TRADE AGREEMENT

DGFT invites bids for a second round of India-UAE CEPA gold TRQ allocation, limited to 80 MT

Public Notice No. 45/2025-26 invites bids for a second round of India-UAE CEPA gold TRQ under tariff head 7108 for FY 2025-26, restricted to 80 MT.

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 45/2025-26, dated January 23, 2026, notifies the procedure for the second round of allocation of Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for gold under tariff head 7108 under the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for FY 2025-26, and the Director General of Foreign Trade invites bids for it. The total quantity in this round is restricted to 80 MT. The notice continues Public Notice No. 31/2025-26 and Trade Notice No. 16/2025-26 dated October 29, 2025, under which gold TRQ under the India-UAE CEPA is allocated through competitive bidding. Bidders register and bid on the MSTC website under the Tender Document at Annexure-I.

THE CHANGE

Bids are invited for the second round of allocation of gold TRQ under tariff head 7108 under the India-UAE CEPA for FY 2025-26, restricted to a total of 80 MT, under the procedure and the Tender Document in this Public Notice.

KEY FACTS

TYPE
Trade agreement

NOTIFICATION
Public Notice No. 45/2025-26

DATED
January 23, 2026

REFERENCES

CG-DL-E-02022026-269767

ITC (HS) CODES 1

7108

DGFT invites bids for a second round of India-UAE CEPA gold TRQ allocation, limited to 80 MT

Public Notice No. 45/2025-26 · January 23, 2026

Public Notice No. 45/2025-26, dated January 23, 2026, notifies the procedure for the second round of allocation of Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for gold under tariff head 7108 under the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for FY 2025-26, and the Director General of Foreign Trade invites bids for it. The total quantity in this round is restricted to 80 MT. The notice continues Public Notice No. 31/2025-26 and Trade Notice No. 16/2025-26 dated October 29, 2025, under which gold TRQ under the India-UAE CEPA is allocated through competitive bidding. Bidders register and bid on the MSTC website under the Tender Document at Annexure-I.

The notice cites the Delhi High Court's order of September 26, 2025, which disposed of petitions and directed a review of the TRQ allocation for FY 2025-26 as early as possible, taking into account the petitioners' grievances, particularly that allocation should be broad-based and extend to applicants without a track record of substantial turnover over the preceding few years and to those seeking TRQ for the first time. In compliance, participants meeting the eligibility conditions in Annexure-IV of Appendix-2A may bid, up to a maximum of 50 KG for Micro, 100 KG for Small and 250 KG for Medium Enterprises and 500 KG for other units.

Bidders must be registered with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for hallmarking and hold a valid GSTIN; import of Gold Dore under TRQ is not considered. Each bidder pays a participation fee of Rs 5000/- plus GST and a bid security of Rs. 1,00,000/-. The Excel price bid has 51 price buckets, from 100000 to 0 in steps of 2000, each a price per KG of gold in INR to be paid to DGFT.

Financial bids of technically qualified bidders go to the Exim Facilitation Committee (EFC), which allocates quantities up to the bid quantities, subject to such limits as deemed fit. A bidder allocated TRQ by the EFC, a Preferred Bidder, becomes a Successful Bidder only after satisfying the conditions in Annexure-IV to Appendix 2A and any other conditions later set in a DGFT Public Notice or Trade Notice, filing a TRQ Application on the DGFT website and paying the bid amount within the period set in the EFC Minutes. Annexure-II gives a tentative schedule: pre-bid conferences on January 28 and 29, 2026, bids from February 2 to February 6, 2026, technical bid opening on February 9, 2026 and TRQ allocation by the EFC on February 16, 2026. The Tender Document says the timetable is given in a Trade Notice and may be amended by a Corrigendum.

Notification	Public Notice No. 45/2025-26
Dated	January 23, 2026

Published in the Gazette	January 28, 2026
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Gazette ID	CG-DL-E-02022026-269767
Type	Trade agreement
Products	Gold
ITC (HS) codes	7108
After	Bids are invited for the second round of allocation of gold TRQ under tariff head 7108 under the India-UAE CEPA for FY 2025-26, restricted to a total of 80 MT, under the procedure and the Tender Document in this Public Notice.

Conditions

- The total quantity of allocation in this second round is restricted to 80 MT.
- Participants who comply with the eligibility conditions in Annexure-IV of Appendix-2A are eligible. The maximum eligible quantity for allocation is 50 KG for bidders that are Micro Enterprises, 100 KG for Small Enterprises, 250 KG for Medium Enterprises and 500 KG for other units.
- Participants in the first round of allocation are also eligible, and the limits above are beyond the quantities allocated to them in the first round, if any.
- Bidders must be registered with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for hallmarking and hold a valid GST Identification Number (GSTIN). Import of Gold Dore under TRQ is not considered.
- Only one registered user on the MSTC website may take part in the bidding for a given IEC. If the registered user's details appear in the IEC (as Proprietor, Partner, Director etc.), a copy of the IEC is submitted on the MSTC portal during the technical bid; if not, an Authority letter signed by the Proprietor/Partner/Karta/Director whose name appears in the IEC is submitted.
- Bidders register on the MSTC portal at https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn/dgft and must hold a valid Class III Signing and Encryption type Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).
- Before uploading documents and submitting the bid, each bidder pays a participation fee of Rs 5000/- plus GST and a bid security of Rs. 1,00,000/-.
- The technical bid shows valid GST Registration, valid hallmark registration, a valid Import Export Code (IEC) and, for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, a valid MSME certificate.

- The Excel-based price bid has 51 price buckets, ranging from 100000 to 0 in steps of 2000, each the price per KG of gold, in INR, that the bidder is willing to pay DGFT for the TRQ quantity allocated in that bucket. Bidders may quote for any number of buckets, and quantities are entered only in whole numbers that are multiples of 5.
- Financial bids are opened only for technically qualified bidders and go to the Exim Facilitation Committee (EFC), which allocates quantities less than or equal to the bid quantities, subject to such limits as deemed fit. Bidders allocated TRQ by the EFC are Preferred Bidders.
- A Preferred Bidder is declared a Successful Bidder only after satisfying the conditions in Annexure-IV to Appendix 2A of the FTP, 2023 and any other conditions later set in a Public Notice or Trade Notice issued by DGFT, filing a TRQ Application on the DGFT website (Import Management System, Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ)), and paying the bid amount for the allocated quantity within the period set in the Minutes of the EFC Meeting.
- If a Preferred Bidder does not pay the bid amount within that period, DGFT forfeits its Bid Security and disqualifies it from further allocations during the current and the subsequent financial year.
- The Bid Security of unsuccessful bidders is returned without interest within 4 (four) weeks from the declaration of the Preferred Bidder or annulment of the tender process, whichever is earlier. A Preferred Bidder's Bid Security is returned within four weeks of its payment of the bid amount to DGFT.
- TRQs issued to the successful bidders of this round are valid for 6 months from the date of issuance of the TRQ Authorisation.
- Any false information or misrepresentation leads to ab-initio cancellation of the bid and invites penal proceedings under the FTDR Act, the applicable rules and the Tender Document. A bidder found to have engaged in a Fraudulent, Coercive or Restrictive Practice is put on DGFT's Denied Entity List (DEL) and is not eligible for any DGFT tender for 3 (three) years.

Applies to

Bidders from trade and industry seeking gold TRQ under tariff head 7108 under the India-UAE CEPA for FY 2025-26 who meet the eligibility conditions in Annexure-IV of Appendix-2A, including participants in the first round of allocation.

Issued under

Paragraphs 1.03 and 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023, as amended from time to time

Signed by	LAV AGARWAL, Director General of Foreign Trade & Ex-Officio Addl. Secy.

The table in the notification

Description	After
1st Pre bid Conference	Tentative date: 28.01.2026
2nd Pre bid Conference	Tentative date: 29.01.2026
Bid Start Date	Tentative date: 02.02.2026
Bid End Dates	Tentative date: 06.02.2026
Technical Bid Opening	Tentative date: 09.02.2026
TRQ Allocation by EFC	Tentative date: 16.02.2026

The notification (PDF, 1.0 MB)

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