

Draft Explosives (Amendment) Rules, 2024

On 13 January 2025, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade ('DPIIT'), functioning under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry introduced draft amendments to the Explosives Rules, 2008. The draft solicited public consultation within 30 days from its publication date, i.e. till 12 February 2025.

The proposed amendments aim to enhance regulatory efficiency while potentially strengthening safety measures under the Explosive Rules, 2008.

Key proposed amendments

Elimination of Rule 106(3): At present, this rule allows the licensing authority to issue licenses for manufacturing explosives or storage magazines for a maximum duration of five financial years. The proposed amendment seeks to remove this provision.

'Magazine' means a building or structure (other than an explosives manufacturing building) intended for storage of explosives, specially constructed in accordance with the specification provided under these rules or of a design and approved by the Chief Controller.

Extension of storage duration (Rule 112): The amendment suggests increasing the permissible storage period for certain explosives from the current limit of five years to ten years.

Additionally, the draft proposes that, except for licenses granted for a specified period not exceeding one year, all other licenses shall be renewable for a maximum period of ten financial years, concluding on 31st March. Furthermore, any license issued under these rules - apart from those for a fixed short-term duration—may be renewed for a maximum of ten years, provided there has been no violation of the Act, its associated regulations, or any license conditions.

This amendment could significantly reduce the frequency of renewals required for storage licenses, simplifying compliance procedures.

Weblink [https://egazette.gov.in/\(S\(yllvmveOhor2j04qwa0a50hp\)\)/ViewPDF.aspx](https://egazette.gov.in/(S(yllvmveOhor2j04qwa0a50hp))/ViewPDF.aspx)

Therefore

The proposed amendments will apply to chemical manufacturing units, mining, construction and defence industries amongst others. The amendments aim to simplify compliance, reduce administrative burdens, and enhance business continuity for companies handling explosives. The extended storage period and longer license validity could ease operational challenges, but strict adherence to safety norms remains crucial.