DGFT

LIFT freight aid covers all eligible MSME goods outside a negative list

DGFT Trade Notices 35 and 36/2026-27 of November 17, 2026 cut LIFT's minimum distance to 100 km and extend MAS airfare support to ₹50 crore export turnover.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued Trade Notice No. 36/2026-27, dated November 17, 2026, which extends freight support under Facilitating Logistics Interventions for Freight and Transport (LIFT) to "all exportable merchandise of eligible MSMEs", other than the export items on a negative list, from identified districts. A second notice of the same date, Trade Notice No. 35/2026-27, extends airfare support under Market Access Support (MAS) to entities whose previous year's export turnover is up to ₹50 crore, in place of ₹75 lakh. Both are interventions under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), Niryat Disha, and both notices are signed by A G Subramanian, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY
DGFT

PUBLISHED
November 17, 2026

ISSUED BY
Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry

DOCUMENTS
Trade Notice No. 36/2026-27 (LIFT) and Trade Notice No. 35/2026-27 (Market Access Support)



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DGFT · November 17, 2026

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued Trade Notice No. 36/2026-27, dated November 17, 2026, which extends freight support under Facilitating Logistics Interventions for Freight and Transport (LIFT) to "all exportable merchandise of eligible MSMEs", other than the export items on a negative list, from identified districts. A second notice of the same date, Trade Notice No. 35/2026-27, extends airfare support under Market Access Support (MAS) to entities whose previous year's export turnover is up to ₹50 crore, in place of ₹75 lakh. Both are interventions under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), Niryat Disha, and both notices are signed by A G Subramanian, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade.

Trade Notice No. 36/2026-27 amends the LIFT guidelines issued by Trade Notice No. 29/2025-26 of February 20, 2026. Before, support covered MSMEs "exporting notified products" from identified districts, with the products listed in Annexure-VI. Now Annexure-I of the new notice lists the eligible districts: all districts of 13 States/UTs (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand and Bihar) and, in the notice's words, "308 low export intensity districts in 21 States/UTs". Uttar Pradesh has 57 of them, Madhya Pradesh 45 and Chhattisgarh 31.

LIFT partly reimburses the freight cost of moving exports from MSME premises. The destinations now include a Land Customs Station (LCS) and an Integrated Check Post (ICP) with attached CFS, besides Inland Container Depots (ICDs), Container Freight Stations (CFS), sea ports and Air Cargo Complexes (ACC), and the freight may go by rail, road or inland waterways (before, rail or road). Shipment by air is also supported for districts from Northeast, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh regions (before, districts from Northeastern regions). Support is admissible only where the distance between origin and destination is not less than 100 km (before, 200 km), and inland freight reimbursement "will be restricted up to 400 km, including multi-leg and multimodal movement".

The negative list (Annexure-II) has 10 entries: re-export of imported goods; exports by SEZ/EOU/EHTP/STPI/BTP units, supplies to such units, and products manufactured by such units but exported through DTA units; deemed exports; ores, slag and ash (Chapter 26); rice (ITC(HS) 1006), except exports from eligible units in the North-Eastern States, Uttarakhand and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir; wheat of all kinds (ITC(HS) 1001); sugar of all types under ITC(HS) 1701 and 1702, except jaggery; third party exports; frozen bovine meat (ITC(HS) 0202); and ferro-alloys (ITC(HS) 7202). An application should clearly mention the description of the products, ensuring it does not include products on the negative list. A bill of export accepted for land-frontier exports joins the mandatory attachments, and a new para 4(f) limits the government's liability to approved applications "within the available budget under LIFT intervention of EPM in the given financial year".

The LIFT changes apply prospectively, "only to exports in respect of Shipment of exports from MSME premises on or after 17.11.2026". Shipments from MSME premises before that stay under Trade Notice No. 29/2025-26, and no claim under the revised provisions is admissible for them.

Trade Notice No. 35/2026-27 amends the MAS guidelines of Trade Notice No. 19/2025-26 of December 31, 2025 and Trade Notice No. 08/2026-27 of July 1, 2026. New IEC holders should be registered with the concerned agency for at least 3 months (before, 6), and a participating entity should have been a member of the organizing agency for a minimum period of three months before the event (before, six). For entities with zero export turnover in the preceding year, the airfare reimbursement becomes 95% of economy-class airfare for Micro and Small enterprises and 80% for other eligible enterprises (before, 50%), within ceilings of ₹80,000 for Africa & American continents and Oceania and ₹45,000 for other overseas markets, whichever is lower. Entities with export turnover up to ₹50 crore get the same 95% and 80%, within ceilings of ₹1,25,000 and ₹75,000. The changes take effect from the date of issue and apply prospectively.

Issued by	Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Documents	Trade Notice No. 36/2026-27 (LIFT) and Trade Notice No. 35/2026-27 (Market Access Support)
Dated	November 17, 2026
Scheme	Export Promotion Mission (EPM), Niryat Disha
LIFT amends	Trade Notice No. 29/2025-26 of February 20, 2026
LIFT products	All exportable merchandise of eligible MSMEs, other than the 10 entries of the negative list (Annexure-II)
LIFT districts	All districts of 13 States/UTs, plus 308 low export intensity districts in 21 States/UTs (Annexure-I)
LIFT distance	Not less than 100 km (was 200 km); inland freight reimbursement restricted up to 400 km
LIFT air freight	Districts from Northeast, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh regions
LIFT applies to	Shipments of exports from MSME premises on or after November 17, 2026
MAS amends	Trade Notice No. 19/2025-26 of December 31, 2025 and Trade Notice No. 08/2026-27 of July 1, 2026
MAS airfare eligibility	Previous year's export turnover up to ₹50 crore (was ₹75 lakh); Indian nationals only

MAS airfare rate	95% of economy-class airfare for Micro and Small, 80% for other eligible enterprises, within the ceilings
MAS takes effect	From the date of issue, prospectively
File numbers	01/02/73/AM-26/EPM (LIFT); 01/02/32/AM-26/ (MAS)
Signed by	A G Subramanian, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade

What Trade Notices 36 and 35/2026-27 change

Para	Before	After
LIFT, Policy Framework para 2(a)	Freight support for MSMEs exporting notified products from identified districts	Freight support for all exportable merchandise of eligible MSMEs, other than the negative list, from identified districts
LIFT, para 1(a)	Districts listed in Annexure-V	Districts listed in Annexure-I of the new notice: 13 whole States/UTs and 308 districts in 21 States/UTs
LIFT, para 1(c)	ICDs, CFS, sea ports and ACC, by rail or road; air for districts from Northeastern regions	Adds LCS and ICP with attached CFS and inland waterways; air also for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh
LIFT, para 1(d)	Eligible products notified in Annexure-VI	All exportable merchandise, other than the negative list in Annexure-II
LIFT, para 1(e)	Not less than 200 km to an ICD, CFS, ACC or seaport	Not less than 100 km to an ICD, CFS, ACC, seaport, LCS or ICP attached with CFS; inland freight reimbursement restricted up to 400 km
LIFT, para 4(d)	Invoice, proof of payment, Shipping Bill, E-Way Bill	Adds bill of export accepted for land-frontier exports
LIFT, para 4(f) (inserted)	None	Liability limited to approved applications within the available budget in the financial year
MAS, para X.4(f)	New IEC holders registered with the concerned agency for at least 6 months	At least 3 months
MAS, para X.5(o)	Airfare support for entities with previous year's export turnover up to ₹75 lakh	Up to ₹50 crore
MAS, para X.7(e)	Member of the organizing agency for at least six months before the event	At least three months
MAS, paras 6.2 (g.vi) and 6.4 (g.xiii)	Zero export turnover: 50% of economy-class airfare, up to ₹80,000 (Africa & American continents; para 6.2 also Oceania) or ₹45,000 (other markets)	95% for Micro and Small, 80% for other eligible enterprises; ₹80,000 (Africa & American continents and Oceania) or ₹45,000 (other markets), whichever is lower

MAS, paras 6.2 (g.v) and 6.4 (g.xiv)	Export turnover up to ₹75 lakh: 80% of economy-class airfare, up to ₹1,25,000 (75% in para 6.2) or ₹75,000 (other markets)	Export turnover up to ₹50 crore: 95% for Micro and Small, 80% for other eligible enterprises; ₹1,25,000 or ₹75,000, whichever is lower

The trade notice (PDF, 654 KB)

Source: DGFT's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on November 21, 2026.

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