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DGFT

DGFT's handbook flags missing intermediary end-user certificates

DGFT's 2026 SCOMET handbook asks for end user certificates from every supply chain entity and lists a missing intermediary certificate as a common mistake.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has published the third edition of its "Handbook on India's Strategic Trade Control System", dated January 2026 on its cover. The preface, signed in New Delhi on January 15, 2026 by Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade,

says this edition presents an updated and consolidated overview of India's strategic trade control framework, with particular focus on exports under the SCOMET (Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies) list, and incorporates recent policy refinements and procedural simplifications.

KEY FACTS

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Handbook on India's Strategic Trade
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A message dated the same day from Muanpui Saiawi, Joint Secretary (D&ISA), Ministry of External Affairs, says the handbook is released by DGFT with inputs from the D&ISA Division in MEA, relevant Government of India agencies and industry stakeholders. Its 53 pages cover the legal framework, the SCOMET list and its nine categories, the licensing procedure, FAQs on the repeat order, stock and sale and demo/display policies and on the general authorizations, compliance by industry, and a standard operating procedure for voluntary disclosure of non-compliance.

For a fresh export of a SCOMET item under Categories 1 to 5 and 8, meaning an item exported for the first time directly to the ultimate end user, the handbook lists the documents required: the application in the prescribed proforma (ANF 10A to 10E, as applicable); an end user certificate to be filled by all entities in the supply chain on their letterhead, duly signed and stamped with all details filled, in the prescribed proforma (Appendix 10j(i), 10j(ii) and 10j(iii), as applicable); purchase order copies in appropriate readable form; the technical specification of the item; and a supply chain diagram.

Applications are considered by an Inter-Ministerial Working Group (IMWG) in DGFT (Hqrs.). Its criteria include the credentials of the end-user, the credibility of the declared end-use and the integrity of the chain of transmission of the item from supplier to end-user. IMWG members are to endeavor to give their comments within 30 days of DGFT forwarding the online application, and the IMWG normally meets once every month. Reasons for rejection listed in the handbook include incomplete applications, insufficient documentation such as an incorrect End Use Certificate, and insufficient or incomplete end-use or end-user details.

Under the heading "Commonly Made Mistakes while filing Applications", the handbook lists ten mistakes for fresh exports and general authorizations. Six concern end user certificates: certificates from all supply chain entities not submitted or not in the prescribed format; entity details not filled and certificates not properly signed and stamped; clauses not filled as per the format; an intermediary included in the application without its certificate; the end user country not clearly stated; and the specific end use not mentioned (Para 3(a)). The others concern technical specifications, purchase orders, shipment value and the SCOMET sub-category.

The handbook applies the same supply chain test to repeat orders. Its documentation table says "same country/entities" means that the foreign buyer, the consignee or the intermediaries, if any, the end user and the end use are exactly the same as in the export authorization issued earlier, and its FAQs say any change, amendment or omission of an entity in the supply chain makes the application ineligible as a repeat order. Repeat applications also need end user certificates from all entities in the supply chain.

Issued by	Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Document	Handbook on India's Strategic Trade Control System, Third Edition
Dated	January 2026 (preface dated January 15, 2026)
Preface signed by	Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade & Ex-Officio Addl. Secretary to the Govt of India
Applies to	Exporters of items on the SCOMET list
End user certificate forms	Appendix 10j(i), 10j(ii) and 10j(iii), as applicable
Application forms	ANF 10A to 10E, as applicable
IMWG comment period	30 days from DGFT forwarding the online application
Common mistakes listed	10 for fresh exports and general authorizations; 3 for re-export cases

Commonly made mistakes: Fresh Export/General Authorisations

No. Mistake, as the handbook states it

- 1 End user certificates from all entities involved in the supply chain are not duly submitted and are not in the prescribed format.
- 2 EUCs do not have details of entities duly filled and are not properly signed and stamped.
- 3 EUC clauses are not filled properly, as per the format.
- 4 Technical specifications are not submitted during the filing of the application.
- 5 Purchase Orders submitted are not correctly submitted. The item details, item quantity in the purchase order does not match with the details mentioned in the application.
- 6 While the application includes the intermediary, the EUC from intermediary is not submitted along with the application.
- 7 The value of the shipment is incorrectly mentioned in the application. The values are not duly stated (especially in technology related applications).

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- 8 SCOMET Sub-Category (item should be covered in mentioned Sub-Category) is not filled while filing applications.
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- 9 End User country is not clearly stated in the application and EUC.
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- 10 Specific end use is not mentioned in EUC (Para 3 (a)).
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[The handbook](#) (PDF, 28 MB)

Source: [DGFT's own copy](#).

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

IndusDesk

hello@indusdesk.com · +91 98917 60000

9th Floor, Hemkunt House, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110008, India

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