1

Amendment in Para 4.84(b)

DGFT to align the procedure under para 4.84(b) with para 4.36(a) of FTP 2023, has amended the Handbook Para 4.84 (b) with the said public notice.

The Para now does not have option of import of gold as replenishment after completion of exports.

Copy of Public Notice No. 28/2025-2026 - DGFT, Dated 23rd October 2025

Subject: Amendments in Para 4.84 (b) of Handbook of Procedures 2023.

In exercise of the powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 & 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2023, as amended from time to time, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendment with immediate effect.

2. The amendments in Para 4.84 (b) of HBP-2023, are as under:

S. No.	Para No.	Existing Para	Amended Para
1	4.84 (b)	Export Obligation will be required to be fulfilled within 120 days from date of import of each consignment against Authorisation. However, Export Obligation period shall be 180 days from date of import of findings, mountings made of gold, platinum and silver and export of jewellery. No further extension in Export Obligation period will be allowed. Advance Authorisation holder may also import gold as replenishment after completion of exports.	Export Obligation will be required to be fulfilled within 120 days from the date of import of each consignment against Authorisation. However, Export Obligation period shall be 180 days from the date of import of findings, mountings made of gold, platinum and silver and to export of jewellery. No further extension in Export Obligation period will be allowed.

Effect of this Public Notice: This amendment has been introduced to align the Procedure in Para 4.84(b) of Handbook of Procedures with Para 4.36(a) of Foreign Trade Policy.

Impex # 2

Amending and Allowing exporters to issue COO under India EFTA TEPA on Self Declaration Basis

As per the provisions of the India EFTA TEPA agreement and to facilitate exporters to obtain Certificate of Origin (COO) under the agreement on Self Declaration.

The Provisions and conditions of the self-declaration option has been already notified earlier via the Trade Notice.

Copy of Public Notice No. 29/2025-26 - DGFT, Dated 28th October, 2025

Subject: Amendments in Para 2.88 and Para 2.91 of Handbook of Procedures-reg.

In exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 and 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendments in the provisions of Para 2.91 of the Handbook of Procedures 2023:

(A) Under Para 2.88 (a) of HBP, a new entry with serial no.xiv is inserted after the existing list of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) as under:

"xiv. India-European Free Trade Association Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (India-EFTA TEPA)"

(B) Under Para 2.91 of HBP 2023, a new sub-para (e) is inserted as mentioned below:

"2.91 (e): In case of India- EFTA TEPA, Certificates of Origin may also be obtained on the basis of self-declaration by the exporter concerned, in addition to issuance of Certificate of Origin by an authorised agency".

Effect of this Public Notice: Para 2.88(a) and Para 2.91 of the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) 2023 have been amended to facilitate exporters to obtain the Certificate of Origin (CoO) under the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) through self-declaration, in addition to the existing system of issuance of Certificates of Origin by the authorised agencies.

Impex # 3

Amendment in TRQ Allocations for Gold under India - UAE CEPA

To ensure greater transparency and effective management of TRQ Allocations, the TRQ for Gold under India - UAE CEPA shall now be via competitive online bidding / tender process.

The modalities and dates for participation will be notified via Trade Notice every year.

Also, for eligibility of the TRQ of Gold under India -UAE CEPA, BIS for Hallmarking and GST has been made mandatory.

Copy of Public Notice No.31/2025-26- DGFT, Dated 29th October, 2025

Subject: Amendments to the Procedure for Allocation of TRQ for Gold under the India-UAE CEPA - regarding.

In exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 read with 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, as amended from time to time, and in revision of Public Notice no. 12/2023 dated 28.04.2023, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby amends the Annexure-IV of Appendix-2A laying down the procedure for import of items under tariff head 7108 of TRQ under India - UAE CEPA (CEPA), as under:

2. Condition (d) under Annexure-IV of Appendix-2A shall be amended as under:

S. No.	Earlier Provision	Revised Provision
g	Import of Gold Dore under TRQ shall not be considered.	1. The eligible applicant must be registered with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for hallmarking. 2. The eligible applicant must be registered with GST. 3. Import of Gold Dore under TRQ shall not be considered.

3. Further, the allocations of TRQ for Gold under CEPA will be undertaken based on the competitive bidding/tender process.

4. Eligible Applicants for TRQ under India-UAE CEPA for the tariff head 7108 for FY 2025-26, as per Annexure-IV of Appendix - 2A, read along with this Public Notice, may file their applications online, during the permissible period, through the DGFT website (<https://dgft.gov.in>) -> Import Management System ->Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ).

5. Further, the time period permissible for submission of TRQ applications and the modalities for participation in the Competitive online bidding/tender process will be notified through a Trade Notice every year.

Effect of this Public Notice: Condition (d) under Annexure-IV of Appendix 2A has been amended to include the requirement of BIS Hallmarking registration and GST registration for the import of gold under HS Code 7108 within the TRQ framework of the India-UAE CEPA. Furthermore, to ensure greater transparency and effective management of TRQ allocations, the allocation of TRQ for gold under the India-UAE CEPA shall be undertaken through a competitive online bidding/tender process.

Impex # 4

DGFT Launches Pilot of "Bharat Aayat Niryat Lab Setu

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has announced the pilot launch of the Bharat Aayat Niryat Lab Setu (BAN Lab Setu) - a digital initiative aimed at bridging the gap between testing laboratories and the trade community. This platform enables exporters and importers to identify, connect, and access accredited labs for testing, certification, and compliance purposes through an integrated online interface.

The portal will list labs accredited by NABL (National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories) and other approved bodies.

Exporters can search labs by product category, location, or test type, and submit testing requests online. The pilot phase will include select labs and exporters for initial rollout. The Pilot Phase will commence from November 04, 2025. Exporters & Importers will be able to submit applications for product and commodity from November 11, 2025.

The BAN Lab Setu will be available on www.trade.gov.in

Impex # 5

Eligibility for registration on "Source from India" service on Trade Connect Platform revised

"Source from India" service of Trade Connect ePlatform (<https://www.trade.gov.in>) was rolled out for all Status Holder exporters.

'Source from India', a flagship feature on the Trade Connect ePlatform serves as a one stop reference point for international buyers to discover accomplished Indian Exporters to source from. The service allows exporters to create their own microsites on Trade Connect and showcase their products as well as credentials of their entity.

In order to enable more accomplished Indian exporters to create their profiles on "Source from India" facility of Trade Connect.

With effect from 1st November 2025, all valid IECs (IECs that are not in DEL) fulfilling a minimum export realisation of USD 100,000 in at least one of the previous three financial years at the time of application will now be eligible to create their microsites on Source from India, in addition to Status Holders.

Copy of Trade Notice.No. 15/2025-26, Dated 29 October, 2025

Subject: Revision of exporter eligibility criteria for registration on "Source from India" service of Trade Connect ePlatform.

1. Reference is drawn to Trade Notice No. 5/2025-26 dated June 13, 2025 wherein "Source from India" service of Trade Connect ePlatform (<https://www.trade.gov.in/pages/source-from-india>) was rolled out for all Status Holder exporters. 'Source from India', a flagship feature on the Trade Connect ePlatform (hereinafter referred to as "Trade Connect") serves as a one stop reference point for international buyers to discover accomplished Indian Exporters to source

from. The service allows exporters to create their own microsites on Trade Connect and showcase their products as well as credentials of their entity.

2. In order to enable more accomplished Indian exporters to create their profiles on "Source from India" facility of Trade Connect, it has now been decided to amend the eligibility criteria of exporters for availing the said facility.

3. With effect from 1st November 2025, all valid IECs (IECs that are not in DEL) fulfilling a minimum export realisation of USD 100,000 in at least one of the previous three financial years at the time of application will now be eligible to create their microsites on Source from India, in addition to Status Holders. It may be noted that the DGFT eBRC database will serve as the sole reference point for realisation data and will determine eligibility based on aggregate eBRC value available on a financial year basis.

4. Users registered on Trade Connect whose profiles are linked to eligible IECs will automatically see the option for "Source from India" microsite creation on their dashboard. A detailed guide is annexed to this Trade Notice which may be referred for step-by-step guidance on the same.

5. Indian Missions Abroad have also been duly sensitised to use "Source from India" as a reference point for addressing sourcing needs of foreign buyers approaching the missions for requests to help find Indian suppliers for various products.

6. Export Promotion Councils and Industry associations are requested to give wide publicity to the contents of this Trade Notice and encourage participation of all eligible members. This is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

Impex # 6

Amendment in FEMA Regulations

RBI with view to mitigate the impact of trade disruptions on exports arising on account of global headwinds has amended the following for exporters:

a. extended the time period for realisation and repatriation of full export value of goods/software/services exported from India from nine months to fifteen months from the date of export from India.

b. the time period for shipment of exports for advance payment has been increased from one year to three years from the date of receipt of advance payment or as per agreement, whichever is later.

Relaxation and moratorium on working capital and repayment of export credit has been also increased.

Impex # 7

Cabinet Approves Export Promotion Mission (EPM)

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the launch of the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) - a landmark initiative to enhance India's export competitiveness, particularly for MSMEs, first-time exporters, and labour-intensive sectors.

With a total outlay of Rs. 25,060 crore for FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31, EPM aims to create a comprehensive, flexible, and digitally integrated framework for export promotion, replacing multiple fragmented schemes with one unified, outcome-based mechanism.

EPM will function through two integrated sub-schemes designed to address both financial and non-financial gaps:

* **NIRYAT PROTSAHAN**

* **NIRYAT DISHA**