April 7, 2026

DGFT

Only DGFT-authorized agencies may issue certificates of origin

DGFT Notification No. 05/2026-27 limits certificates of origin to DGFT-authorized agencies and requires the same invoice numbers on CoOs and shipping bills.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, issued Notification No. 05/2026-27, S.O. 1806(E), dated April 7, 2026. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 1738, dated April 8, 2026. Its subject is amendments to Para 2.62 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023.

The Central Government makes them under section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, read with Para 1.02 of the FTP 2023, with immediate effect. The notification is signed by Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade and Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India, and issued from F. No. 01/02/60/AM-25/EG&TF.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

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

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Notification No. 05/2026-27, S.O. 1806(E)



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The new Para 2.62(a), "Issuance of Certificates of Origin", has three clauses. Certificates of Origin (CoO) for exports from India "can only be issued by agencies authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade". The authorized agencies are to issue CoOs "in a manner as prescribed by DGFT from time to time". And all holders of an Importer Exporter Code (IEC) availing CoOs "shall use the same invoice numbers in both CoOs and corresponding Shipping Bills to enable automated verification". The notification's own statement of its effect says CoOs can only be issued by agencies authorized for the purpose, and that exporters are mandated to use identical invoice numbers in CoOs and shipping bills to enable "automated utilisation verification".

The old Para 2.62, on the Approved Exporter Scheme for self-certification of certificates of origin, is kept word for word as Para 2.62(b). It says CoOs under the various Preferential Trade Agreements, Free Trade Agreements, Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements and Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements are issued by designated agencies as per Appendix 2B. Manufacturers who are also Status Holders are eligible for the Approved Exporter Scheme, which comes into effect only when India incorporates it into a specific agreement with its partners and DGFT notifies it.

DGFT's companion Public Notice No. 01/2026-27, of the same date and from the same file, amends Para 2.90 of the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) 2023 under paragraphs 1.03 and 2.04 of the FTP 2023. It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, No. 104, dated April 8, 2026. It keeps clauses (a) and (b), which describe a CoO and its two categories, preferential and non-preferential, and adds two. Clause (c) says the list of authorized agencies to issue CoOs is notified in Appendix 2B, 2C, 2D and 2E. Clause (d) says all authorized agencies "must accept applications and issue CoOs only via https://www.trade.gov.in or such other platform as may be designated by DGFT from time to time". It adds: "Manual issuance outside of the designated platform is not permissible and may lead to revocation of authorization to issue CoO."

Neither document says what happens when the invoice numbers on a CoO and its shipping bill do not match, or how the automated verification works. Neither names the authorized agencies,

and neither deals with certificates issued before April 7, 2026; the Public Notice gives no date from which clause (d) applies. Later, Public Notice No. 10/2026-27 of May 11, 2026 and No. 15/2026-27 of June 2, 2026 added to Appendix 2B the agencies that issue preferential CoOs under the India-UK CETA and the India-Oman CEPA. Public Notice No. 17/2026-27 of June 4, 2026 added the Porbandar District Chamber of Commerce & Industries to Appendix 2E for non-preferential CoOs. Trade Notice No. 25/2026-27 of September 7, 2026 introduced an Open API facility for CoOs on the Trade Connect e-Platform, so that exporters can link their own software systems to DGFT's CoO system.

Issued by	Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Document	Notification No. 05/2026-27, S.O. 1806(E)
Dated	April 7, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 1738, April 8, 2026
Amends	Para 2.62, Foreign Trade Policy 2023
Takes effect	Immediately
Applies to	Certificates of Origin for exports from India, the agencies that issue them, and IEC holders availing them
Who may issue	Only agencies authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade
Invoice numbers	The same in the CoO and the corresponding shipping bill, to enable automated verification
Kept	The Approved Exporter Scheme for self-certification, now Para 2.62(b)
Companion Public Notice	Public Notice No. 01/2026-27, April 7, 2026, HBP Para 2.90(c) and (d): agencies listed in Appendix 2B, 2C, 2D and 2E; applications accepted and CoOs issued only via https://www.trade.gov.in or another platform DGFT designates; manual issuance outside the designated platform not permissible and may lead to revocation of authorization
Legal basis	Section 5, Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992; Para 1.02, Foreign Trade Policy 2023
Later	Public Notices No. 10/2026-27 (May 11, 2026) and No. 15/2026-27 (June 2, 2026): Appendix 2B agencies for the India-UK CETA and the India-Oman CEPA; No. 17/2026-27 (June 4, 2026): Porbandar District Chamber of Commerce & Industries added to Appendix 2E; Trade

	Notice No. 25/2026-27 (September 7, 2026): Open API facility for CoOs on the Trade Connect e-Platform
Signed by	Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade and Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India
File number	F. No. 01/02/60/AM-25/EG&TF

The notification (PDF, 766 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-09042026-271677.

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Read online: indusdesk.com/dgft/insights/only-dgft-authorized-agencies-may-issue-certificates-of-origin/