

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

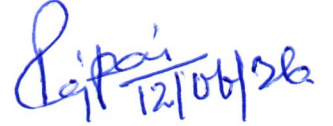
Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 12 June, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the second meeting of inter-departmental committee for SEZ reforms and harmonisation of various export promotion frameworks - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the second meeting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ajay Bhadoo, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce on 03.06.2026 regarding SEZ reforms and harmonisation of various export promotion frameworks.

2. This issue with the approval of the competent authority.



(Prateek Bajpai)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
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To

All member of the committee.

Copy to:

Sr. PPS to AS(AB)/PS to JS(VA)/PS to Dir (GP)

Minutes of the second meeting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ajay Bhadoo, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce on 03.06.2026 at 5.00 PM regarding SEZ reforms and harmonisation of various export promotion frameworks.

A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ajay Bhadoo, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce on 03.06.2026 regarding SEZ reforms and harmonisation of various export promotion frameworks. The list of participants may be seen at Annexure.

2. The Chair welcomed all participants. With regard to the roadmap for introducing reforms, Committee members agreed that any harmonisation should ensure that various benefits available across schemes may continue without adversely impacting current advantages to exporters. Thereafter, a presentation was made by Director (SEZ) wherein the inputs received from various members were discussed.

3. DG, SEZEPC suggested that based on industry feedback it may be deciphered as to what specific benefits are being received under different schemes. He also underlined that the reasons for opting a particular export promotion scheme over others by exporters should also be delineated. He cautioned that any large-scale changes/amendments in the existing export promotion scheme should be avoided as it would be disruptive for existing industry stakeholders. He highlighted that EOU & MOOWR are quite similar in terms of benefits and only minor differences exist on few parameters like depreciation benefits etc Therefore, he suggested that merging of EOU and MOOWR may be considered by the Committee.

4. The Chair pointed out that unifying all schemes would be a long drawn work as it could potentially involve changes in GST law necessitating intervention by GST Council. Therefore, the Committee should attempt for specific recommendations to rationalise export-promotion schemes thereby removing inconsistencies and precluding opportunities for scheme-shopping by exporters and other stakeholders. The Chair also suggested that biggest effort should be made on educating the industry stakeholders so as to make them understand which scheme fits best for specific needs and accordingly enable them to select the one best suited for them. The Chair also suggested that members of the Committee may visit any of the SEZs as per their convenience and suitable support would be provided by SEZs to make them understand better the functioning and issues.

5. DG, SEZEPC opined that the requirement of minimum land to set up an SEZ may be dispensed with. The matter was deliberated and it was felt that as SEZs are outside customs territory of India and require separate custom set up, therefore, it may not be administratively feasible to do away with the requirement of minimum land to set up an SEZ.

6. PrADG, DGEP suggested that as such an exercise happens once in a while, it is a great opportunity to study the global best practices for implementing similar provisions in domestic SEZs while removing any prevailing policy infirmities. PrADG, DGEP also suggested that the

Committee members should study four-five global champion SEZs so that best-practices can be introduced in the Indian SEZ ecosystem.

7. The Chair highlighted that Indian SEZs have been delinked from the domestic market unlike global benchmarks where SEZs have been given flexibility to access DTA market also. It was further discussed how such an access without creating injury to DTA units would facilitate optimal manufacturing capacity utilisation across SEZs.

8. The Chair suggested members to bring in the global best practices of the respective schemes, looked after by their Departments/Organisation, before the Committee.

[Action: All members]

9. The Chair requested DEA and NITI Aayog to examine and submit specific recommendations on integration of PLI with SEZs & other schemes and suggest ways to encourage anchor investors to set up SEZs. NITI Aayog may also suggest more inputs on the aspect of harmonisation of various export oriented frameworks.

[Action: DEA & NITI Aayog]

10. The Chair also requested DGFT to do stakeholder consultations on various schemes being executed by them so that any changes in the existing provisions may be identified.

[Action: DGFT]

11. Pr ADG, DGEP highlighted that the requirements of each sector are different. Therefore, Committee should consult major export oriented manufacturing sectors before framing the recommendations. Joint Secretary (SEZ) also suggested that stakeholder consultation should involve participants from all schemes i.e. SEZ, EOU, MOOWR, EPCG, Advance authorisation and DTA.

12. The Chair directed that SEZEPC may organise structured stakeholder consultations, including meetings, roundtables, and sector-specific interactions, with active participation from units operating under SEZ, EOU, MOOWR, and DTA frameworks. These consultations should aim to systematically capture stakeholder experiences regarding the operational benefits, procedural limitations, and comparative advantages of each scheme. Particular emphasis may also be placed on understanding the factors influencing stakeholders' choice of one scheme over another, including regulatory flexibility, fiscal incentives, compliance burden, and ease of doing business.

[Action: SEZEPC]

13. The Chair directed that the members may submit their inputs on the tasks assigned and stakeholder consultation may also be conducted at the earliest to enable the Committee to submit its recommendations in time.

14. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants:

1. Shri Alok Chaturvedi, Director General, EPCES
2. Shri Ranjan Khanna, Pr. ADG, DGEP
3. Shri Vimal Anand, JS(SEZ)
4. Shri Gaurav Pundir, Director (SEZ)
5. Shri Chandrakant Mishra, Additional DGFT, DGFT
6. Shri. Ramesh Kumar Verma, Joint DGFT, DGFT
7. Ms. Mira Sethi, Joint Director, DEA

Online participants:

1. Shri Dnyaneshwar Bhalchandra Patil, Development Commissioner, SEEPZ
2. Shri Alex Paul Menon, Development Commissioner, MEPZ
3. Shri T Nedoumaran, DC, Custom, MEPZ
4. Shri Bhanu Jain, DC, Custom, KASEZ
5. Shri Sanjeet Singh, Sr. Advisor, NITI Aayog
6. Ms. Shilpa Ahuja, Consultant Grade I, NITI Aayog
