

FACILITY FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM RULE 14A DATED 21ST FEBRUARY, 2026

GSTN has enabled a new online facility for eligible taxpayers to apply for withdrawal from the option availed under Rule 14A of the CGST Rules by filing Form GST REG-32 on the GST Portal.

Who can apply: Active Taxpayers who are registered under Rule 14A, may apply for OPT OUT in accordance with the provisions of the law.

How to apply on the GST Portal:

- After login, navigate to: Services -> Registration -> Application for Withdrawal from Rule 14A
The link will be visible only if the taxpayer is registered under Rule 14A and is active.
- The field “Option for registration under Rule 14A” will be selected as “No” by default.
- Enter “Reason for withdrawal from Rule 14A”.
- Proceed to Aadhaar Authentication tab for Aadhaar Authentication of Primary Authorised Signatory and one Promoter/Partner.

Important timelines:

- Draft application must be submitted within 15 days of creation.
- Aadhaar/Biometric authentication must be completed within 15 days from submission.
- If authentication is not completed within the prescribed time, ARN will not be generated.

Source: <https://services.gst.gov.in/services/advisoryandreleases/read/650>

NOTIFICATION NO. 03/2026 - CENTRAL EXCISE, DATED 1ST FEBRUARY, 2026

This notification, issued under Section 5A (1) of the Central Excise Act, 1944, rescinds Notification No. 05/2023 - Central Excise (G.S.R. 78(E) dated February 01, 2023). It takes effect on February 02, 2026, revoking the previous excise duty exemption or concession, while protecting actions taken prior to this date.

Source: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010568/ENG/Notifications>

NOTIFICATION NO. 04/2026 - CENTRAL EXCISE, DATED 1ST FEBRUARY, 2026

This notification, issued under Section 5A (1) of the Central Excise Act, 1944, amends the principal Notification No. 03/2025 - Central Excise (dated 31st December 2025) to provide specific tax relief for tobacco farmers and primary producers. The full entries for the substituted and newly inserted serial numbers in the notification's table are as follows:

Sl. No. 1 (Substituted): 2401 – Unmanufactured tobacco or tobacco refuse, not bearing a brand name and not packed for retail sale. Rate: Nil.

Sl. No. 1A (Inserted): 2401 – Unmanufactured tobacco or tobacco refuse, other than Sl. No. 1 above (i.e., tobacco bearing a brand name or packed for retail sale). Rate: 18%.

Source: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010575/ENG/Notifications>

NOTIFICATION NO. 23/2026 - CUSTOMS (N.T.), DATED 24TH FEBRUARY, 2026

This notification, issued under sub-section (2) of Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, amended the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 36/2001 - Customs (N.T.), dated the 3rd August, 2001 to update tariff values for specified edible oils, brass scrap, gold, silver, and areca nuts. Key changes include setting Crude Palm Oil at \$1086/MT, Gold at \$1624/10g, and Silver at \$2817/kg, impacting import valuation for these items.

Source: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010587/ENG/Notifications>