MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 15th July, 2016

G.S.R. 701(E):—In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 21, 41 read with section 44 of the Arms Act, 1959 (54 of 1959), and in supersession of the Arms Rules, 1962, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely:—

CHAPTER I

General

1. Short title.—(1) These rules may be called the Arms Rules, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions.—(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(1) "Act" means the Arms Act, 1959 (54 of 1959);

(2) "air weapon" means a device that discharges a projectile from a barrel under the pressure of compressed air or other gas but that does not employ an explosive charge to do so;

(3) "antique small arm" means firearms manufactured before 1899;

(4) "appeal authority" means the appeal authority referred to in rule 105;

(5) "authority" or "officer" means, except where otherwise specifically provided in these rules, the district magistrate or such other officer as may, from time to time, be notified in the Official Gazette by the Central Government;

(6) "automatic" means a small arm or light weapon that, after each discharge, automatically performs all the steps necessary to prepare the weapon to fire again; and that will continue to fire for as long as the trigger (or other activating device) remains depressed (assuming that ammunition remains and jamming does not occur); and an automatic weapon uses a portion of the energy from a firing cartridge to extract the spent cartridge case from the firing chamber and eject it from the weapon, re-cock the firing mechanism and load a new round of ammunition from the weapon’s feed-device or magazine into the firing chamber and if the trigger or other activating device remains depressed, the firing pin is automatically released to begin a new firing cycle;

(7) "blank cartridge" means a cartridge without a bullet or any other projectile;

(8) "blank firing firearms" means firearms capable of firing a blank cartridge;

(9) "bullet" means the conical head of the cartridge normally made of lead or copper that is expelled out of barrel or cylinder by means of explosive charge or compressed air or other gas;

(10) "caliber" means the internal diameter or bore of the barrel of a firearm measured in inches or millimeters or geometric circumference;

(11) "carry" means to bear a small arm, upon, about or in the proximity of one’s person;

(12) "cartridge" means a complete object consisting of a cartridge case, primer, propellant, bullet or any single or multiple projectile;

(13) "chartered accountant" means a chartered accountant as defined in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 (38 of 1949) who holds a valid certificate of practice under sub-section (1) of section 6 of that Act;

(14) "company" has the same meaning as assigned to it in the Explanation under section 33 of the Act;
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"conversion" of firearms refers to a permanent change of caliber or bore of a firearm and includes replacement or relining or reboring of a barrel having an integral or separate chamber, replacement of cylinder and/or barrel or related parts and change in configuration of action or mechanism of a firearm but does not include converting a permissible category firearm into a restricted or prohibited category firearm;

"configured for military use" means firearms and ammunition (other than small arms and light weapons) manufactured and configured according to specifications set by the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence;

"curio" means a small arm manufactured at least fifty years prior to the current date or certified by the curator of a Government regulated museum or that derives at least half of its monetary value from the fact that it is novel, rare, bizarre, or associated with some historical figure, period, or event and includes an antique small arm;

"deactivation" means to render a small arm or light weapon incapable of expelling or launching a shot, bullet, missile or other projectile by the action of an explosive, and which cannot be readily restored to its original capability, and that has been certified and marked as deactivated by an accredited gunsmith or a competent State authority.

Explanation.

Deactivation requires that all pressure-bearing components of a small arm or light weapon be permanently altered in such a way so as to render the weapon unusable and includes modifications to the barrel, bolt, cylinder, slide, firing pin and receiver or frame;

"dealer" means a person who, by way of trade or business, buys, sells, tests (other than proof-test), exports, imports or transfers or keeps for sale, or test (other than proof-test) arms or ammunition and includes the Sports Authority of India (SAI), the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) and the State Rifle Associations affiliated to NRAI or directly affiliated units of NRAI;

"dedicated sports person" means a person who actively participates in sports-shooting and who is a member of an accredited sports shooting organisation;

"electronic disabling device" means an electronic device capable of firing electrode projectiles propelled by compressed gas, which stays connected to the main unit or device by a conductive wire, and causes temporary neuro-muscular incapacitation of the target;

"Government arms" means a firearm or other weapon which is the property of Government; and

"Government ammunition" means ammunition manufactured in any Government factory or prepared for and supplied to Government other than such ammunition as may be released by Government for civilian use;

"gunsmith" means any person who performs work of minor or major repairs of firearms and subject to grant of prior permission of the licensing authority, may alter the caliber or barrel length of a firearm or perform such other work as may be specified by the licensing authority;

"handgun" means a small arm with a short stock at an angle to and extending below the line of the barrel that is designed to be held and fired with one hand and includes pistols and revolvers;

"in-transit" means the conveyance through India to another country of firearms or ammunition that have been imported;

"firearm replica" means an object designed to resemble a firearm which has an appearance that is so realistic as to make it indistinguishable, for all practical purposes, from a real firearm and which has been rendered innocuous;

"Form" means a Form as set out in Schedule III of these rules;

"light weapon" means any non-portable weapon designed for use by two or three persons serving as a crew (although some may be carried and used by a single person) that expels or launches, is
designed to expel or launch, or may be readily converted to expel or launch a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive and includes, inter alia, heavy machine guns, hand-held under barrel and mounted grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of anti-tank missile and rocket systems, portable launchers of anti-aircraft missile systems, and mortars of a calibre of less than 100 millimeters, as well as their parts, components and ammunition;

(29) "main firearm component" means the barrel, frame or receiver, slide, bolt or breech-block of a firearm;

(30) "manufacturer" means a person, who manufactures, sells, tests (other than proof-test), exports, imports or transfers or keeps for sale, or tests (other than proof-test) firearms, their parts, components or ammunition or arms other than firearms;

(31) "manufacturing" means making, producing or assembling —

(i) a complete firearm;
(ii) a pressure-bearing part or component of a firearm (e.g. barrel, slide, cylinder, bolt, breech lock, firing pin, etc.);
(iii) ammunition for firearm, or
(iv) an arm other than a firearm, and includes —

(i) reactivating a deactivated firearm; and
(ii) substantially modifying the function of a firearm (e.g. conversion to fully automatic), but does not include —

(i) repair, restoration, maintenance or cosmetic enhancement or alteration of a firearm; or
(ii) the non-commercial reloading of ammunition;

(32) "marking" means application of permanent inscriptions on firearms, ammunition and ammunition packaging to permit their identification;

(33) "muzzle energy" means the kinetic energy of a projectile as it is expelled from the muzzle of a firearm and expressed in joules or foot-pounds;

(34) "NDAL" means National Database of Arms Licences;

(35) "paintball" means a projectile (spherical gelatin capsule) that primarily consists of non-toxic water soluble substances and dye designed to mark a person or an object;

(36) "paintball marker or paintball gun" means a device capable of firing paintballs by use of an expanding gas or compressed air, whether operated mechanically or electro-pneumatically;

(37) "parts and components" mean any element or replacement element specifically designed for a firearm and essential to its operation and includes barrel, frame or receiver, slide or cylinder, bolt or breech block, and any device designed or adapted to diminish the sound caused by firing;

(38) "pistol" means a handgun with a chamber as an integral part of, or permanently aligned with, the barrel;

(39) "port" includes a seaport, an airport and a land port;

(40) "rimless" means a cartridge where the rim has the same diameter as the base of the case and used in firearms that feed from a box magazine;

(41) "rimmed cartridge" means where the rim has a significantly larger diameter than the base of the cartridge with the rim serving to hold the cartridge at the proper depth in the chamber;

(42) "revolver" means a handgun with a breech-loading, chambered cylinder so arranged that the cocking of the hammer or depression of the trigger rotates the cylinder and brings the next cartridge in line with the barrel for firing;
"repair" of firearm may be minor or major –

'minor repair' includes –

(i) cleaning and carrying out re-finishing, fixing slings, recoil pads, installation of pre-fabricated stock, general accessories, preservative packaging and ensuring accuracy or safe working of the firearm and its components;

(ii) fabricating or replacing or working on old, damaged, worn-out, eroded, shot-out part of a firearm (excluding barrels or receivers or frames or breech bodies or bolts) for the purpose of repair and safe functioning;

(iii) making and replacing stocks, grips (butt stock) and other parts;

(iv) ensuring accuracy or safe working of the firearm by means of carrying out work on complete bareded action, fabricating, fitting or adjusting optics, sights, other components, etc., including test firing;

(v) making and installing accessories and tuning fabricated parts.

'major repair' requires extensive primary and secondary machining operations of critical parts and includes –

(i) working on critical parts including fabrication of components like barrels and actions (re-boring, or re-chambering or replacing or remaking barrels, re-machining of receivers or frames, bolts, slides, cylinders, breech, etc. and other components) for the purpose of repair or conversion;

(ii) shortening, conversion, working on triggers, safeties and general safety testing of firearms and devices including firing or testing of firearms repaired or converted.

"responsible person" means in the case of a company, the person nominated in an application for an arms licence by a company;

"rifle" means a small arm designed to expel, through the action of an explosive, a single projectile through a rifled barrel, while supported against the shoulder and held with both hands;

"Schedule" means a Schedule appended to these rules;

"selective fire" means capability of a small arm or light weapon that can be adjusted to fire in two or more of the following ways:

(i) semi-automatic (i.e. one shot per depression of the trigger);

(ii) multi-shot burst (i.e. a set number of shots per depression of the trigger); or

(iii) automatic (i.e. continuous fire while the trigger is depressed)

"self-loading" means semi-automatic;

"semi-automatic" means a small arm or light weapon that, after each discharge, automatically performs all of the steps necessary to prepare the weapon to fire again, but that requires a separate depression of the trigger to fire each round of ammunition;

"shotgun" means a small arm designed to expel, through the action of an explosive, shot or a single projectile through a smooth-bored barrel, while supported against the shoulder and held with both hands;

"small arm" means any man-portable lethal weapon designed for individual use (of caliber up to 12.7 mm) that expels or launches, is designed to expel or launch, or may be readily converted to expel or launch a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive and includes inter alia, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns, as well as their parts, components and ammunition but does not include antique small arms and firearm replica.
Note:
Shotguns, sporting rifles and muzzle loading black powder firearms, though of caliber of more than 12.7 mm are also covered under small arms:

(52) "shooting" means competitive and recreational sports that involve tests of proficiency (accuracy and speed) using permissible category of firearms, ammunition and targets;

(53) "section" means a section of the Act;

(54) "trade transfer" means sale or transfer of arms or ammunition between a manufacturer and a dealer or between a dealer and another dealer during the normal course of the business and includes a sale or transfer on consignment basis;

(55) "unloaded" means that any propellant, projectile or cartridge which can be discharged from the firearm is not contained in the breech-block or firing chamber of the firearm nor in the cartridge, magazine or cylinder attached to or inserted into the firearm;

(56) "use of a firearm" includes displaying, aiming and firing as well as manipulating the working parts of a firearm but does not include cleaning or maintenance;

(57) "UIN" means Unique Identification Number generated in NDAL for a licensee under these rules.

(11) Words and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. Classification of arms and ammunition.—For the purposes of the Act and these rules, arms and ammunition shall be of the categories specified in columns (2) and (3) respectively of Schedule I and references to any category of arms or ammunition in these rules shall be construed accordingly.

4. Licence for arms other than firearms and applicability of section 4.—(1) Unless the Central or the State Government by notification in the Official Gazette so directs, no licence shall be required for the manufacture, sale, possession for sale or test, of arms of category V in Schedule I except in the areas notified under section 4.

(2) In any area specified in the notification issued by the Central Government under section 4 of the Act, licence for acquisition, possession or carrying in that area of arms of such class or description as may be specified in that notification may also be granted or renewed as provided in Schedule II, subject to such conditions as may be specified in these rules, that Schedule and in the licence.

CHAPTER II

Licensing Procedure

5. Licensing authority and forms of licences.—Licences under Chapter II of the Act may be granted or renewed for, such purposes, by such authorities, in such forms and to be valid for such period and in such areas as are specified in Schedule II, subject to such conditions as are specified in these rules, that Schedule and in the licence.

Provided that the licences granted or renewed by a licensing authority may be signed by such officer subordinate to that authority as may be specially empowered in this behalf by the State Government.

6. Restriction in granting licences for acquisition, possession or carrying of arms or ammunition of category 1 of Schedule I. No licence shall be granted for acquisition, possession or carrying of arms or ammunition specified in category 1(b) or 1(c) in Schedule I unless they have been legally manufactured in India lawfully possessed or lawfully imported into India or are being imported into India with the sanction of the Central Government.

7. Licensing authorities to furnish information to district magistrate.—(1) A copy of every licence granted for arms or ammunition specified in category 1(a), 1(b), 1(c) and category II in Schedule I shall forthwith be sent to the district magistrate of the place in which the arms or ammunition are to be kept.
(2) A copy of every other licence granted in any Form by any authority other than a district magistrate shall be sent forthwith to the district magistrate having jurisdiction over the area in which the place of business or residence of the licensee is situated.

(3) The licences granted under sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2) shall be intimated through NDAL system to the district magistrate of the place having jurisdiction over the area in which the place of business or residence of the licensee is situated.

8. Possession of arms or ammunition for certain purposes to include use thereof. — Possession of the following arms or ammunition for the purposes mentioned against each, includes use thereof, for such purposes only provided that such use does not involve manufacture of any arms or ammunition (including explosives and fireworks):—

(a) arms for theatrical performance, historical re-enactment, historical research (including assessment of performance), cinematograph or television production or signaling for starting races or athletic meets and safety equipment including signal flare guns, line throwing guns, avalanche cannon, etc.;

(b) ingredients of ammunition including sulphur and chlorates for bona fide industrial, agricultural or medicinal purposes.

9. Restrictions by Central Government in certain cases. — Any licence having effect outside the State in which it is granted, shall be subject to any restrictions, which may be imposed by a general or special order of the Central Government.

10. Safe use and storage of firearms. — (1) Every applicant applying for a licence in Form II, Form III and Form IV; or a rifle club or association or firing range or staff employed by such club, association or firing range, applying for a licence in Form V; or a manufacturer or dealer or gunsmith or staff employed by such manufacturer, dealer or gunsmith applying for a licence in Form VII, Form VIII, Form IX or Form IX-A, shall be required to complete arms and ammunition safety training course which shall include—

(a) basic arms and ammunition safety practices, including safe handling and carry procedures;

(b) firing techniques and procedures;

(c) care of arms and ammunition;

(d) safe storage and transportation of arms and ammunition;

(e) reasonable working knowledge of important provisions of the Act and these rules; and

(f) responsibilities of the arms owner or user, particularly in relation to children.

(2) The safety training course under sub-rule (1) shall be conducted by the accredited trainer or master accredited trainer having licence under rule 39, who shall issue a certificate in Form S-1, to the applicant, on successful completion of the said course.

(3) The effective date and duration of the safety training course as laid down in sub-rule (1) shall be notified by the Central Government by issuing a general or special order in this regard.

(4) Every application for a licence in Form II, Form III and Form IV shall be accompanied by—

(a) a written undertaking that the applicant has the capacity to store the firearms safely and securely in a safe or steel almirah in order to minimize the risk that it could be stolen or accessed by someone other than the licence, and

(b) a written undertaking to practice safe storage of the firearms (in knocked down condition) and its ammunition and to educate the children about the dangers of interacting with arms and ammunition, in Form S-2.

(5) The licensing authority responsible for the grant or renewal of a licence shall conduct periodic inspections of the premises of companies, dealers, gunsmiths and manufacturers where arms and ammunition are stored in order to ensure compliance with safety requirements.

11. Application for licence. — (1) Every application for the grant of a licence under these rules—
(a) shall be submitted in Form A-I to A-14 as applicable to the category of the licence applied;

(b) may be presented by the applicant in person or sent through the medium of post office or filed electronically or otherwise, to the licensing authority, as far as possible, having jurisdiction in respect of the place where the applicant resides or has his occupation.

(2) Where the grant of licence requires a certificate of no objection from some other authority as provided in rule 98, shall state whether such certificate has been obtained and, if so, be supported by evidence thereof either in physical form or by an electronically generated confirmation on NDAL system for the particular UIN of the applicant.

(3) Every application for grant of licence for special category under Chapter III of these rules, shall be subject to such additional requirements specified for these categories in that chapter.

(4) Every application in Form A-I submitted by an individual for grant of a licence in Form II, Form III or Form IV shall be accompanied by the following documents, namely:—

(a) four passport size copies of the latest photograph of the applicant (in white background);

(b) proof of date of birth;

(c) identification proof —

(i) Aadhar Card; or

(ii) in case the applicant does not have Aadhar Card, a written declaration in the form of an Affidavit to be submitted in this regard along with an alternative identification proof which may include Passport or Voter’s Identification Card or Permanent Account Number (PAN) card or Identity Card issued to the employee;

(iii) in case of exemptee sports persons, shooters identification card issued by the National Rifle Association of India.

(d) residence proof in case the applicant does not possess Aadhar Card or Passport, which may include —

(i) voter’s identification card; or

(ii) electricity bill; or

(iii) landline telephone bill; or

(iv) rent deed or lease deed or property documents; or

(v) any other document to the satisfaction of the licensing authority.

(e) safe use and storage of firearms undertaking referred to in sub-rule (4) of rule 10;

(f) for professional category applicant, referred to under clause (a) of sub-rule (3) of rule 12, self-attested copies of the educational and professional qualification certificates, whenever applicable;

(g) medical certificate about mental health and physical fitness of the applicant, with specific mention that the applicant is not dependent on intoxicating or narcotic substances (in Form S-3);

(h) in case of an application for a licence in Form IV, the particulars specified in sub-rule (2) of rule 35 along with a permit from the authority empowered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972);

(5) Every application in Form A-2 submitted by a company for the grant of a licence in Form II or Form III, shall be accompanied by the following documents, namely:—

(a) written undertaking on the letter head of the applicant duly signed by the responsible person defined under clause (44) of rule 2;

(b) original copy of the board resolution passed or an authority letter confirming the appointment of responsible person referred to in clause (a);

(c) certified copies of the founding documents of the company including Memorandum and Articles of Association;
(d) safe use and storage of firearms undertaking referred to in sub-rule (4) of rule 10.

(6) An application by a member of the armed forces of the Union shall be made through his Commanding Officer to the licensing authority having jurisdiction in respect of the place to which he is for the time being posted.

(7) The licensing authority may, in accordance with any instructions issued by the State Government in respect of all or any class of firearms, require the personal attendance of the applicant before granting the licence under this rule.

(8) The applicant shall not suppress any factual information or furnish any false or wrong information in the application form.

12. Obligations of licensing authority in certain cases.—(1) Save as otherwise provided in the Act, every licensing authority granting a licence in Form I to an individual for the restricted or permissible arms or ammunition as specified in category I(b) and I(c) or category III respectively in Schedule I, shall have due regard to the application of norms specified in sub-rules (2) and (3).

(2) For grant of a licence for the restricted arms or ammunition specified in category I(b) and I(c) in Schedule I, the licensing authority, may consider the application of—

(a) any person who faces grave and anticipated threat to his life by reason of—

(i) being resident of a geographical area or areas where militants, terrorists or extremists are most active; or

(ii) being the prime target in the eyes of militants, terrorists or extremists; or

(iii) facing danger to his life for being inimical to the aims and objectives of the militants, terrorists or extremists; or

(b) any Government official who by virtue of the office occupied by him or by the nature of duty performed by him and/or in due discharge of his official duty is exposed to anticipated risk to his life; or

(c) any Member of Parliament or Member of Legislative Assembly, who by virtue of having close or active association with anti-militant, anti-terrorist or anti-extremist programmes and policies of the Government or by mere reason of holding views, political or otherwise, exposed himself to anticipated risk to his life; or

(d) any family member or kith and kin of a person who by the very nature of his duty or performance (past or present) or position occupied in the Government (past or present) or even otherwise for known or unknown reasons exposed himself to anticipated risk to his life; or

(e) any other person, for any legitimate and genuine reason, to the satisfaction of the licensing authority, by passing of a speaking order in this regard.

Provided that before grant of a licence under this sub-rule, the licensing authority based on the recommendations of the district magistrate and of the State Government concerned and on examination of the police report and after conducting a separate verification from its own source, shall satisfy itself that the applicant requires such licence.

(3) For grant of a licence for the permissible arms or ammunition specified in category III in Schedule I, and without prejudice to the provisions contained in clause (a) of sub-section (3) of section 13, the licensing authority, based on the police report and on his own assessment, may consider the applications of—

(a) any person who by the very nature of his business, profession, job or otherwise has genuine requirement to protect his life and/or property; or

(b) any dedicated sports person being active member for the last two years, of a shooting club or a rifle association, licensed under these rules and who wants to pursue sport shooting for target practice in a structured learning process; or

(c) any person in service or having served in the Defence Forces, Central Armed Police Forces or the State Police Force and has genuine requirement to protect his life and/or property.
13. **Time limit for grant of licence.**—The licensing authority, after considering the application and on being satisfied that the applicant has fulfilled the eligibility conditions, shall grant or refuse to grant a licence for permissible category of arms or ammunition specified in category III of Schedule I, to any person by recording in writing the reasons for such grant or refusal, by passing a speaking order, within a period of sixty days of the receipt of the police report:

Provided that the licensing authority shall specify, the type of arms and ammunition to be procured by the applicant after assessing the reason and the need for possession of the type of arms and ammunition applied for by the applicant, considering its lethality or fire-power.

14. **Time limit for police report for grant of licences.**—(1) On receipt of an application for grant of a licence under sub-section (1) of section 13 or every subsequent renewal thereof under section 15, the licensing authority shall call for a report of the officer-in-charge of the nearest police station on that application, and such officer shall send his report in Form S-4, within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of application by him.

(2) The Central Government may by issuance of a general or special order, extend the period of thirty days as specified in sub-rule (1) up to ninety days for certain areas or States for any reason deemed appropriate by it.

(3) The licensing authority may in case of non-receipt of police report within the period of thirty days under sub-rule (1) or within the extended period under sub-rule (2), make an order in writing for grant or refusal of licence, without further waiting for the report.

15. **Maintenance of records in electronic format and consolidation of licences.**—(1) Every licensing authority and the renewing authority specified in Schedule II, while granting a license or renewing a license, thereof, shall enter the data of the record locally in an electronic format specified by the Central Government.

(2) Every licensing authority and the renewing authority shall also enter such data in the NDAL system which shall generate a unique identification number (UIN) and with effect from the 1st day of April, 2017, any arms license without UIN shall be considered invalid.

(3) The UIN so generated under sub-rule (2) shall be unique for a licensee.

(4) Any existing licensee holding multiple licences in Form III shall on or before the 1st day of April, 2017, make an application for grant of a single licence in respect of all the firearms held by him under his UIN, to the concerned licensing authority:

Provided that where the applicant applying a licence for restricted category of arms or ammunition specified in Schedule I is also a holder of a licence for permissible category of arms or ammunition specified in the said Schedule, or where the applicant applying for permissible category of arms or ammunition is also a holder of a licence for restricted category of arms or ammunition specified in the said Schedule, the licensing authority concerned shall issue a new licence for such restricted or permissible category of arms or ammunition, as may be applicable, under the existing UIN of the licensee:

Provided further that separate licence books shall be generated in case of each licence in Form II, Form III and Form IV and in case of a licence in Form III, separately for restricted and permissible categories of arms and ammunition specified in Schedule I, with an overall ceiling of three firearms under a single UIN.

(5) The licensing authority on receipt of an application from a multiple licence holder under sub-rule (4) shall cancel the existing multiple licences of the applicant and issue in lieu thereof, a new licence endorsing therein, all the existing firearms of the said licensee.

(6) The period of validity of the new licence so issued by the licensing authority under sub-rule (5) shall be the furthest period as mentioned in any of the cancelled licences and the area validity endorsed on the new licence shall be the more extensive area in any of the cancelled licences.

16. **Duty of licensing authority under NDAL.**—(1) The licensing authority, while granting or renewing a licence or at the time of providing any allied service to any licensee under these rules shall ensure that the data of the transaction approved by him, is simultaneously updated in the electronic format locally and on the NDAL system under its log-in ID:
Provided that the licensee shall not be held accountable for failure on the part of the licensing authority to update such data in the electronic format.

(2) The licensing authority shall ensure compliance of delivery of different services specified in column (2) of Schedule V, within the time specified in column (4) of the said Schedule.

17. **Registration of licence with an outside licensing authority and change of address with existing licensing authority.**—(1) If a person who holds a licence in Form III changes his place of residence, permanently, or temporarily for a period of more than six months, and carries with him the arms covered by the licence, to a place falling, other than within the jurisdiction of the existing licensing authority indicated in the licence, he shall, immediately before the expiry of a period of six months, send intimation about such change to the licensing authority of the place of his new residence and shall on demand, forthwith produce the licence and the arm or arms to the new licensing authority by applying in Form B-1 and indicating there in the particulars of his new residence.

(2) The licensing authority of the new place of residence of the licensee on receiving an application in Form B-1 under sub-rule (1), shall within a period of fifteen days, register the licensee in the NDAL system whereby the UDIN of the licensee shall stand activated and transferred to its jurisdiction and de-activated from the records of the original licensing authority or the last renewing authority as the case may be and thereupon a new licence book shall be issued to the licensee and such new authority shall be the licensing or the renewing authority in relation to the said licence.

(3) Where the licensee changes his permanent place of residence within the jurisdiction of the existing licensing authority, he shall forthwith inform the same to the licensing authority with the proof of his new place of residence and if such change has resulted in change of jurisdiction of police station, along with information of the police station of his new place of residence and the licensing authority shall within a period of fifteen days, register the change of residence of the licensee in the NDAL system whereby the UDIN of the licensee shall stand activated under the new police station and deactivated from that of the last police station.

18. **Permission for possession of arms to be acquired subsequent to grant of licence.**—When a licence is granted in Form II, Form III, Form IV or Form V for the possession of arms to be acquired by the licensee subsequent to the grant of the licence, the authority granting the licence shall at the time of granting the same, direct that the arms covered by the licence shall be acquired within a period of two years and that the licence or the arms or both shall be produced for his inspection and if within the said period of two years, the licensee fails to acquire the arms and to produce the licence, or the arms or both, as the case may be, the licence shall cease to be in force:

Provided that the licensing authority may extend the period of two years by a further period of one year, on the basis of a written representation received from the licensee and after recording the reasons for granting such an extension:

Provided further that if during the period of two years or the extended period of one year, as the case may be, the licence wishes to acquire and possess any arm or arms of a different description and the licensing authority has no objection to allow the acquisition and possession of such arm or arms, he may amend the licence accordingly:

Provided also that where the licensee changes his place of residence, after the grant of licence but before acquisition of any arm, he may produce the licence or arm or both for inspection before the licensing authority of the place of his new residence to which the licensee may have shifted and the said authority on inspecting the arm, shall register and update the information on NDAL system:

Provided also that the provisions contained in this rule shall apply mutatis mutandis to any acquisition of an additional arm or arms which the licensee may desire to acquire subsequent to grant of licence on account of sale or transfer or disposal of the arms or arms already possessed or otherwise as a fresh acquisition subject to the overall limit of three firearms.

19. **Extension of area validity of licence.**—(1) On receipt of an application from a licensee holding a licence in Form III, the licensing authority may extend the area of validity specified in his licence, if he is satisfied about
the need of such extension subject to the condition that the licensing authority has the power to grant a licence in relation to the area to which extension is being sought.

(2) The application for extending the area validity for whole of India may be granted by the licensing authority as specified in column (5) of Schedule II, in respect of the following category of licensees, namely:

(a) Union Ministers or Members of Parliament;
(b) Personnel of Defence Forces and Central Armed Police Forces;
(c) Officers of All-India Services;
(d) Officers in the Government or Government Sector Undertakings or Public Sector Undertakings with liability to serve anywhere in India;
(e) Dedicated sports persons and the sports persons specified in serial numbers (1) to (4) of the table in sub-
rule (2) of rule 40.

(3) In other cases, where the licensing authority is satisfied that the nature of business or profession of the applicant requires him to carry arm or arms frequently beyond the existing jurisdiction and such a requirement may not be met by the issuance of a journey licence in Form XI of these rules, the application for extending the area validity for whole of India may be granted by the licensing authority specified in column (5) of Schedule II to the applicant.

20. Additional licences for individuals. — (1) The holder of a licence in Form III, for permissible category of firearms, as specified in Schedule I may apply for grant of additional licence for any two of his close relatives who are not in possession of any licence in Form III and who are residing with him at the address given in the licence, to possess, carry or use any of the arms or ammunition covered by his licence and the licensing authority shall grant a licence to such additional licensee if the eligibility conditions under the Act and these rules are fulfilled by the said additional licensee and there are no adverse remarks in the police report.

(2) The additional licensee under his UIN shall be granted a separate licence, with the arms and ammunition of the parent licence endorsed thereupon.

Provided that the additional licensee shall not be permitted to acquire any arms or ammunition on his licence.

(3) The additional licensee shall not obtain a licence in his individual capacity during the period he holds an additional licence under this rule.

(4) The licensing authority shall ensure that the details of additional licensees are endorsed on the parent licence and the period of validity and the area validity of the additional licence are pari passu with that of the parent licence and if the parent licence is suspended, revoked or cancelled, the additional licences shall also be subject to the same consequence.

(5) The additional licensee shall not sell or transfer the arms and ammunition endorsed on his licence.

(6) In case the holder of an additional licence shifts temporarily or permanently from the premises of the parent licensee, such additional licence shall automatically lapse and the person to whom such additional licence was issued, shall return his licence to the licensing authority by whom the licence was issued and the responsibility for furnishing such intimation to the licensing authority shall be that of the parent licensee.

(7) The parent licensee may request the licensing authority to revoke or cancel the licence of any of his additional licensees by submitting an application along with the original licence and in all such cases, the licensing authority shall revoke or cancel the licence of the additional licensee.

Explanation. —

For the purposes of this rule, 'close relatives' mean spouse, son, daughter, brother and sister.

21. Retainers for exemptees. — (1) A licence in Form III A for possession and carrying of arms or ammunition may be granted to a person nominated to be his retainer by a person exempted under section 41 of the Act from licensing requirements;
Provided that the retainer shall have no right, independent of the person so exempted, to use the arms or ammunition covered by the licence, and the licence shall cease to be in force on the day on which the person so exempted has ceased to be an exemptee, or the retainer has ceased to be a nominee of the exemptee.

(2) The licensing authority shall obtain a report from the Police, about the antecedents of the retainer nominated under sub-rule (1) and take into consideration such report before admitting him as a retainer in a licence granted in Form III-A.

22. **Retainers for companies.**—(1) A licence in Form II or Form III granted to a company for the protection of its premises or property shall be in the name (with designation) of the responsible person who shall be accountable and responsible for the custody of the arms and ammunition.

(2) The name of a servant or any other employee entrusted with the arms and ammunition for guarding the premises or property of the company shall be entered as a retainer in the licence.

(3) The licensing authority shall issue to the licensee a permit in Form III-B for each of such retainers shown in the licence and such permit shall remain in the personal custody of the responsible person of the company and shall be handed over to the retainers when they are entrusted with the arms and ammunition covered by the licence:

Provided that the licensee at the time of making application for retainer shall submit along with the application in Form II-B, four recent passport size photographs of the retainer to be appointed and the proof of his employment with the company:

Provided further that the licensing authority, shall obtain a report from the Police about the antecedents of the retainer and take into consideration such report before admitting him as a retainer.

(4) On an application from a company, holding a licence in Form II or Form III, for a change of the responsible person of the company in whose name the licence has been granted or of a retainer included in the licence, the necessary amendments may be made in the licence by the licensing authority.

23. **Restriction on the quantity of ammunition used in breech loading firearms.**—(1) For the purposes of the Act and these rules, quantity of ammunition for the licences granted in Form II, Form III or Form IV for breech loading firearms shall be restricted as under, namely:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum purchasable during a calendar year (per firearm)</th>
<th>200</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum to be possessed at any given time (per firearm)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) (a) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (1), the State Government concerned may allow a higher quantity of ammunition in exceptional cases on merits and on the basis of good and sufficient reasons to be recorded in writing.

(b) The Central Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs may allow a higher quantity of ammunition in exceptional cases by issuance of a general or special order in this regard.

24. **Renewal of licences.**—(1) Every licence may, at its expiration and subject to the same conditions (if any) as to the grant thereof, be renewed by the authority mentioned in Schedule II as renewing authority within a period of thirty days of receipt of the police report:

Provided that the licence so renewed may be signed in the appropriate column of the licence by such officer as may be specifically empowered in this behalf by the State Government under rule 5.

(2) An application for renewal of a licence for arms or ammunition shall be filed in the Form wherein specified at least sixty days prior to the expiry of the said licence with the licensing authority along with the documents wherein specified in the Form:

Provided that in the case of arms and ammunition deposited under sub-rule (1) of rule 48, the renewal application may be filed either by the depositor, or where it is not practicable to make the application direct.
through the dealer or any other person authorised by him in writing in this behalf, while the arms or ammunition continue to be so deposited.

(3) The authority issuing a licence shall ordinarily be responsible for watching all future renewals of the licence:

Provided that where a licensee notifies a change of his place of residence, permanently or temporarily for a period of more than six months, to the licensing authority of the district in which the renewal is sought, the licensing authority of that district shall thenceforth become responsible for watching all future renewals of his licence.

(4) The new renewing authority shall, in respect of a licensee who notifies a change of his place of residence under sub-rule (3), register the licensee under its own jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions specified in rule 17 and carry out the renewal thereof and forthwith, inform the original issuing or last renewing authority.

(5) The licensing authority may consider an application for renewal of a licence, if the period between the date of its expiry and the date of application is not, in his opinion, unduly long with due regard to the circumstances of the case, and all renewal fees are paid; otherwise the application may be treated as one for grant of a fresh licence.

(6) The licensing authority may, in accordance with any instructions issued by the State Government in respect of all or any class of firearms, require the personal attendance of the applicant before renewing the licence under this rule.

25. Grant of licences to legal heirs.—(1) The licensing authority may grant a licence —

(a) after the death of the licensee, to his legal heir;
or

(b) in any other case, on the licensee attaining the age of seventy years or on holding the firearm for twenty-five years, whichever is earlier, to any legal heir nominated by him:

Provided that notwithstanding the provisions contained in rule 12 of these rules, the licensing authority may grant a licence to such legal heir if the eligibility conditions under the Act and these rules are fulfilled by the said legal heir and there are no adverse remarks in the police report.

(2) Where a licensee leaves behind more than one legal heir and the legal heirs decide amongst themselves to retain the arm or arms of the deceased, one of the legal heirs nominated by all other legal heirs may apply for a licence under sub-rule (1) along with the following documents, namely—

(i) a declaration of no objection from the remaining legal heirs;

(ii) an indemnity bond executed by the applicant giving full details of the licence and the arm or arms endorsed thereon, and

(iii) a copy of the death certificate of the deceased licensee.

(3) Where the legal heirs decide to dispose of the arm or arms endorsed on the licence of the deceased licensee, they may apply to the licensing authority for grant of a limited period permission to sell the arm or arms, within the time allowed by such authority, to any licensed dealer or to any other person entitled to possess an arm under these rules.

Explanation:—

For the purposes of this rule, 'legal heir' includes husband, wife, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister and grandchildren of the licensee or the deceased licensee.

26. Certain licences to be in book form.—A licence in Form II, Form III, Form IV or Form V generated under the UIN of the licensee in NDAL system, shall be in book form serially numbered and strictly as per the formats specified in the rules and in case of individuals, shall contain the latest photograph of the licensee:

Provided that the licence book for restricted category of firearms shall be of dark maroon colour and for permissible category of firearms shall be of navy blue colour.
Provided further that the licensing authority may get the licence books printed and serially numbered locally and levy fee for providing licence books as specified in Schedule IV.

27. **Fees for Licences.**—(1) (a) Every licence granted or renewed under these rules shall, save as herein otherwise expressly provided, be chargeable with the fee (if any) specified in Schedule IV.

(b) In any case where fee is prescribed for a year, fee for a fraction of a year shall be the same as for a whole year.

(2) Where a licensee submits his application for renewal of his licence after the expiry of the period for which the licence was granted, the licensing authority may, if he decides to renew the licence, at his discretion, levy —

(a) full fee as for initial grant of the licence; and

(b) a late fee of rupees two thousand, if he is satisfied that the delay is not justifiable or excusable, nor serious enough to warrant revocation of the licence or prosecution of the licensee:

Provided that if an application for renewal for a licence in Form III is made within one month from the date on which the licence expires, no late fee may be leviable.

(3) The Central Government may, by issuance of a general or special order and for reasons to be recorded in writing and subject to such conditions, if any, as it may specify in the order, grant exemption from, or reduction of, the fee payable in respect of any licence:

Provided that it shall be a condition of every exemption from payment of the fee chargeable in respect of the grant or renewal of any licence in Form III that if application for renewal of such licence is not made within one month from the date on which the licence expires, the licensing authority may, unless the applicant satisfies the licensing authority that he had sufficient cause for not making the application within that period, levy renewal fee at the rate specified in Schedule IV.

(4) Differential fee shall be chargeable in respect of a change of type of the arm or ammunition entered in a licence granted for its acquisition under second proviso to rule 18, if the licence fee in respect of the arm or ammunition so changed is higher than that for the original arm or ammunition.

28. **Fee payable for copies and duplicates.**—Where a licence granted or renewed under these rules is lost or accidentally destroyed, the authority empowered to grant such licence may grant a duplicate licence on payment of the fee with which the original licence was chargeable.

29. **Collection of fees.**—All fees payable shall be paid in cash or by way of bank pay-order or demand draft or electronic banking transfer at the time of application.

30. **Inspection of arms by the licensing authority.**—The authority by whom any licence in Form II, Form III, Form IV or Form V has been granted or renewed may, for the purpose of satisfying itself that any arms covered by such licence are still in the possession of the licensee at the time of renewal or at any time while the licence is in force, by order in writing require the licensee to produce the arm or arms at such time and place for inspection of such officer as may be specified in the order.

31. **Production of licences.** Any person who holds a licence granted or renewed, or a permit or certificate granted under these rules shall forthwith produce such licence, permit or certificate upon demand by any magistrate or any police officer of a rank not below that of an officer-in-charge of a police station.

32. **Restrictions on carrying of firearm in public place.**—(1) No person shall carry a firearm in a public place unless the firearm is carried—

(a) in the case of a handgun—

(i) in a holster or similar holder designed, manufactured or adapted for the carrying of a handgun and attached to his person, or

(ii) in a rucksack or similar holder;

(b) in the case of any other firearm, in a holder designed, manufactured or adapted for the carrying of a firearm.
(2) A firearm contemplated in sub-rule (1) must be completely covered and the person carrying the firearm must be able to exercise effective control over such firearm.

(3) Brandishing or discharge of firearms or blank-firing firearms in any public place or a firearm free zone is strictly prohibited.

(4) Any violation of this rule shall be liable to revocation of the licence and seizure of the firearm in addition to the penalty specified under the Act.

33. Correction of information. — (1) Any request for correction of the information contained in a licence which has been incorrectly uploaded in the NDAL system shall be made by submitting a written application together with supporting documents, to the concerned licensing authority.

(2) Where an application referred to in sub-rule (1) concerns the detail of a firearm which has been incorrectly reflected on a licence, the licensing authority may call for the physical inspection of the firearm to confirm the details of the firearm or call for a certificate from a gunsmith holding a licence in Form IX or an armorer working with Defence Forces, Central Armed Police Forces and State Police Forces.

(3) The gunsmith or armorer referred to in sub-rule (2), on having examined the firearm, shall issue a certificate stating the action, design, type, make, model, caliber and serial number or additional marking of the firearm.

(4) The correction of information shall take place at no cost to the applicant where the error in uploading the information was attributable on the part of the licensing authority.

34. Identification marks on firearms. — (1) A person, who has in his possession any firearm which does not bear distinctly a manufacturer’s name, number or other identification mark shall get the identification mark stamped on the firearm after obtaining prior approval of the licensing authority which will consist —

(a) such distinct letters as may be prescribed for the purpose by the State Government;

(b) serial number of the arms licence; and

(c) the year of stamping.

in that order on the barrel and the frame, or the barrel and the receiver of the firearm.

(2) When an imported firearm kept for sale by a dealer does not bear the manufacturer’s name, such distinguishing mark of the importer as allowed by the State Government shall be engraved on the barrel and the frame, or the barrel and the receiver of the firearm after obtaining prior permission of the licensing authority.

Provided that if a barrel bears more than one number, the distinguishing mark shall be affixed so as not to interfere with the number appearing on the original invoice:

Provided further that where the manufacturer’s number appears only on the trigger-guard or other replaceable part, that number shall also be engraved on the barrel and the frame, or the barrel and the receiver of the firearm.

CHAPTER III
Special categories of licences

35. Licence for destruction of wild animals which do injury to human beings or cattle and damage to crops. — (1) The grant of arms licences under this rule shall be subject to the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (55 of 1972), in respect of the States and Union Territories where the said Act is applicable.

(2) The application under this rule for grant of a licence in Form IV shall specify details of the land and cultivation requiring protection and area in which the arms and ammunition are required to be carried.

(3) Where, after the end of any harvest season, the State Government considers it expedient that for the protection of wild life in any area, any arms or ammunition licensed in Form IV should be deposited in a police station or with a licensed dealer, it may, by order, require any licensee to deposit such arms or ammunition for such period as the arms or ammunition are not required for the purposes for which the licence
is granted and as may be specified therein, and thereupon the licensee shall be bound to comply with such
order.

36. **Licence for training and target practice.**—(1) Any person below the age of twenty-one years but not below
the age of twelve years may be allowed to use permissible category of arms for the purposes of training in the
use of such arms in the immediate presence, or, under the direct supervision and guidance, of an adult
instructor or the licensee:

Provided that no person below the age of twenty-one years shall be allowed, to carry any permissible
category of arms requiring a licence in a public place except in the immediate presence and supervision of the
person who is lawfully authorised to carry such arms by the licensee.

(2) Any person who applies for a licence to possess permissible category of arms in Form III in order to
practice sport shooting shall be required to show evidence that he participates in such activities or that he is in
a structured learning process.

(3) The use of arms that are licensed for the purpose of sport shooting shall be limited to practice and
competition at sport shooting clubs or at shooting ranges.

(4) A dedicated sports person, holding a licence in Form III shall be able to lend his arms temporarily for a
period not exceeding three months for the purpose of sport only to another dedicated sports person lawfully
entitled to possess such type of arms and subject to the conditions that

(a) the arm is used by the borrower in the presence of the licence holder or under his written authority along
with a certified copy of his licence, which shall show the number and other identification marks of the arm and
the period for which it is lent;

(b) in the event of the arm being misused by, or stolen or lost due to the gross negligence of the borrower,
the licence of the lender thereof shall be liable to be revoked in addition to being liable to be prosecuted under
the provisions of the Act; and

(c) the borrower shall, on demand produce proof of such lending.

(5) Where in the absence of lender, the borrower of arms under sub-rule (4), intends to take the arms and
ammunition to a shooting range for training or target practice or participation in a shooting competition, he
shall carry a written authority in Form V-A signed by the lender in respect of the arms and ammunition and in
the area and for the period specified in the said written authority along with a certified copy of the arms
licence of the lender:

Provided that where the arms or ammunition are intended to be taken out of the State, the written
authority shall be attested by the President or Secretary of the district or State rifle association, with whom
such lender is registered.

*Explanation.*—For the purpose of this rule, an "adult" means a person who has completed the age of twenty-
one years.

37. **Licence for sport shooting association.**—(1) Sport shooting association or a club or a military mess affiliated
to the respective State Rifle Association or National Rifle Association of India, shall be eligible to apply for a
licence in Form V and to acquire and possess arms and ammunition that are used and/or stored at their
premises.

(2) An application under sub-rule (1) for grant of a licence at the time of initial grant or at every subsequent
renewal thereof, shall be submitted along with the following documents, as may be applicable, namely:-

(a) its memorandum and articles of association and the membership rules;

(b) the list of office bearers and permanent members;

(c) particulars of the accredited shooting range for training and target practice;

(d) details of the training/target practice activities undertaken for promoting or encouraging the sport of

(e) details of the shooting sport tournaments or events conducted;
(f) details of safe storage of arms and ammunition specified under rule 10; and

(g) complete records of the ammunition consumed by the club or association and/or its members.

(3) Where a licence in Form V has been granted in the name of any sport shooting association or club or a military mess, it shall be lawful for any member of such mess, club or association to use the arms or ammunition covered by such licence at the approved shooting range mentioned in the licence for the purpose of training and target practice, subject to the conditions of the licence.

(4) Where a member of a rifle club or association intends to take the arms and ammunition out of the premises of the club or association for the purpose of repair or to a shooting range for training or target practice or for participation in a shooting competition, he shall be required to carry a pass in Form V-B signed by the President or the Secretary of the club or association in respect of the arms and ammunition and in the area and at the period specified in the pass.

38. Licence for shooting ranges.—(1) Any person, applying for a licence for an indoor or an outdoor private shooting range, shall be required to meet the technical and security standards as may be specified by the Central Government in this regard by passing a general or special order:

Provided that the licensing requirements shall not be applicable to indoor ranges up to ten metres used for target practice of air pistols and air rifles.

(2) No licence shall be granted under this rule unless the owner or operator of such shooting range has in place adequate financial arrangements to meet any injury or damage claims resulting from third party insurance covers or mandatory bank guarantees or bond requirements:

Provided that the ranges owned and operated by military, Central Armed Police Forces and State Police Departments shall normally cover their own risk as per the respective internal guidelines.

(3) The Sports Authority of India or the National Rifle Association of India or the State Sports Authority or the State Rifle Association shall conduct regular inspection of their affiliated associations or bodies, owning or operating such ranges at regular intervals to ensure strict adherence to safety standards and other norms laid down for shooting ranges.

(4) The licensing authority may also conduct periodic or surprise inspection of all categories of firing ranges falling under its jurisdiction to ensure adherence to technical and security conditions applicable to such ranges.

(5) Practical training regarding the safe and efficient handling of arms and testing of arms during which ammunition will be fired, may only be undertaken at an accredited shooting range that holds a licence in Form V.

39. Licence for accredited trainers.—(1) Any person applying for a licence to be an accredited trainer shall be required to clear the eligibility test and undergo training before being granted a licence under this rule:

Provided that the policy guidelines containing syllabus and conduct of examination for accredited trainers may be specified by the Central Government by passing a general or special order in this regard.

(2) Any person applying for grant of a licence to be a master accredited trainer shall be required to possess the technical knowledge and expertise in handling various types of small arms and submit the documentary evidence to the satisfaction of the licensing authority in this regard:

Provided that the policy guidelines for grant of licences to master accredited trainers may be specified by the Central Government by passing a general or special order in this regard:

Provided further that master accredited trainers shall be entitled to impart training to the accredited trainers referred to in sub-rule (1).

(3) Master accredited trainers and accredited trainers, having been granted a licence under this rule shall be eligible to:

(i) impart training as specified in rule 10 to the applicants and licensees under these rules; and
(ii) issue training certificates to different types of trainees on the successful completion of the stipulated
training programme.

(4) The norms for making available the shooting ranges for imparting training to accredited trainers may be
specified by the Central Government by passing a general or special order in this regard.

(5) The shooting ranges as referred to in sub-rule (4) shall include the Government shooting ranges owned or
operated by Defence Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, State police departments; and the private shooting
ranges owned and operated by shooting clubs or associations having been granted a licence in Form V of these
rules.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this rule, master accredited trainers refer to small arm experts having
worked in Defence Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, State Police Forces; and international medalists and
renowned shooters as defined under the Explanation to rule 40.

40. Quantity of ammunition to sports persons, shooting associations, etc.—(1) The quantity of ammunition
allowed to various categories of sports persons for their personal consumption and shooting sport
organisations shall be as per the limits laid down in the table given below, namely:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Persons or class of persons</th>
<th>Type of firearm</th>
<th>Quantity and description of each kind of ammunition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To be possessed at any one time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arjuna awardee</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>100000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>for all types of firearms collectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>International medalist/</td>
<td>Rifle/Pistol .22 LR;</td>
<td>50000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>renowned shooter</td>
<td>Center-fire rifle with caliber up to 8 mm;</td>
<td>for all types of firearms collectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Revolver/Pistol;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shotgun of caliber up to 12 bore/gauge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Junior target shooter</td>
<td>Rifle/Pistol .22 LR;</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center-fire rifle with caliber up to 8 mm;</td>
<td>for all types of firearms collectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Revolver/Pistol;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shotgun of caliber up to 12 bore/gauge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aspiring shooter</td>
<td>Rifle/Pistol .22 LR;</td>
<td>15000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center-fire rifle with caliber up to 8 mm;</td>
<td>for all types of firearms collectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Revolver/Pistol;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shotgun of caliber up to 12 bore/gauge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.No.</td>
<td>Category of sports person</td>
<td>Certifying body</td>
<td>Certifying conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arjuna Awardee</td>
<td>Government of India in the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports</td>
<td>The certificate shall state that the award was conferred for excellence as a shooter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
Shotgun calibers of caliber up to 12 bore/gauge, mean and include the lesser calibers of 16, 20, 28 and 410 bore etc.

(2) For the purposes of this rule, certifying bodies and certification contents shall be as specified in the table given below, namely:-
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>International medalists/renowned shooters</td>
<td>National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 and 4</td>
<td>Junior target shooter/aspiring shooter</td>
<td>National Rifle Association of India or the approved or affiliated State Rifle Association(s) of NRAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Other shooters</td>
<td>National Rifle Association of India or affiliated State Rifle Association(s) of NRAI or Shooting Clubs/District Rifle Association affiliated with State Rifle Association.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shooting Clubs/ District Rifle Associations affiliated with State Rifle Associations or National Rifle Association of India</td>
<td>State Rifle Association or National Rifle Association of India as applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Rifle Association</td>
<td>National Rifle Association of India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Rifle Association of India</td>
<td>Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shooting Ranges</td>
<td>Sports Authority of India/Sports Authority of the State Government/National Rifle Association of India</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explanation. — For the purposes of this rule,

(a) "international championship" means the Asian Games, the Asian Shooting Championship, the Asian Women or Asian Junior Shooting Championships, the Commonwealth Games, the Commonwealth Shooting Championships, the Olympic Games, the World Junior or Senior Shooting Championships and the World Cups in Senior as well as Junior events;

(b) "international medalist" means a person who has won an individual or team medal in an international championship;

(c) "renowned shooter" means a person who has participated in a National Shooting Championship in an Open Men’s Event or Open Women’s Event or Open Civilian’s Event whether through qualifying tournament or wild card entry conducted in accordance with the rules of International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) and has attained the Minimum Qualifying Score prescribed by the National Rifle Association;

(d) "junior target shooter" means a person who has completed the age of twelve years but is below the age of twenty-one years and has taken part in at least one State Championship (held once a year) or in the Zonal Championship or National Level Shooting Competition recognised by National Rifle Association and/or by respective State Rifle Association;

(e) "aspiring shooter" means a person who has taken part in at least one State Championship (held once a year) or in the Zonal Championship or National Level Shooting Competition recognised by National Rifle Association and/or by respective State Rifle Association;
Rifle Association and/or by respective State Rifle Association and attained the prescribed Minimum Qualifying Score specified by the National Rifle Association of India.

41. **Licence to museums.** (1) Any museum applying for a licence for display of arms and ammunition must possess due accreditation with the Ministry of Culture and registration under any of the Central or State Acts.

(2) The application under sub-rule (1) shall be accompanied by—

(i) a description of the display mechanism that will be used to display the arms or ammunition;

(ii) documentary proof that the display will be in an accredited museum;

(iii) description and specifications of the security measures pertaining to storage, transport and safe custody of the arms or ammunition to be displayed;

(iv) a description of the access control to the museum where the arms or ammunition will be displayed; and

(v) a certificate that the museum will be open for public.

(3) The arms and ammunition shall be displayed or stored under the control of the appointed curator of the museum or a person authorised thereto in writing by the curator, who shall ensure that necessary steps are taken to prevent any unauthorised access and the loss of the arms and ammunition.

(4) The arms and ammunition shall only be used for the display and/or storage by the museum at the registered premises of the museum as mentioned in the licence.

(5) The licence may display a firearm only if—

(a) the firearm is unloaded;

(b) the firearm is secured by a chain or metal cable that is passed through the trigger guard with one end of the chain or cable attached to a wall or permanent fixture, in such a manner as to prevent the removal of the firearm by a person other than the curator or a person authorised by him;

(c) the firearm is rendered inoperable by means of a secure locking device and displayed at a place and in a manner that is accessible only to the curator or a person authorised by him.

42. **Licence for arms and ammunition for theatrical, film or television productions.**—(1) A licence for acquisition, possession, carry or use of arms and ammunition may be issued in Form III to the applicants for the following purposes, namely:

(i) theatrical performances and of rehearsals for such performances;

(ii) in the production of films;

(iii) in the production of television programmes;

(iv) the organisation and holding of historical re-enactments;

(v) signalling for starting races or athletic meets.

(2) The application for a licence under this rule shall be submitted along with the following documents, namely:

(i) an undertaking confirming that the applicant shall not resort to conversion of firearms replica and blank firing firearms into firearms;

(ii) proof to the satisfaction of the licensing authority that the applicant is an actual user or a contractor for providing such arms or ammunition on hire for the purposes specified in sub-rule (1);

(iii) description of security measures pertaining to safe custody of arms or ammunition to be implemented by the applicant.
(iv) an undertaking that the applicant or the person to whom the arms are given on hire, shall not use live ammunition.

(v) details of the place where the records in respect of the issue of arms or ammunition will be kept for inspection by the licensing authority or by any Police Officer not below the rank of an Inspector.

43. Acquisition, possession and export of arms or ammunition by tourists visiting India.—(1) A licence in Form VI may be granted to any tourist, to acquire, possess (but not use) during the course of his stay in India, carrying and export out of India, of arms and ammunition specified in category III, category IV and category V of Schedule I:

Provided that every application for the grant of a licence for export of arms specified in category IV of Schedule I shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Director-General of Archaeology of the Central Government to the effect that the arms intended to be exported do not fall within the definition of “antiquity” under the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (52 of 1972).

(2) The licensee shall produce the arms or ammunition, at the time of leaving India and return his licence to the passport checking authority, or other authority empowered by the district magistrate in this behalf, at the port or other place of departure from India.

(3) The passport checking authority or other authority to whom the licence is returned by the licensee, shall forward the same to the authority who issued it, with the remarks that the arms or ammunition have been duly exported.

44. Licence to an International sports person for participation in shooting events in India. —(1) An application may be made in Form A-5 by any sports person of any age group from any country who is eligible to participate in the shooting competition or event or series of competitions or series of events or for training being organised in India by any sports body recognised by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of India during the period of the event or competition or training and at the venue fixed for the same, and a licence may be granted to such applicant for arms and ammunition specified in category III of Schedule I so far as practicable, one month prior to the expected date of arrival of the sports person in India.

(2) The licence in the case of a group application may be issued in the name of the manager or the official accompanying the team or group and the details of the arms and ammunition may be given in an annexure attached to and forming part of the licence by the issuing licensing authority.

(3) Where a licence is granted to an International sports person or persons under sub-rule (1), the licence together with the passport and visa of such person, shall be presented to the licensing authority of the port of arrival, and the said authority shall after obtaining the undertaking in writing from the licensee that he shall not sell or transfer the arms or ammunition to anyone in India, endorse the licence making it valid for a period of six months or till the validity of visa, whichever is earlier, from the date of endorsement and shall also make an entry in the passport or the visa giving full particulars of the arms and ammunition for which the licence has been granted.

(4) The licensee shall produce the arms or ammunition at the time of leaving India along with the consumption certificate of the ammunition issued by the authority under whose control the shooting competition or event or training was conducted and return his licence to the passport checking authority, or other authority empowered by the district magistrate in this behalf, at the port or other place of departure from India.

(5) The passport checking authority or other authority to whom the licence is returned by the licensee under sub-rule (4), shall forward the same to the authority who issued it, with the remarks that the arms or un consumed ammunition have been duly re-exported.

45. Other temporary categories of import/export licences.—(1) A licence in Form VI may be granted of arms and ammunition specified in category III of Schedule I so far as practicable, six months prior to the expected date of arrival in India, to the following persons, namely:

(a) a foreign visitor, to display the arms and ammunition at a trade show or at a sport trade show.
(b) an official of a foreign government or a distinguished foreign visitor or a foreign law enforcement officer, on an officially approved policing assignment, on the recommendations of the Government of India in the Ministry of External Affairs;

(c) a person who, for other legitimate reasons, has received prior approval of the Government of India and where the applicant submits an undertaking to the effect that he—

(i) has lawful possession of the arm;

(ii) has knowledge of the safe handling, safe-storage and use of the arm in question and where applicable, its public display;

(iii) has need to possess the arm and cannot reasonably satisfy that need by means other than the possession of an arm; and

(iv) has attained the minimum age of twenty-one years.

(2) The validity of the licence so granted under sub-rule (1) shall commence only from the date of endorsement of the said licence at the time of arrival at any port in India and the arms and ammunition covered by the licence shall not be used till the date of endorsement of the licence.

(3) Where a licence is granted to any person under sub-rule (1), the licence together with the passport and the visa of the person, shall be presented to the licensing authority of the port of disembarkment, and the said authority shall after obtaining the undertaking in writing from the licensee that he shall not sell or transfer the arms or ammunition to any one in India, endorse the licence making it valid for a period of six months from the date of endorsement or till the validity of visa, whichever is earlier and shall also make an entry in the passport or the visa giving full particulars of the arms and ammunition for which the licence has been granted.

(4) The passport checking authority or any other officer empowered by the district magistrate in this behalf at the port or other place of departure from India shall verify that the arms entered in the licence are being taken out of India by the licensee and recover the licence and forward the same to the authority who issued it with the remarks that the arms have been duly re-exported.

46. Licence for firearm free zones.—(1) The owner or lawful occupier of a premises may submit an application in Form A-14 along with supporting documents specified therein, to have the said premises declared a Firearm Free Zone, to the licensing authority of the place of jurisdiction of the applicant—

(i) stating the reasons why the premises must be declared as Firearm Free Zone;

(ii) giving proof of capacity to maintain the premises as a Firearm Free Zone;

(iii) describing the method of communication to inform the public that the premises is a Firearm Free Zone.

(2) The obligations of the licence shall include—

(i) to clearly identify and demarcate the premises declared as a Firearm Free Zone;

(ii) to ensure that notices be displayed at all the main entrances or at strategic places on the premises or category of premises both in English and local language declaring the premises as Firearm Free Zone;

(iii) to ensure that the notices and signs are clearly visible and unobscured at all times; and

(iv) to notify the licensing authority of change, if any, in the information submitted at the time of application.

(3) The licensing authority may issue a licence in Form XV for the Firearm Free Zone to any educational institution including schools, colleges, universities; or religious places, hospitals, courts, Government establishments, entertainment or sports venues, restaurants, hotels, shopping malls, cinema halls or such other public places on an application for such licence made under sub-rule (1).

(4) The provisions of this rule for Firearm Free Zone shall not be applicable in the following cases—

(i) to an individual who renders security and surveillance duty to a lawful owner or occupier of the Firearm Free Zone; and

(ii) to a law enforcement officer acting in his official capacity.
CHAPTER IV

Deposit of arms and ammunition

47. Deposit of arms and ammunition under section 21. — (1) When a licensing authority decides to suspend or revoke a licence or to refuse to renew it, he shall, communicate his decision in writing to the licensee, requiring him to deposit under section 21, within such time as may be specified in the order suspending, revoking or refusing to renew the licence, the arms or ammunition covered by the licence, either with the officer-in-charge of the nearest police station or with a dealer holding a licence in Form VIII, or, in case he is a member of the armed forces of the Union, in the unit armory.

Provided that in case of death of a licensee, the arms or ammunition shall be deposited by the legal representative with the officer-in-charge of the nearest police station or with a dealer holding a licence in Form VIII, within a period of three months of the death of the licensee.

(2) Subject to the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 21, the licensee or, in the case of his death, his legal representative shall be entitled to sell or otherwise dispose of the arms or ammunition to any person lawfully entitled to possess the same and to receive the sale-proceeds, if any, during the period specified in column (3) of the Table in case of deposit of arms and ammunition mentioned in column (2) of the said table in sub-rule (6): Provided that if the arms or ammunition have not been disposed of or in possession by the licensee or his legal representative, as the case may be, has not become lawful within the period so specified, then such arms or ammunition shall, subject to the proviso to sub-section (3) of section 21, be forfeited to the Government by an order of the district magistrate.

(3) Where any arm or ammunition is deposited by an owner under sub-section (3) of section 21, in a police station or unit armory or with a dealer holding a licence in Form VIII, the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armory or the licensed dealer, as the case may be, shall attach to each article deposited, a card and issue a receipt to the depositor and send a copy to the authority who granted the licence or renewed it last, containing the following particulars, namely:

(i) Description (No. etc.) of the article,
(ii) Particulars of licence or exemption (if any);
(iii) Name and address of the depositor;
(iv) Serial No. in register and date of deposit;
(v) Date due for forfeiture or disposal;
(vi) Signature of the depositor; and
(vii) Signature of the dealer or officer-in-charge of police station or unit armory.

(4) Any arms or ammunition deposited in a unit armory under sub-section (1) of section 21 may, unless returned or disposed of earlier, be transferred, after the expiry of a period of thirty days after such deposit, to the nearest police station.

(5) Any arms or ammunition deposited in a police station under sub-section (1) of section 21, which have not been returned or disposed of —
(i) within thirty days of the deposit with it; and
(ii) transferred from the unit armory under sub-rule (4)
may be transferred by the officer-in-charge of the police station for the sake of better maintenance or safety, to a police station in the district/district headquarters or such other place as may be specified by the district magistrate, in accordance with such instructions as may be issued by the State Government for the purpose:

Provided that the district magistrate may, if he considers it necessary, extend the said period of thirty days up to sixty days and intimation of such transfer shall be given to the depositor of the article and to the licensing authority who, granted or last renewed the licence.
(6) The depositor or his legal representative may exercise his rights to receive back or dispose of any arms or ammunition under sub-section (2) of section 21, within the period specified in column (3), in case of deposit of the arms or ammunition specified in column (2) of the table given below, namely:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Reason of deposit of arms and ammunition</th>
<th>Effective date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Due to contravention by the owner of any provisions of the Act, the rules or conditions of licence</td>
<td>One year from the date of such deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Due to suspension or revocation of licence or for any other reason</td>
<td>One year from the date of the order of suspension or revocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Where the arms or ammunition are already deposited</td>
<td>One year from the date of the order of revocation, suspension or refusal to renew the licence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>When a notification is issued under section 4</td>
<td>One year from the date of said notification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Where an appeal is preferred by the owner under section 18</td>
<td>One year from the date of the final order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Where the arms or ammunition are the subject of a legal suit or dispute, or owned or inherited by a person who has not completed the age of twenty-one years</td>
<td>From the date of termination of the dispute or the date of final order; or One year from the date of completion by that person of the age of twenty-one years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Where the owner is on active service outside India</td>
<td>From the date of his return to India</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1—The period of one year may be extended by the district magistrate by another six months in case the depositor or owner is found unfit for any reasons to carry such arms or ammunition.

Note 2—The State Government may further extend the said period beyond six months by another six months.

(7) Any arms or ammunition not returned or disposed of before the expiry of the period specified under sub-rule (6) shall be transferred to the district magistracy or such other place, by order of the district magistrate, for the purpose of forfeiture under sub-section (3) of section 21:

Provided that the district magistrate shall, before making such order of forfeiture, serve a notice as required under sub-section (4) of section 21 in like manner as for service of summons under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1973).

Provided further that in the case of the depositor being a member of the armed forces of the Union the notice shall be served personally, through the Commanding Officer, of such member.

(8) Charges for maintaining the articles deposited may be levied in such rates as may be fixed from time to time by the State Government.
48. Deposit of arms and ammunition for safe custody (otherwise than under section 21).

(1)(a) A person lawfully possessing arms or ammunition may deposit them for safe custody with a dealer holding a licence in Form VIII or in a police station or, if he is a member of the armed forces of the Union, in a unit armory.

(b) Before accepting the arms or ammunition for deposit otherwise than under section 21, the dealer or officer-in-charge of a police station or unit armory shall satisfy himself that they are possessed under a valid licence issued under the Act and these rules or under exemption from the need for such licence.

(c) Members of the armed forces of the Union may be allowed to keep their arms or ammunition in safe custody in a unit armory only during the tenure of their service.

(2) Where the arms or ammunition have been deposited under sub-rule (1), the dealer or officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armory, as the case may be, shall attach to each article deposited, a card, easily distinguishable from that described in rule 47 and issue a receipt to the depositor and send a copy to the authority who granted the licence or renewed it last, containing the following particulars, namely:

(i) Description (No. etc.) of the article;
(ii) Name and address of the depositor;
(iii) Particulars of licence or exemption (if any);
(iv) Serial No. in register and date of deposit;
(v) Date of expiry of the licence;
(vi) Date up to which deposited;
(vii) Signature of the depositor; and
(viii) Signature of the dealer or officer-in-charge of police station or unit armory.

(3) In the event of failure to get the licence renewed, the arms or ammunition shall continue to be possessed by the dealer on the authority of his licence in Form VIII or by the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armory; but, if the licence is not renewed, after its expiry, the dealer or the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armory shall bring this to the notice of the district magistrate for such action as he may consider necessary.

Provided that the articles shall in no case be returned to the owner unless the licence to possess them is renewed or a new licence is obtained.

(4) The depositor may be charged a fee for the custody of the articles deposited and maintenance thereof at the rates specified in the following table, namely:

| 1. | For each firearm | Two hundred rupees per month or portion thereof |
| 2. | For every other arm or package of ammunition | One hundred rupees per month or portion thereof |

(5) Any extra charges for maintenance of the articles in good condition may be levied at such rates as may be fixed from time to time by the State Government.

(6) The fee charged for depositing the arms or ammunition in the police station and unit armory shall be deposited in the treasury.

49. Records and returns of articles deposited. (1) The dealer or the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armory, shall maintain such registers as specified in rule 75.

(2) A copy of the entries in the registers relating to the quarters ending on the last day of March, June, September and December, each year, certified as true copy under the signature of the dealer or officer-in-
charge of the police station or unit armoury, as the case may be, shall be forwarded, to the district magistrate as early as possible after the expiry of each quarter.

(3) The licensed dealer or the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armoury or officer-in-charge of police armoury in the district/lalua headquarters, where the arms or ammunition are kept, shall submit to the district magistrate by the 15th December each year, a report showing the particulars of arms or ammunition in their custody which have, or will become liable to forfeiture by the end of that year.

(4)(a) The licensed dealer, the officer-in-charge of the police station or unit armoury or officer-in-charge of police armoury in the district/lalua headquarters where the arms or ammunition are kept, shall establish an online electronic connectivity under his user-id with the NDAL system to provide for a weekly electronic online transfer of data regarding firearms and ammunition deposited for the week.

(b) If any circumstances occur which prevent the authorities referred to in clause (a) to submit online returns on NDAL system by means of electronic network connectivity, the local licensing authority shall be informed immediately in order to establish alternative means to submit the weekly returns.

(c) Weekly returns for the current week shall be submitted by the close of business hours on every Saturday.

50. **Inspection.**—(1) Arms and ammunition deposited in a police station or with a dealer and those transferred to the district/lalua and the register maintained for the purpose shall be inspected periodically by the district magistrate or other officer appointed by the State Government in this behalf in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed by the State Government.

(2) The arms or ammunition deposited in a unit armoury and the register maintained for this purpose shall be inspected periodically by the officer commanding the unit or any other officer empowered by him in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Government of the State, where the unit is for the time being located.

**CHAPTER V**

**Manufacturers, Arms Dealers and Gunsmiths**

**PART I**

**Manufacture and Proof Test of Firearms**

51. **License for manufacture and proof test.**—(1) The licensing authority while granting a licence in Form VII shall show clearly in the licence form the categories and description of the arms or ammunition allowed to be manufactured or proof tested or both, by the licensee as specified in these rules.

(2) Proof-testing of firearms manufactured by a licensed manufacturer shall be carried out only in accordance with the provisions contained in rule 59 in this regard and no manufactured firearms shall be allowed to be sold which have not been duly proof tested.

(3) A copy of every licence granted in Form VII by the licensing authority shall forthwith be sent to the district magistrate of the place of manufacturing facility of the licensee and the Home Department of the State Government concerned.

(4) Entities granted fresh licences under the provisions of these rules shall be known as new manufacturers whereas the entities or persons already holding manufacturing licences under the Arms Rules, 1962 in Form IX shall be known as existing manufacturers.

(5) Separate licences shall be issued for each unit in case of an applicant company applying for a multi-unit facility for grant of a licence under this rule.

(6) A licensing committee within the Ministry of Home Affairs shall be constituted to review and process the applications for grant of licences for manufacture of arms and ammunitions for the new manufacturers and for all matters related to existing manufacturers including applications for capacity revision by issuance of general or special order under these rules.
52. **Type of firearms for grant of a licence in Form VII for manufacture and proof test.**—The licensing authority may grant a licence in Form VII for the following types of arms for manufacture or proof test or both, namely—

(i) I  — Small arms
(ii) II — Light weapons
(iii) III — Items configured for military use:

Provided that if any of the items falling under type I, II or III include any prohibited arms or ammunition, the licensing authority shall obtain prior permission of the Central Government under section 7 of the Act before grant of a licence in Form VII.

53. **Applications for a licence in Form VII.**—(1) Every manufacturer applying for a fresh licence under these rules shall be an Indian company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013);

Provided that the applicant company is owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens or by Indian companies, owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens except in respect of a company having Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) beyond forty-nine percent:

Provided further that the Chief Executive of the company is a resident Indian and the management of the applicant company is in Indian hands with majority representation on the Board excluding nominee or independent directors except in respect of a company having Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) beyond forty-nine percent.

(2) The company applying for a licence in Form VII under these rules shall provide—

(a) original or certified copies of the company’s founding documents including Memorandum and Articles of Association, Certificate of Registration of the company under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), CIN (Corporate Identification Number), proof of address of its registered office, Permanent Account Number (PAN) card and certified lists of directors and shareholders as on the date of application;

(b) copy of Director Identification Number (DIN) of all the directors;

(c) identification proof along with two recent photographs of all the directors and the responsible person as under—

(i) Aadhaar Card; or

(ii) in case the director or the responsible person does not have Aadhaar Card, a written declaration in the form of an Affidavit to be submitted in this regard along with an alternative identification proof which may include Passport or Voter’s Identification Card or Permanent Account Number (PAN) card or official Identity Card;

(d) residence proof—

in case the director or responsible person does not have Aadhaar Card or Passport, alternative residence proof to be submitted which may include Voter’s Identification Card or Electricity Bill or Landline Telephone Bill or Rent Deed or Lease Deed or Property documents or any other document to the satisfaction of the licensing authority;

(e) copy of the latest balance sheet of the company and audited copy of the Net-worth certificate duly certified by a Chartered Accountant;

(f) estimated project outlay and means of finance for funding the project duly certified by a Chartered Accountant;

(g) certified copy of the board resolution for making an application under these rules along with full particulars of the responsible person authorised to sign the same;

(h) details of foreign control and/or ownership in the applicant company, as applicable, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant;
(i) complete details of the arms and/or ammunition intended to be manufactured or proof-tested or both, including their types and quantities;

(j) a declaration with proof thereof to the effect that it has acquired the land for setting up the manufacturing plant or for setting up proof-test facility along with details of an access road to the proposed site, installation of electricity and water connection, particulars of land development carried out and any other information deemed necessary by the licensing authority.

54. Procedure for grant of licence in Form VII. — (1) The licence for manufacture or proof-test or both shall be granted by the licensing authority to an applicant who fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in these rules provided that no adverse remarks are received from various government agencies entrusted for verifying the antecedents of the applicant company or its directors or responsible person, as the case may be.

(2)(a) The licence granted in Form VII shall be initially valid for a period of seven years within which the licensee shall be required to setup the facility for manufacture or proof test of arms and/or ammunition, recruit technical and administrative staff, develop and proof test prototype of arms and ammunition, conduct trial runs and any other activity related to the setting up of the facility for the manufacture or proof-test of arms and ammunition, failing which the licence shall lapse.

(b) Every subsequent renewal of the licence under this rule shall be granted for a period of five years.

(3)(a) No manufacturing facility shall be set up in the border areas, restricted areas or prohibited areas and any area declared as 'disturbed area' by the Central Government.

(b) The manufacturer applicant may setup the facilities in Special Economic Zones (SEZ), Industrial Parks and other industrial areas in addition to any other location duly approved by the State Government concerned for this purpose.

(4) The licensee shall make an application on its letter head for commencement of commercial production accompanied by —

(i) a declaration to the effect that the licensee has installed the plant and machinery, successfully carried out the trial run and is ready for commencement of commercial production of the items licensed for manufacture or proof-test;

(ii) a declaration to the effect that the licensee has installed and applied the requisite quality control system for manufacture or proof test of firearms or ammunition;

(iii) a list of particulars of the key technical personnel employed by the licensee for carrying out manufacture or proof-test facility along with the proof of their professional expertise and training undergone and identification documents as specified for directors in rule 53;

(iv) a declaration to the effect that the licensee has fully complied with the security guidelines as contained in the Security Manual prepared by the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production, for licensed defence industries.

(5) The licensing authority shall get conducted a security and appraisal audit to ensure that the applicant licensee has complied with the declaration specified in clause (iv) of sub-rule (4).

55. Other requirements as to licences granted in Form VII. — (1) The licenced shall preferably be self-sufficient in areas of product design and development and have maintenance and life cycle support facility of the products to be manufactured and the items to be manufactured shall meet the International or Indian accredited quality standards and norms with special emphasis on indigenous designing;

Provided that no infringement of patents or copyrights, shall be permissible.

(2) The licensee shall submit the standards and testing procedures for manufacture of firearms and ammunition to the Government nominated Quality Assurance Agency, which will inspect the finished product in the trial run and conduct audits of the Quality Assurance Procedures in respect of design, workmanship, aesthetics and other related parameters:
Provided that the quality specifications for manufacturing shall be as specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Director General of Quality Assurance, Department of Defence Production or any other international quality assurance agency.

(3) The manufactured products shall contain the warranty clause accompanied by service and safety manuals and listing of parts at the time of every sale.

(4) Any restrictions under a joint venture agreement which may be imposed by the foreign partner shall have no legal consequence on the Indian entity that is granted a licence under these rules.

(5) The licensing authority may impose such additional restrictions in case of certain sensitive type of arms and ammunition, such as those configured for use by armed forces or not permitted to be possessed by civilians.

(6) The small arms and light weapons produced by the manufacturers –

(i) shall be sold to the Central Government or the State Governments with the prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs, or

(ii) may be allowed for export subject to the approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Commerce, on a case to case basis.

(7) The permissible category of arms and ammunition specified in Schedule I may be permitted for sale to persons or dealers, holding a valid arms licence under these rules, with the prior approval of the Central Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(8) Prior approval of the licensing authority shall be mandatory for any change in the directorship of the company or any change in the key managerial personnel as defined in clause (3) of section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) or any change in the responsible person of the company.

(9) Prior approval of the licensing authority shall be mandatory for any change in control or ownership, either directly or indirectly, of the company or any change in shareholding resulting into dilution of promoters shareholding (both Indian and foreign) or any change in shareholding of the company or any change in the beneficial interest in the shareholding of the company beyond five percent (5%).

(10) (a) A licence granted in Form VII shall not be transferable from the licensee to another company, without the written authorisation of the licensing authority.

(b) An application for transfer shall be accompanied by complete documents and be subject to the same conditions as applicable at the time of initial grant of licence specified in rule 53.

(c) While considering an application for transfer of a manufacturing licence, the licensing authority shall assess the eligibility of the company, to whom the licence is to be transferred.

56. **Obligations of licensees having licence Form VII.**

(1) The validity of a licence granted in Form VII shall be subject to the manufacturer’s compliance with the conditions contained in these rules and in the licence.

(2) The licensee having a licence in Form VII shall mark all firearms and ammunition that it manufactures in the manner as specified in rule 58.

(3) The licensee company shall comply with the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy of the Government of India and the regulations framed under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) as notified by the Reserve Bank of India in case of foreign direct investment in the said company.

(4) The licensee shall comply with the security guidelines as contained in the Security Manual prepared by the Ministry of Defence, department of defence production, for licensed defence industries.

(5) The licensee shall maintain records of all firearms, their parts, components and/or ammunition manufactured by it as specified in rule 65 in addition to the conditions specified or forming part of the licence in Form VII.

(6) The licensee shall store all firearms, their parts, components and/or ammunition manufactured by it as specified in Form VII.