September 7, 2026

DGFT

DGFT proposes to suspend 544 SIONs unused for three years

DGFT Trade Notice No. 26/2026-27 proposes to suspend 544 SIONs unused under Advance Authorisation or DFIA for three years and invites comments within 15 days.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, issued Trade Notice No. 26/2026-27, dated September 7, 2026. It is addressed to all exporters and members of trade and industry, all Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards, and DGFT Regional Authorities. Its subject is comments and views on the proposed suspension of 544 Standard Input Output Norms (SIONs) that remained unutilized during the last three financial years. It is issued with the approval of the DG, DGFT, from e-File No. 01/94/180/071/AM26/PC-4/Pt-2, and signed by Saurabh Goyal, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

DGFT

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September 7, 2026

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Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry

DOCUMENT

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DGFT says it reviewed the utilization of SIONs. The review found 544 SIONs, listed in the notice's annexure, that remained unutilized under the Advance Authorisation (AA) and Duty-Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) Schemes during the last three financial years. Citing this prolonged non-utilization, DGFT proposes to suspend all 544. It invites comments from the trade and other concerned stakeholders, including exporters, importers, Export Promotion Councils, industry associations and other interested parties.

Comments, with any relevant supporting information or documents, may be submitted to DGFT within 15 days from the date the trade notice was issued. Stakeholders may specifically give their reasons for keeping any SION, with details of its actual or proposed use under the AA or DFIA Schemes, wherever applicable. The notice gives no portal, form or separate address for comments; its signature block carries Saurabh Goyal's telephone number, 0112303-8790, and e-mail, saurabh.goyal@gov.in. Comments received after the 15 days may not be considered.

Once the 15 days are over, and after considering the comments received, DGFT says the 544 SIONs "may be suspended". The annexure, headed "List of proposed SIONs to be suspended", gives only SION codes, not product descriptions. The first letter of each code marks its SION product group. Group A has 288 of the codes, group C 123, group H 40 and group J 31; the other 62 are spread across groups B, D, E, F, G, I, K and M.

The notice does not say which three financial years were reviewed, give a calendar closing date for comments, or say from when a suspension would take effect. It does not say what happens to authorizations already issued, or applications pending, under these SIONs. By October 28, 2026, DGFT had issued no public notice or notification suspending them: its Public Notices list ran to No. 36/2026-27 of October 23, 2026, and its Notifications list to No. 45/2026-27 of October 19, 2026.

Issued by	Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Document	Trade Notice No. 26/2026-27
Dated	September 7, 2026
Addressed to	All exporters and members of trade and industry; all Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards; DGFT Regional Authorities
Applies to	SIONs that remained unutilized under the Advance Authorisation (AA) and Duty-Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) Schemes during the last three financial years
SIONs proposed for suspension	544, listed by code in the annexure
Comments due	Within 15 days from the date of issue of the trade notice
What to send	Comments with relevant supporting information or documents; reasons for keeping any SION, with details of actual or proposed use under AA or DFIA
Takes effect	Not stated; after the 15 days and consideration of comments, the SIONs "may be suspended"
Status on October 28, 2026	No DGFT public notice or notification suspending these SIONs had been issued
Signed by	Saurabh Goyal, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade
File number	e-File No. 01/94/180/071/AM26/PC-4/Pt-2

The 544 SIONs by product group (group names from DGFT's SION page; M from Public Notice No. 11/2026-27)

Product group	SIONs proposed for suspension
A: Chemicals and Allied Products	288
B: Electronics Products	7
C: Engineering Products	123
D: Fish and Marine Products	1
E: Food Products	10
F: Handicrafts	3
G: Leather Products	28
H: Plastic Products	40
I: Sport Goods	1

J: Textiles, Readymade Garments, Hosiery and Knitwears	31
K: Miscellaneous Products	8
M: Gems and Jewellery	4
Total	544

The trade notice (PDF, 969 KB)

Source: DGFT's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on October 28, 2026.

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Read online: indusdesk.com/dgft/insights/dgft-proposes-to-suspend-544-sions-unused-for-three-years/