PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 18/2020

Sub: Measure to facilitate trade during the lockdown period - section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962 - reg.

Kind attention of all the importers, exporters, Customs Brokers and all other stakeholders is invited to the CBIC Board Circular No. 17/2020-Customs dated 03.04.2020 issued vide F. No. 473/02/2020-LC on the above-mentioned subject whereby difficulties in furnishing bonds required by Customs during the assessment and clearance of goods during the ongoing lockdown period announced by the Government to prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic in the country are seeking to be addressed.

2. In light of the unprecedented situation caused due to COVID-19 pandemic, Board has decided to take certain measures for a temporary period in terms of section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962 to expedite Customs clearance of goods and for maintaining the balance between Customs control and facilitation of legitimate trade. In this regard, Board has approved the relaxation of the requirement to submit bonds prescribed under section 18, section 59 and section 143, and under notifications issued in terms of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962, subject to compliance of conditions discussed in the afore said circular.

4. Importers /Exporters are advised to make use of this facility. While availing this facility you shall ensure that the undertaking furnished in place of bond is duly replaced with a proper bond before the stipulated period i.e. 07.05.2020. Customs field formations shall maintain a record of all cases of relaxation allowed by them.

5. In case of any difficulty, the specific issue may be brought to the notice of JC, ICD, CONCOR, Whitefield, Bangalore.

Copy to: All Trade Association
The Bengaluru Custom House Agent Association
Bangalore Customs Website

Copy to: Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone