DGFT

Meat exports to Egypt get nine months, not six, for i-CAS-Halal

DGFT Notification No. 28/2026-27 moves mandatory i-CAS-Halal for specified meat exports to Egypt to nine months from February 9, 2026, up from six.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, issued Notification No. 28/2026-27, dated August 5, 2026. It was published as S.O. 4635(E) in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 4454, dated August 21, 2026. Its subject is the "Streamlining of Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products". The Central Government made it under section 3 read with section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, read with paragraphs 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023. It amends Notification No. 59/2025-26, dated February 9, 2026, for the export of specified meat and meat products to Egypt. It is signed by Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade, under F. No. 01/91/171/166/AM21/EC/e-24267.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

DGFT

PUBLISHED

August 5, 2026

ISSUED BY

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

DOCUMENT

Notification No. 28/2026-27, S.O. 4635(E)



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The notification substitutes the second point under paragraph 3 of Notification No. 59/2025-26. The new point reads: "For Egypt: Effect after a period of nine (09) months from the date of Notification No. 59/2025-26 dated 09.02.2026, to facilitate system readiness and onboarding/accreditation of certification bodies under the India Conformity Assessment Scheme (i-CAS)-Halal." Its Effect paragraph says the transition period for the mandatory i-CAS-Halal on exports of specified meat and meat products to Egypt is extended by a further three months, from six months to nine months from the date of Notification No. 59/2025-26, "to facilitate completion of the onboarding and accreditation process of the Egyptian Halal certification bodies." All other provisions of Notification No. 59/2025-26 remain unchanged.

Notification No. 59/2025-26 added 20 countries to the list in paragraph 1(v) of Notification No. 34/2024-25, dated October 1, 2024: Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Egypt, Algeria, Syria, Lebanon, Senegal, Maldives, Brunei, Libya, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Yemen, Mauritius, Seychelles, Kenya and Morocco. Its paragraph 3 set when the i-CAS-Halal compliance requirements take effect for them: after a transition period of two weeks from its date for every country except Egypt, and after six months for Egypt, "to facilitate system readiness and onboarding of certification bodies." Its paragraph 4 kept all other policy conditions unchanged, including certification by bodies accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) and compliance with importing country regulations as per Notification No. 34/2024-25.

Notification No. 34/2024-25, in effect from October 16, 2024, set those conditions in Schedule-II (Export Policy) of ITC(HS) 2022, as Policy Condition 8 under Chapter 2 and Policy Condition 2 under Chapter 16. Specified meat and meat products may be exported as Halal certified to the listed countries only if they are produced or processed and/or packaged in a facility certified under the "India Conformity Assessment Scheme(I-CAS)- Halal" of the Quality Council of India (QCI). After shipment, the exporter must give the buyer a valid Halal certificate issued under I-CAS by a certification body accredited by the NABCB. Where the importing country has notified regulations for the import of Halal products, the producer, supplier or exporter must also meet

that country's requirements and regulations, as applicable, and give the buyer valid certificates issued by Halal certification bodies approved under its National Halal system. The specified products are 22 ITC(HS) codes: boneless bovine meat, fresh, chilled or frozen (02013000 and 02023000); meat of sheep and goats (nine codes under 0204); edible offal of bovine animals, sheep and goats (eight codes under 0206); and three codes of prepared or preserved meat (16021000, 16025000 and 16029000). Conditions for non-Halal certified meat exports are unchanged.

Notification No. 28/2026-27 gives the period only as nine months from the date of Notification No. 59/2025-26, February 9, 2026, and states no calendar date on which the requirement takes effect for Egypt. It does not name the Egyptian Halal certification bodies or say how they are to be onboarded or accredited. It changes only the point for Egypt, and leaves the two-week period for the other 19 countries, and the rest of Notification No. 59/2025-26, as they were.

Issued by	Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Document	Notification No. 28/2026-27, S.O. 4635(E)
Dated	August 5, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 4454, August 21, 2026
Amends	Notification No. 59/2025-26, February 9, 2026: second point under paragraph 3 (Egypt), substituted
Applies to	Exports of specified meat and meat products to Egypt
Takes effect for Egypt	After a period of nine (09) months from the date of Notification No. 59/2025-26 (February 9, 2026); no calendar date given
Before	Six (06) months from the date of Notification No. 59/2025-26
Extension	A further three (03) months
Reason given	System readiness and onboarding/accreditation of certification bodies under i-CAS-Halal; completion of the onboarding and accreditation of the Egyptian Halal certification bodies
Rest of Notification No. 59/2025-26	Unchanged
Related	DGFT Notification No. 59/2025-26, February 9, 2026: added 20 countries, Egypt among them, to the i-CAS-Halal list for specified meat and meat products; two-week transition for all but Egypt; certification by NABCB-accredited bodies and compliance with importing country regulations as per Notification No. 34/2024-25

i-CAS-Halal requirement	Notification No. 34/2024-25, October 1, 2024, in effect from October 16, 2024: products produced or processed and/or packaged in a facility certified under i-CAS-Halal of the Quality Council of India; Halal certificate from an NABCB-accredited certification body to the buyer
Products	22 ITC(HS) codes under 0201, 0202, 0204, 0206 and 1602: bovine boneless meat, sheep and goat meat, edible offal, and prepared or preserved meat, as listed in Notification No. 34/2024-25
Legal basis	Section 3 read with section 5, Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992; paragraphs 1.02 and 2.01, Foreign Trade Policy 2023
Signed by	Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade and ex-officio Additional Secretary
File number	F. No. 01/91/171/166/AM21/EC/e-24267

The notification (PDF, 1.8 MB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-22082026-275684.

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

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