PUBLIC NOTICE NO 40/2020

Subject: Turant Customs – Turant Suvidha Kendra and other Initiatives for Contactless Customs – reg.

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It is brought to the notice of all the Importers, Customs Brokers and all Trade Formations that with the objective of further facilitating trade and streamlining procedures, particularly to overcome the scourge of Covid-19, following initiatives are being implemented in System w.e.f. 6th July 2020.

2. Under its flagship ‘Turant Customs’ programme aimed at providing a ‘Faceless, Contactless and Paperless’ Customs administration, Board has recently introduced a number of initiatives that leverage technology in order to enhance the efficiency in the Customs clearance processes thereby leading to speedy clearances, transparency in decision making, ease of doing business and very importantly, reduce physical contact in the prevailing pandemic situation. These initiatives include, amongst others, automated clearances of Bills of Entry, digitisation of Customs documents, paperless clearance, Faceless Assessment and establishment of Turant Suvidha Kendra at Bengaluru and Chennai vide Circulars No.05/2020-Customs, dated 27.01.2020, No.19/2020-Customs, dated 13.04.2020 and No.28/2020-Customs, dated 05.06.2020 respectively.

3. In continuation of the above facility the DG Systems, CBIC has enabled w.e.f. 06.07.2020 certain functionalities in ICEGATE which would reduce the need for physical interaction between Customs and trade and also speed up the Customs clearance process. These new functionalities are explained in details vide Circular No. 32/2020-Customs dated 6th July 2020 (Copy of same is enclosed).

4 Further, the workflow in case of First Check BE is also streamlined as follows:

Currently, a first check BE has to be activated by the appraising officer after it comes back from the shed with the first check examination report. This adds one additional step and at times, creates delays in assessment of such consignments. Sometimes, the importer has to visit the assessing officer for the activation of the Bill of Entry. This becomes all the more challenging in the case of faceless assessment where the BEs get assessed at some other port. Recently, the list of all BEs pending activation was being shown to the officer as a pop up so that necessary action can be taken suo motu. Now, the need for activating has been done away with and the Bills of Entry will
automatically come to the assessing officer’s queue after being marked by the Shed officers with completed first check examination.

Further, there was no facility earlier with the appraising officer to seek additional inputs from the examination officers in case the first check report is incomplete or not sufficient to assess BE. Now, in such cases, the AC can give mark the BE back to the examiner by entering “N” when asked to confirm whether assessment is complete. Only when “Y” is entered by the AC, the assessment will be considered as completed by System.

First check BE when comes to SUP queue, it sometimes comes with CFS code as FAC which may create issue in marking it to INS. To resolve this issue, now first check BE would be routed to SUP with CFS code indicated as ‘NOCFS’ and the Supdt/AO can exercise the already existing option in SUP role to enter the CFS code and send it to INS.

5. The aforementioned initiatives are expected to enhance trade facilitation as well as improve the efficiency of the Customs processes. Therefore, the trade is advised to make full use of the new initiatives and make their Customs clearance process a pleasant experience. Any difficulties, in this regard, may please be brought to notice by mail icdblr16@gmail.com & Phone no. 080-28457481.

(BASWARAJ NALEGAVE)
COMMISSIONER

Encl.- Circular No. 32/2020- Customs dated 6.7.2020

To, All the Concerned (As per mailing list)

Copy to,
1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone
2. The Joint Commissioner of Customs, ICD Whitefield, Bengaluru
3. Customs Website