April 27, 2026

DPIIT

Gas Cylinders Rules drop Customs permission for some imports

G.S.R. 315(E) of April 27, 2026 drops the Customs landing permission for empty cylinders without valves and for some valves and LPG regulators, and widens rule 3(5).

THE DEPARTMENT FOR Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, issued notification G.S.R. 315(E), dated April 27, 2026, making the Gas Cylinders (Amendment) Rules, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 291, dated April 28, 2026. The Central Government made the rules under sections 5 and 7 of the Explosives Act, 1884, after publishing them in draft as G.S.R. 103(E) of February 3, 2026; the notification records that no objections or suggestions were received. The rules come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. Dr. Kajal, Joint Secretary, signed them under F. No. P-13018/8/2025-EXPLOSIVE-Part(1).

KEY FACTS

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Notification G.S.R. 315(E), the Gas Cylinders (Amendment) Rules, 2026

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Rule 32 of the Gas Cylinders Rules, 2016 is headed "Permission of the Commissioner of Customs", and its sub-rule (1) says no imported cylinder, valve and LPG regulator shall be landed except with the permission of the Commissioner of Customs. The amendment adds a proviso: "the permission shall not be required in respect of,- (a) empty cylinders without valves; (b) valves and LPG regulators, imported from the foreign manufacturing plants approved by the Chief Controller and having valid import licence in Form-D." The conditions on approved foreign plants and a valid Form-D import licence are written in item (b). The proviso does not say whether they also apply to the empty cylinders in item (a).

Rule 3(5) lets cylinders that do not conform to the specifications in Schedule I be filled with gas, on conditions, when they are imported into India for filling and shipment to the country of origin or for supply to a foreign going vessel touching an Indian port. The amendment adds, after the words "touching Indian port", the words "or cylinders and valves imported by establishments of the Ministry of Defence, Department of Space and its Public Sector Undertakings for their own use".

Rule 48 dealt with no objection certificates from the District Authority. Its sub-rule (3)(b) excused a Form "F" licence for storage of LPG in cylinders from that certificate, provided one was obtained from the local body. The amendment inserted "or other flammable gases" after the words "Liquified Petroleum Gas" in that clause. The notification makes no other change and does not explain the reasons for these three changes.

Two later amendments followed, and neither changed rules 3 or 32. The Gas Cylinders (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 447(E) of June 5, 2026, omitted rule 48 altogether, so the April change to rule 48(3)(b) no longer stands. The Gas Cylinder (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 831(E) of September 21, 2026, published on September 23, 2026, added a proviso to rule 6(4) and a new condition 22 in Form G for CNG and CBG Mobile Refueling Units (MRUs).

Issued by	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Document	Notification G.S.R. 315(E), the Gas Cylinders (Amendment) Rules, 2026
Dated	April 27, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 291, April 28, 2026
Takes effect	The date of publication in the Official Gazette; the Gazette is dated April 28, 2026
Legal basis	Sections 5 and 7, Explosives Act, 1884
Draft	G.S.R. 103(E), February 3, 2026, made available to the public on February 4, 2026; no objections or suggestions received
Applies to	Importers of cylinders, valves and LPG regulators; establishments of the Ministry of Defence, Department of Space and its Public Sector Undertakings
Rule 32(1): no permission needed for	Empty cylinders without valves; valves and LPG regulators imported from the foreign manufacturing plants approved by the Chief Controller and having valid import licence in Form-D
Rule 3(5): added	Cylinders and valves imported by establishments of the Ministry of Defence, Department of Space and its Public Sector Undertakings for their own use
Rule 48(3)(b)	"or other flammable gases" inserted after "Liquified Petroleum Gas"; rule 48 omitted by the Gas Cylinders (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 447(E), June 5, 2026
Later amendment	G.S.R. 831(E), September 21, 2026 (Gazette of September 23, 2026): a proviso to rule 6(4) and condition 22 of Form G, for CNG and CBG Mobile Refueling Units; rules 3 and 32 unchanged
File number	F. No. P-13018/8/2025-EXPLOSIVE-Part(1)
Signed by	Dr. Kajal, Joint Secretary

The notification (PDF, 696 KB)

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