

K-43013(11)/1/2022-SEZ
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
SEZ Division

Vanijya Bhavan New Delhi
Dated 26 February, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Constitution of committee for larger reforms in SEZ policy - reg.

The undersigned is directed to convey the approval of the Competent Authority regarding constitution of a Committee for undertaking a background study focussed on harmonisation of various prevalent export promotion schemes including SEZs, EoUs, MOOWR, Advance Authorization, EPCG, DFIA and submit a concept paper recommending roadmap for broad-based and comprehensive reforms to formulate a SEZ 2.0 policy. The composition of the Committee is as follows:

i.	Additional Secretary (SEZ), Department of Commerce	Chairperson
ii.	Joint Secretary (SEZ), Department of Commerce	Member
iii.	Development Commissioner, SEEPZ	Member
iv.	Development Commissioner, MEPZ	Member
v.	DC (Customs), MEPZ	Member
vi.	DC (Customs), KASEZ	Member
vii.	DG, EPCES	Member
viii.	Representative from Chief Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs	Member
ix.	Representative from NITI Aayog	Member
x.	Representative from DGFT	Member
xi.	Representative from Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade	Member
xii.	Representative from TRU, CBIC, DoR	Member
xiii.	Representative from Customs Policy Wing, CBIC, DoR	Member
xiv.	Representative from GST Policy Wing, CBIC, DoR	Member
xv.	Representative from DGEP, DoR	Member
xvi.	Representative from International Customs Division, CBIC, DoR	Member
xvii.	Director (SEZ), Department of Commerce	Member
		Secretary

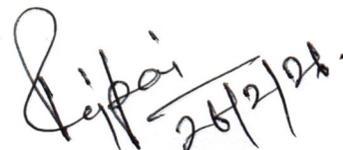
Committee may co-opt additional members as per the need.

2. Committee shall undertake a comprehensive examination as per Terms of Reference (TOR) given below. The Committee may conduct its deliberations in hybrid mode as well. The TOR of the said Committee shall be:

a. Review of Existing Framework:

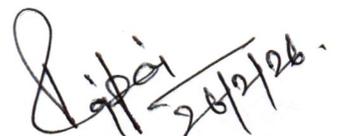
Examine the existing Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act, 2005 with a view to assessing their effectiveness in the current global trade, investment environment and macro-economic landscape and harmonisation with other export promotion schemes like EoUs, MOOWR, AA and EPCG so that policy distortion, if any, may be addressed.

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- b. **Assessment of Recent Reforms:**
Evaluate the impact of recent and proposed reforms in SEZ policy, including measures relating to Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) sales, fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, compliance requirements, and operational flexibilities, on exports, investment, employment and ease of doing business.
- c. **Export Competitiveness and Global Alignment:**
Analyse the alignment of the SEZ policy with India's export competitiveness objectives, international trade commitments (including WTO disciplines), and evolving global value chains.
- d. **Investment and Employment Outcomes:**
Assess the effectiveness of SEZs in attracting domestic and foreign investment, promoting manufacturing and services, technology up-gradation, value addition, and employment generation, including for MSMEs.
- e. **Operational and Procedural Bottlenecks:**
Identify operational, procedural, and regulatory challenges faced by SEZ developers and units, including issues relating to customs, taxation, approvals, compliance burden, infrastructure, and coordination among stakeholders.
- f. **Fiscal Implications:**
Review the fiscal impact of SEZs and related reforms on revenue, including foregone duties and taxes, and assess the cost-benefit outcomes in terms of exports, investment and economic activity.
- g. **Role of SEZs in Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India:**
Evaluate the role of SEZs in advancing national initiatives such as Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and sector-specific strategies, including integration with industrial corridors and logistics networks and catering to the sunrise manufacturing sectors like semiconductor, electronics components, green hydrogen, manufacturing services in a comprehensive manner.
- h. **International Best Practices:**
Study international best practices and comparable SEZ/free trade zone models and assess their relevance and adaptability to the Indian context.
- i. **Stakeholder Consultation:**
Engage with key stakeholders, including Central and State Governments, SEZ authorities, developers, units, industry associations, exporters, and other relevant entities, to obtain inputs and suggestions.
- j. **Recommendations and Roadmap:**
Recommend short-term, medium-term and long-term policy, legal and procedural reforms, including possible amendments to the SEZ Act/Rules, and suggest an implementation roadmap with clear timelines.

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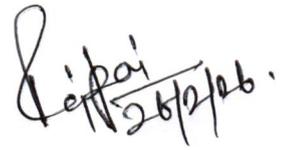
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k. **Any Other Matter:**

Examine any other issue relevant to strengthening the SEZ framework and ensuring its continued relevance as an engine of exports, investment and employment.

The Committee may constitute sub-groups, and call for records and data from concerned Ministries/Departments as considered necessary for effective discharge of its mandate.

3. The Committee shall submit concept paper/roadmap/suggestions/amendments within six months or a term as extended, along with its recommendations.
4. This issue with the approval of the competent authority.



(Prateek Bajpai)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

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To

All member of the committee.

Copy to - for nomination of officer well conversant in the subject matter:

- i. Secretary, DPIIT
- ii. Secretary, Department of Revenue
- iii. Chief Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs
- iv. CEO, NITI Ayog
- v. DGFT

Copy for information to:

- i. PPS to CS
- ii. Sr. PPS to AS(SEZ)
- iii. PS to JS(SEZ)
- iv. PS to Dir(SEZ)