Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Interior
******

REVISED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) FOR ISSUANCE OF NOC FOR IMPORT/PURCHASE OF 3D PRINTERS (2020)

(2nd October, 2020)

PREAMBLE:

In continuation of this Ministry's SOP dated, 26th April 2019 and the Ministry of Commerce, vide SRO No. 345(I)/2016, dated 18th April 2016, No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Interior is mandatory for import of all categories of 3-D Printers in Pakistan. The revised SOPs, after inter-Ministerial/agency/stakeholder consultations were approved by the competent authority as follows:

S.No.	Title	Procedure
1.	**Application Requirements**	Ministry of Interior (MOI) will receive application for grant of NOC, on a prescribed format (**Annex-I**) along with following documents:- a) A copy of the Computerized National Identity Card (CNIC) of the applicant, issued by NADRA. b) A copy of the valid National Tax Number /certificate issued by FBR. c) Detail of technical literature and specification of 3-D Printer (i.e, Make, Model, Product Code and Serial Number, etc), specifying therein the type of material used (metallic, plastic, etc) for printing. d) In case of Company, Registration Certificate with SECP and consignee details (i.e. copy of CNIC, Business address, company profile and details of CEO / Members Board of Directors). e) Justification for import of 3-D Printer. f) Purpose of use of the printer and detail of the products to be printed / produced using 3-D Printer. g) The port of entry / import of 3-D Printer to be specified. h) In case of post import request for NOC, copy of Airway Bill, Bill of Lading, BoQ and Invoice etc. shall be provided. i) Declaration on legal stamp paper worth Rs.100/- with solemn affirmation that the imported 3-D Printer shall not be used for production of weapons / firearms, credit / debit card parts / SIMs, un-authorized, obscene / objectionable objects and that the said NOC, if issued, would not be re-utilized for further imports of 3-D Printers, and in case of misuse and being found guilty, the applicant will be liable to be punished under the relevant law/rules

		relating to violation of the given affidavit (**Annex-II**).
2.	**Security Clearance**	a) NOC for security clearance for Government institutions/hospitals, research bodies for the import of 3-D printer both metal & plastic is waived off. However, they will submit application and detail of the 3-D printer to Ministry of Interior to maintain proper record. b) Ministry of Interior shall maintain record of all 3-D printers (metal & plastic) imported by Government institutions/hospitals, research institutes and private individuals/vendors. Record will be shared with all stakeholders on quarterly basis c) Requests of individuals, companies, firms, organizations etc. in respect of **metal 3-D printers** shall be forwarded to security agencies for security clearance. The report by security agencies shall be submitted within eight (8) weeks to MoI. In case of failure to respond, NOC may be issued under intimation to the security agencies. d) There shall be a committee comprising all Stake-holders i.e MOI, Commerce, IT & Telecom, ISI, IB, FBR, SECP which will hold meeting in the first week of every month to take up all cases of 3D printers (metal & plastic) for issuance of NOC for import of 3-D printers. Every meeting shall be attended by an officer not below the rank of BS-19, and it may be ensured that the same officer attends all meetings, for the sake of continuity and better decision making. e) Composition of the Committee: i) Additional Secretary-I, MoI — Chairman ii) Joint Secretary (Admn/Security), MoI — Member iii) Deputy Secretary (Security), MoI — Member iii) Rep. of M/o Commerce — Member iv) Rep. of IT & Telecom Division — Member v) Rep. of ISI — Member vi) Rep. of IB — Member vii)Rep. of FBR — Member viii) Rep. of SECP — Member ix) Concerned Section Officer — Secretary f) Procedure for grant of NOC for 3D printers (Plastic) to private individuals/vendors would be as under:- i) After receiving application, Ministry of Interior (MoI) will forward it to security agencies for their views/comments within three working days. ii) The security agencies shall submit their report to MOI within 4 weeks. iii) MoI will issue a reminder at the end of 3 weeks after the issuance of first letter, to the agencies for timely submission of report. iv) If the requisite report is not received within the stipulated time period of 4 weeks, it will be assumed that the agencies have no objection to the request and case will be placed before the committee for approval. Meeting of the Committee will be held by 5th week to dispose of the applications for NOC for import of 3-D printers.

		v) If there are conflicting views from security agencies, a meeting will be convened under the Chairmanship of AS-I with the concerned security agencies to settle/resolve the matter. vi) If a case is regretted, the aggrieved applicant will submit his/her appeal within one month to MoI for reconsideration. Same procedure will be adopted to dispose off the appeal. g) The Committee shall make recommendation to the Approving /Competent Authority for grant of NOC or otherwise. h) An email account of each member shall be created exclusively for sharing of information/documents for processing of NOC applications. i) Complete set of application and documents attached therewith to be provided to all members electronically at least one week prior to the meeting date.
3.	**End User**	a) The individual or company/firm/vendor who actually use 3D Printer(s), instead of original importer/purchaser, will be termed as 'End User'. b) Any individual, company, firm, organization etc. that purchases or acquires a 3D Printer from an End User, shall also be deemed to be an End User and will be required to obtain NOC from MOI. c) The original importer will have to maintain a record of all the printers imported, which can only be sold to a person holding valid NOC of the MOI. d) The original importer will have to submit annual report to MOI regarding sale to the End Users.
4.	**Release of 3D Printer at the Airport / Sea Port / Dry Port**	FBR (Custom authorities) to release 3D Printer(s) only after production of NOC, issued by the MOI, and its subsequent confirmation / authenticity obtained by them from the MOI's authorized officer.
5.	**Import of Restricted 3D Printers**	Import of 3D Printers like Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) and Direct Metal Laser Sintering (DMLS) and others, which are used for making metal printing, weapons, credit cards, CNICs, knives and other harmful objects etc. by individuals, companies, firms, organizations, educational institutions etc. is restricted. Government departments to get requisite NOC from MOI in this connection.
6.	**Procedure for Commercial Importers**	The same procedure will be adopted for commercial importers (if any), as in cases of individuals, companies and firms etc. The MoI may prepare and maintain data / record of such imports including parts of 3D Printers for local assembling.
7.	**Import of Parts of 3-D printers**	Those who have NOC for import of 3-D printers shall be also allowed the import of spare parts of the same 3-D printer, for which NOC has been granted, within the validity of the NOC.
8.	**Violation of SOP**	The violator of SOP shall be punished in accordance with the relevant Law of land.
9.	**Approving / Competent Authority**	Secretary, Ministry of Interior shall be the Competent Authority to approve the cases for issuance of NOC in the matter.

*****