

# DGFT Opens Window for Registration of Firms Seeking to Import IT Hardware

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**New Delhi:** The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has opened the window for registration of companies seeking to import IT hardware such as laptops and tablets, with a one-week target for approval of an application.

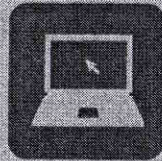
As per officials aware of the details, companies need to provide value and volume details around import/export of IT hardware along with domestic manufacturing for the past three years. The firms also need to disclose the country of origin for imports.

"The format for registration has been shared and companies can revert if some things need to be fine-tuned. It's a simple form, which can be filled in a few minutes," an official told ET.

This follows a decision taken by the government that there won't be any licensing

or quota for companies to import products, at least till September next year.

Representatives from the IT hardware industry along with officials from the ministry of electronics and IT (Meity) attended a meeting with DGFT on September 25 to discuss the registration process.



**It has been decided that for now, the registration will be valid from Nov 1, 2023 to Sept 30, 2024**

"Companies need to take single registration/authorisation and it will be valid at all the ports," said another official.

The industry can submit the details or

suggest any changes for the registration process. Companies need to provide the registration certificate to the customs department for importing IT hardware from November 1. Currently, no quota has been imposed and firms can import any quantity, but the government will start tracking the details.

The new mechanism is part of an import management system put in place by the government. The Centre wants the industry to familiarise itself with the new system, so that there are no disruptions. The government aims to meet up to 70% of the country's IT hardware requirement through local production in the next three years and reduce dependence on imports from non-trusted sources. In an August 3 notification, the DGFT had, citing security concerns, announced that the import of certain IT hardware would fall under the restricted category and would therefore require a licence.