CIRCULAR

C.NO. VIII/48/06/2017 City Cus Tech Date: 17.01.2017

Sub: Customs - Invitation of suggestions from stakeholders (Customs Brokers, Importers, Exporters, Custodians etc) and Officers on consolidation of Rules and Regulations and review of procedures to bring a quantum jump in the ease of doing business - Reg

With an objective for effective implementation of Article 1 of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, the Central Board of Excise and Customs has constituted a Working Group, under the leadership of Shri P.V. Subba Rao, J.S. (COFEPOSA), having mandate of consolidation of all Customs Rules and Regulations and reviewing of procedures, which will bring about a quantum jump in the ease of doing business. The terms of Reference of the said Working Group has been communicated by the Board, vide communication F.No. JS/C/2017-CEIB dated 3.1.2017, which is appended herewith. The Working Group constituted in this regard proposes to implement its mandate in consultation with various stakeholders and Officers of the Department.

In this regard, the suggestions of the stakeholders and Officers on consolidation of Rules and Regulations and review of procedures may be sent to customsblore@gmail.com on before 25th January 2017, so that a consolidated report can be forwarded to the Working Group.

(SURIT BHUJABAL)
COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS

1. The Joint Commissioner of Customs, ICD, Bengaluru.
2. The Deputy Commissioner of Customs, PAD, Bengaluru.
3. All Sections in Hqrs. Office, City Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru
4. The CHA Association, Bangalore and all Trade bodies
5. Bengaluru Customs Website.
Sub: Invitation of suggestions from stakeholders and officers, on consolidation of Rules and Regulations and review of procedures to bring about a quantum jump in the ease of doing business —reg:

The Central Board of Excise and Customs has constituted (F.No. 401/199/2016-Cus III dated 21 December 2016) a Working Group for effective implementation of Article 1 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement with the following composition and Terms of Reference.

Composition
1. P. V. Subba Rao JS (COFEPOSA) (Working Group Leader)
2. Dr. Satish S. Dhavale, Addl. Commissioner (Import) Mumbai Zone III
3. T. Prabhakar, DC, CCO, Chennai Zone
4. Manish Kumar, DC, ACC (Import) New Delhi

Terms of Reference of the Working Group:

i. Prepare a ready reckoner in the form of a matrix listing all the existing Rules and Regulations and Circulars corresponding to each Section of the Act. Give suggestions on cross-referencing the Sections of the Customs Act with Rules, Regulations, Notifications and Circulars issued by the Board.

ii. Consolidate the Rules and Regulations into as few sets of Rules and Regulations as possible, aligning them, to the extent possible, with the Sections of the Act. Give suggestions on subject-wise indexing of provisions of the Customs Act, Rules, Regulations, Notifications and Circulars.

iii. Consolidate Notifications issued under Section 11 into a single notification aligning it with the Customs Tariff headings. Wherever possible, the compulsory compliance requirements under other laws should be incorporated into the Notification so that all restrictions on imports and exports in the country are available at a glance in one notification.

iv. Examine if any other changes in the rules, regulations and procedures can be made to bring about a quantum jump in the ease of doing business.

v. To give suggestions on a mechanism to ensure regular and timely updating and providing ready references.

The Working Group shall consult stakeholders and officers of the Department in this exercise. All officers of the Department should extend full cooperation to the Working Group. The Working Group should submit its interim report covering (i) and (iii) above within 45 days, and the final report within 90 days, to the Board.

2. As may be seen from the TOR above, this is a major, time-bound exercise to consolidate all Customs Rules and Regulations, and to review procedures to bring about a quantum jump in the ease of doing business in consultation with stakeholders and officers of the Department.

3. All stakeholders (Customs Brokers, Importers, Exporters, Custodians, Consultants, etc.) and officers of the department are invited to email their suggestions to the Working Group to pv.subbarao@nic.in by 30 January 2017.

Copy to:
All Officers of the Department and all Stakeholders

P. V. Subba Rao
Joint Secretary (COFEPOSA)