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ಭಾರತಸರ್ಕಾರ, ಹಣಕಾಸು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಭಾರತಸರ್ಕಾರ, ವित्तमंत्रालय, राजस्वविभाग

Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue,

ಆಯುಕ್ತಕಛೇರಿ, ನಗರಸೀಮಾಸಂಕ,

ಅಂಕೆಸಂ.5400, ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯರಾಜಸ್ವಭವನ, ಕ್ವೀನ್ಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಸೀಮಾಶುಲ್ಕಾಯುಕ್ತಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಿಟಿ ಸೀಮಾಶುಲ್ಕಾಯುಕ್ತಾಲಯ, ಪಿ.ಬಿ.ಸಂ 5400, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

Office of the Commissioner of Customs, City Customs Commissionerate,

P.B. No. 5400, C.R. Building, Queen's Road, Bengaluru – 560 001

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO: 55/2020
(DIN-20201072MR00005P9634)**

Subject:- Customs: ICES Advisory 41/2020 -Faceless Assessment – New provisions in ICES in terms of Board Circular 45/2020 dated 12.10.2020 -reg.

1. Attention of the Trade/Importers/Exporters/Custom Brokers is invited to **ICES Advisory 41/2020 dated 26.10.2020** (enclosed for reference) in respect of Faceless Assessment. Reference is invited to the Board Circular 45/2020 dt 12.10.2020 on Faceless Assessment. In line with the Board's Circular and based on the feedback received from field formations, following new provisions have been added in ICES for assisting the field officers in the workflow of BEs marked for faceless assessment.
2. The enhancements are as stated below:
 1. **View of Past BEs:** The view of reference BE indicated either by RMS or optionally declared by the importer/CB can assist assessing officers in expeditious assessment of the document.
 2. **Option to send BE to FAG for reassessment:** Once the BE is past the assessment stage and is required to be reassessed for any reason, the group AC/DC at the Port of Import now has the option to mark the BE either to local appraiser (APR) or the FAG appraiser (VAO) while recalling the BE for reassessment from the ACL role.
 3. **New group 3A for Chapter 71:** New assessment group 3A has been enabled in System for Chapter 71 to deal with Gems and Jewellery in r/o selected ports.
 4. **Dynamic daily target for assessment:** The targets are now re-calibrated everyday based on the pendency of unallocated BEs of that group so that the pendency in the group can come down completely when the daily targets are met by all FAG officers.
3. For detailed instructions **ICES Advisory 41/2020 dated 26.10.2020** may be referred to. Action to be taken in terms of decisions taken in this Public Notice will be considered as Standing Order for officers / staff.
4. Any difficulties faced may be brought to the notice of the Joint Commissioner of Customs, ICD Whitefield, Bengaluru.

Encl: As above

**(BASWARAJ NALEGAVE)
COMMISSIONER**

Copy to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone for information.
2. The Joint Commissioner of Customs, ICD Bengaluru
3. Bengaluru Customs Website.
4. Notice Board



Directorate General of Systems and Data Management

CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES & CUSTOMS

Dept. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Date: Oct 26th, 2020

Advisory No: 41/2020

Category: Turant Customs

Issued by: DGoS, ICES

Subject: Faceless Assessment – New provisions in ICES in terms of Board Circular 45/2020 dt 12.10.2020

Kind attention to Board Circular 45/2020 dt 12.10.2020 on Faceless Assessment. In line with the Board's Circular and based on the feedback received from field formations, following new provisions have been added in ICES for assisting the field officers in the workflow of BEs marked for faceless assessment.

- 1. View of Past BEs:** At times, the appraising officer may have to refer to a previous Bill of Entry of the importer to compare and verify valuation or other related declarations in a Bill of Entry. In many cases, RMS instructions also give reference of some previous Bills of Entry for the officer to check. Till now, if the previous BEs pertained to a different port, it was not possible for the assessing officers to check them in ICES. This became particularly critical when BEs were marked for faceless assessment to other ports. A provision has now been made available in the top menu on the Appraising BE screen itself to view the past Bills of Entry referred to by RMS in the appraising instructions. Additionally, there is already a provision for the importer to declare a previous BE as a reference for every item while filing a Bill of Entry. The view of such declared Previous BE has also been given along with the RMS reference BEs. Importers/Customs Broker (CB) in your jurisdiction may also be advised to avail the option of giving reference of their previous BEs during Bill of Entry filing itself in the Item table. The view of reference BE indicated either by RMS or optionally declared by the importer/CB can assist assessing officers in expeditious assessment of the document.
- 2. Option to send BE to FAG for reassessment:** In terms of Para 2.5 of the above Circular, option has now been made available to the Port of Import officer to send the BE to FAG for reassessment. Once the BE is past the assessment stage and is required to be re-assessed for any reason, the group AC/DC at the Port of Import now has the option to mark the BE either to local appraiser (APR) or the FAG appraiser (VAO) while recalling the BE for reassessment from the ACL role. The officer can exercise the option in terms of Para 2.5 of the Circular and mark the BE accordingly. If the BE was initially assessed by FAG, it will be routed to the same VAO when marked for reassessment. BEs facilitated by



Directorate General of Systems and Data Management
CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES & CUSTOMS

Dept. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

RMS will be available to be picked up by any available VAO when marked for reassessment.

- 3. New group 3A for Chapter 71:** As mentioned in Para 3(iv)(b) of the above Circular, new assessment group 3A has been enabled in System for Chapter 71 to deal with Gems and Jewellery. The air-cargo sites of Ahmedabad (INAMD4), Jaipur (INJAI4), Chennai (INMAA4), Delhi (INDEL4), Kolkata (INCCU4) and Mumbai (INBOM4) have been enabled for FAG for this group. Respective System Managers are requested to nominate FAG officers for group 3A at the above sites and allot VAO and VDC roles for this new group to them. Roles of APR and ACL meant for local assessment may also be allotted to officers for this group at all the sites.
- 4. Dynamic daily target for assessment:** Daily targets for assessment are already indicated on System for the appraising officers of the FAG. These targets are now re-calibrated everyday based on the pendency of unallocated BEs of that group so that the pendency in the group can come down completely when the daily targets are met by all FAG officers.

Officers and Trade in your jurisdiction may be suitably guided and issues faced in accessing above functionalities in System, if any, may be brought to the notice of this Directorate.

Kshitij Jain
DD (ICES)

Circular No. 45/2020-Customs

F. No.450/26/2019-Cus. IV(Pt)
 Government of India
 Ministry of Finance
 Department of Revenue
 (Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs)

Room No.227B, North Block.
 New Delhi, dated 12th of October, 2020

To,

All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs/ Customs (Preventive),
 All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs & Central tax,
 All Principal Commissioners/ Commissioners of Customs/ Customs (Preventive),
 All Principal Commissioners/ Commissioners of Customs & Central tax,
 All Principal Director Generals/ Director Generals under CBIC.

Madam/Sir,

Subject: Faceless Assessment - Measures for timely assessment of Bills of Entry and clarification on defacement of physical documents - reg.

Reference is invited to CBIC Circular No.40/2020-Customs, dated 04.09.2020 stipulating the rollout schedule for implementation of Faceless Assessment pan India by 31.10.2020. The CBIC Circulars No. 28/2020-Customs, dated 05.06.2020, No.34/2020-Customs, dated 30.07.2020 as well as Instruction No. 09/2020-Customs, dated 05.06.2020 related to Faceless Assessment may also be kindly referred to.

2. Board has reviewed the implementation of Faceless Assessment. While the implementation has been largely smooth, Board's attention has been drawn to some issues impacting the pace of assessment and clearances of consignments. As the prompt and timely assessment of Bills of Entry and clearance of imported consignments are key objectives of Turant Customs, these issues have been examined and remedial measures have been identified. Accordingly, Board prescribes the following measures for Faceless Assessment:

2.1. Continuous Assessment:

- (i) There may be possible delays in assessment when Bills of Entry (B/E) are assigned to FAGs in locations that are on an official holiday or when assessment is to be done on a closed holiday (say, Sunday). Further, time sensitive goods such as life-saving drugs or imports by security/defence and other Government agencies would require prompt Customs clearance at all

times including outside the normal office hours. Hence, it is decided to make all Saturdays (except second Saturday) as working day for all the faceless assessment groups across the country. Further, it is desired that the Co-Convenors of the NACs must co-ordinate with the NACs for ensuring expedited assessment by the FAGs/PAGs across different zones so there is no delay in assessment and Customs clearance during holidays at all or some locations. In this direction, the Co-Convenors of the NACs may get the NACs to draw up official rosters among FAGs/PAGs so as to have adequate number of officers, depending on the volume of B/Es, working on Sundays and other holidays including second Saturdays. The number of locations, officers and their working timing can be fixed keeping in mind the overall objectives.

To illustrate, in NAC for Primary products, the Co-Convenors may ensure that adequate number of FAG officers in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai II and Guwahati (or any combination thereof), as deemed fit, may work during the holidays. The rosters may be drawn from amongst the FAGs so that the work is distributed evenly. It is clarified that the intention is not that all FAGs would work on all holidays, but that adequate number of FAG officers should be available, by rotation, so that assessment is not delayed.

- (ii) The Port of Import should monitor clearance of time-sensitive/urgent consignments such as lifesaving drugs, security/defence related consignments etc. imported by Government and its agencies/PSUs etc. so that these are not delayed. When required, the Port of Import should coordinate their early assessment with NAC concerned and then grant quick clearance. The trade may also be advised to indicate end use of such consignments in the B/E for easier identification of such consignments. DG Systems will facilitate this by enabling a dashboard alerting the officers if such consignments are pending beyond 4 hours. This dashboard would be accessible to both PAG and FAG.
- (iii) DG Systems has enabled dashboards for monitoring of pending FAG B/E, their disposal, and other relevant reports. These dashboards are required to be pro-actively utilised by the NAC/PAG and Principal Commissioners/Commissioners in charge of the Port of Import. The NAC Commissioners shall ensure that the B/Es are assessed and disposed promptly and monitor this via the dashboard for a particular Appraising Group. Likewise, the Principal Commissioner/Commissioner in charge of the Port of Import shall monitor the disposal of the B/E pending with the PAG and at the stage of examination for their timely disposal. When required, the Principal Commissioner/Commissioner in charge

of the Port of Import shall co-ordinate with the NAC Commissioners for prompt disposal of pending B/Es pertaining to his/her Port of Import.

- (iv) One of the five Working Groups established under the NACs is responsible for timely assessments including resolving related IT issues. In the event of increase in the pendency for a particular NAC/FAG, the NAC Commissioners heading this Working Group shall take urgent measures for co-ordination with other NAC Commissioners/DG Systems for early disposal and/or resolution of the issues.

2.2. Raising of Queries by FAG Officers:

- (i) There is a need to ensure that queries are minimized to the extent absolutely necessary for carrying out the assessment. Board therefore directs the NACs to get the analysis done in respect of the queries being raised on commodities pertaining to Chapters/Articles under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and while weeding out avoidable queries, to the extent possible standardize the queries across Customs formations. This would also pave the path for incorporating these standard queries in the CCR instructions centrally inserted by RMD. This exercise should be completed by 23.10.2020 and the results indicating queries removed and queries standardized sent to Joint Secretary, Customs, CBIC. Based on this exercise, the NACs are also requested to have Public Notices/Trade Notices issued by Jurisdictional Principal Commissioners/Commissioners to apprise the trade about the details/information needed for the assessment, thereby obviating the need to raise queries and resultantly reduce the time for clearance. A copy of the Public Notices/Trade Notices should be sent to Joint Secretary, Customs, CBIC.
- (ii) Queries should not be raised in piecemeal manner and to the extent possible multiple and repeat queries are to be avoided. The jurisdictional Principal Commissioners/Commissioners shall regularly monitor and review the queries to ensure this. In this regard reference may also be made to Circular No. 22/2015-Customs, dated 03.09.2015 directing that genuine clarifications sought by officers from importers/exporters are to be raised at one go and not in a piecemeal manner.
- (iii) Trade needs to be sensitised/informed to/of the advantages of providing at the first instance only, the complete details and description of the commodity, brand name, model and any other specifications essential for the assessment. Further, trade may be asked to upload at the first instance only, supporting documents like product/technical literature and mandatory documents, certificates, which would help avoid queries and delays. It is also noticed that

at times, the documents are uploaded on e-Sanchit but are not linked to B/E, leading to a situation where Appraising/Assessing officer is unable to view the document and is thus compelled to raise a query. The trade needs to be advised to avoid such situation by linking every uploaded document to the relevant B/E. Suitable Public Notices/Trade Notices may be issued accordingly. The step by step guide in this regard is available at [https://www.icegate.gov.in/Download/ICES Advisory 35 2020 on amendme nt and query reply with supp docs v2.pdf](https://www.icegate.gov.in/Download/ICES_Advisory_35_2020_on_amendme nt_and_query_reply_with_supp_docs_v2.pdf) .

- (iv) Some instances have been noticed, where confirmation of compliance to prohibitions and restrictions are being sought during assessment including submission of certain certificates, details etc. leading to delay in the assessment. It is clarified that the verification of statutory compliances is to be checked only during Customs Compliance Verification (CCV) stage at the Port of Import. While Appraising/Assessment officer can make a suitable remark in the system for such verification by the Port of Import, the B/E shall not be kept pending for assessment. The Working Group on Prohibitions/Restrictions are advised to identify the item wise CCV requirements for uniformity in the FAG and also communicate the same to RMCC for their central enforcement. Once this is done, the Appraising/Assessment officer would no longer need to insert a remark to this effect in the system.

2.3. **Resorting to First Checks:**

- (i) Upon review of the practice of the FAG officers resorting to First Check, it is clear that this practice needs to be streamlined both for purposes of uniformity across the country and different FAGs and also to address associated delays in assessment. Board has thus identified the following imports/situations where First Check (this term as well as the term Second Check is being used as it is well known in the field and trade) shall ordinarily be resorted to by the FAG officers for carrying out assessment:
- (a) Old and used machinery/capital goods provided the Inspection/Appraisement report from the country of export is not available in the format prescribed or is not produced at all or is insufficient as per Circular No.07/2020-Customs, dated 05.02.2020.
- (b) Old and used goods where the examination is essential to determine valuation, classification, and other parameters. This does not include the cases covered under 2nd proviso to Section 46(1) of the Customs Act, 1962.

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- (c) Articles of jewellery, precious metals, imitation jewellery where valuation must be ascertained by a jewellery expert.
 - (d) Cases of re-import of goods under various exemption notification, which requires establishment of identity to the satisfaction of Deputy Commissioner/Assistant Commissioner of Customs.
- (ii) Further, the NAC must review and streamline the examination orders/instructions in cases pertaining to para 2.3 (i) (a) to (d) above, to avoid divergent practices. NACs shall send the compilation of such streamlined orders/Instructions to Joint Secretary (Customs) latest by 23.10.2020. The same shall be forwarded to RMCC for incorporating the same as a part of RMS Instructions.
- (iii) On receipt of such compilation, RMCC in co-ordination with DG Systems shall effect changes in the system such that, those cases which are determined for verification under First Check are routed directly to the shed with RMS generated examination orders thus obviating the requirement of a FAG officer at this initial juncture in the flow of B/E. Based on the examination report, the B/E would be assigned to FAG for completion of the assessment.
- (iv) All other instances, including the FOC (Free of Charge) and temporary import consignments, must ordinarily be resorted to only Second Check. However, in the exceptional instance when the FAG has genuine reasons to believe that a First Check examination report is required for completion of assessment i.e., determination of valuation, classification, rate of duty, and other parameters relevant for determination of Customs duty, the same may be ordered only with the approval of Joint Commissioner/Additional Commissioner in the Customs Automated System. It is clarified that this would include the cases where importer himself requests for First Check.
- (v) NAC would on fortnightly basis review First Checks ordered with the approval of Joint Commissioner/Additional Commissioner to assess if the same can either be avoided altogether or made a part of the standard RMS Examination Order generated by RMCC or converted to Second Check. These instances would be required to be informed to Joint Secretary (Customs), CBIC for further action.
- (v) Where an importer requests First Check on a regular basis, the FAG officers and the NAC must take due care that this request is genuine and is not being routinely used to avoid self-assessment.

2.4. Role of RMCC/LRM in Facilitation:

- (i) It is observed that, examination orders given by different officers in the same situation are at variance or not clear. It is also seen that at time these examination orders merely duplicate the instruction given by RMCC. The FAG officers shall not duplicate the RMCC instructions, rather only supplement the same to provide additional directions based on local inputs. The Examination orders would be made available shortly through the ICETAB, obviating the need for printing in the paper. Further, the Principal Commissioner/Commissioner may review the additional directions supplemented by the FAG officers every fortnight, for standardisation across NACs.
- (ii) RMCC shall also work towards generation of the centralised examination orders based on various parameters and rollout the same in phases to enhance uniformity. RMCC and the NACs shall co-ordinate for the implementation of the same.
- (ii) To bring uniformity in LRM instructions across the country, to the extent possible, NACs may review the local risk targets related to assessment. Those targets that merit PAN India applicability would be referred to RMCC for examination and further necessary action. The balance targets would be either weeded out if found redundant or continue, if found otherwise. However, all local alerts shall be reviewed periodically and continued, only if found absolutely necessary. LRM is also advised to use ICES to insert general instructions and Alerts rather than through the RMS.

2.5. Re-assessment of B/E:

- (i) Several representations have been received regarding dealing with amendments under section 149 of Customs Act,1962 and consequent reassessment of B/E, based on the request of the importers to change the elements of assessment. This is typically the case when the importer claims that he has forgotten to claim an exemption or is in possession of some document that requires an element such as freight etc. to be changed. The various scenarios and the prescribed routes for carrying out reassessment are as follows:
 - a. **Scenario 1: Where the amendment is requested before OOC and would impact the assessment.**

Re-assessment in this scenario would be resorted to only if the B/E has not been given OOC. The request by the importers for those amendments impacting assessment would be sent to FAG for approval and consequent re-assessment. Accordingly, Notification No. 96/2020-Customs dated 12.10.2020 has been issued to enable FAG officers as proper officers under section 149 of Customs Act, 1962. Scenario 1 would apply in following instances:

- i. The self-assessed B/E is verified and found in order and the importer seeks an amendment that may impact the assessment. Once recalled for re-assessment, the B/E would be sent for consideration of the same FAG which had re-assessed the subject B/E previously.
- ii. The self-assessed B/E is facilitated post which the importer seeks an amendment that may impact the assessment. In such case, the B/E would be sent to the any of the FAG for assessment by the Customs Automated System.
- iii. The self-assessment made by the importer is questioned by the FAG and after due process, the assessment is changed. In this case the importer may either accept the new assessment or seek an assessment order. In both situations, if the importer subsequently seeks an amendment impacting the assessment, the B/E would be sent for consideration of the same FAG which had re-assessed the subject B/E previously.

b. **Scenario 2: Where the re-assessment is requested before OOC but would not impact the assessment.**

This scenario covers situations like requests for amendments like change in details of invoice based on the documentary evidence, short shipments, change in BL/AWB or fulfilment of conditionalities decided by assessment such as Bond conditions etc. These amendments may continue to be approved by PAG.

c. **Scenario 3: Where the re-assessment is requested after OOC has been given under Section 47 of the Customs Act, 1962.**

This scenario covers situations where re-assessment with or without amendment is to be carried out for any reason after OOC has been given. The same shall continue to be done by PAG.

- (ii) The reassessment being done by Customs officer arising out of various reasons is presently done by the PAG. This practice may continue.

2.6. **Certificate of Origin:**

- (i) Board has received feedback that there is need for clarity with respect to requirement of submission of original hard copy of a Certificate of Origin (COO) issued under various Free Trade Agreements. As seen, para 4 of Circular No.42/2019-Customs, dated 29.11.2019 states *“the field offices must ensure that no physical copy of any supporting document is submitted and every relevant document is submitted only electronically via e-sanchit either by the beneficiary or by the Participating Government Agency”*. Likewise, para 3.1 of Circular No.32/2020-Customs, dated 06.07.2020 states: *“(i) The document verification by Customs officers at Assessment and Customs Compliance Verification (CCV) stages would normally be based on the documents uploaded in the e-Sanchit, not requiring physical submission of documents. However, if in any exceptional situation the physical submission of documents is required by Customs, for defacement or validation, such submission would be made only at the TSKs.*
- (ii) Documents requiring verification during examination for validation with goods would continue to be done during examination, as at present.*
- (iii) One or more TSKs may be set up for the convenience of the trade.*
- (iv) Suitable procedures are to be devised for handling & safe keeping of the documents produced at TSKs. Ideally these documents should also be kept in electronic form.”*

For uniformity, Board hereby instructs all field formations to adhere to directions in Circular No.32/2020-Customs, dated 06.07.2020, which requires submission of original hard copy of a COO. This approach is in line with the Operational Certification Procedures for the various Trade Agreements notified in terms of section 5 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

2.7. **Grievance Redressal:**

- (i) In addition to other functions, Turant Suvidha Kendra (TSK) at the Port of Import would act as Facilitation Helpdesk for any grievance related to clearances of the B/E filed in the port. The list of the TSKs and their email and telephone/ contact details are available at <https://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs->

[cbec/enquiry-points](#) and may be kindly referred to. TSKs may also set up suitable online communication channels for quick redressal of grievances.

- (ii) The Principal Commissioner/Commissioner at the Port of Import may also designate a nodal officer not below the level of Additional/Joint Commissioner who may serve as a single point interface for the escalation of the grievances in such port. The details of the nodal officer and his/her contact details would be made available through Public Notice and in CBIC website for escalation of any issues including the B/Es in the FA requiring urgent attention. The Principal Commissioner/Commissioner at the Port of Import may further make other necessary internal arrangements for co-ordination at the appropriate levels for early resolution.

3. In regard to the establishment of NACs and FAGs for Faceless Assessment, certain inadvertent errors have crept in the Annexure I & II to Circular No.40/2020-Customs, dated 04.09.2020. Further, certain ambiguities have been expressed by field formations in regard to both column 4 and 5 of the Annexure I of this Circular. Accordingly, the Annexures I & II of said Circular have been suitably revised as per attachments to this Circular. Further, Board clarifies the doubts relating to the said Annexures I and II, as follows:

- (i) Certain inadvertent errors in column 5 of the Annexure I have been rectified. *To illustrate, under column 4 (iv) of phase IV beginning from 01.10.2020, Group 2G includes Hyderabad while the same was missed under the corresponding entry in column 5(e). This has been rectified.*
- (ii) Column 4 of Annexure I lists the clusters selected for FA B/E. *To illustrate, w.e.f. 01.10.2020, Bills of Entry pertaining to group 2K are being assessed in the FAG cluster consisting of Ahmedabad, Mumbai-II and Tiruchirappalli (Prev.).* Further, column 5 of Annexure I mentions the Appraising Groups which have been subsumed in FAs for that particular Zone(s). Thus, column 5 of Annexure I is to read as a mere clarification/amplification in respect of column 4. The idea was to present the FAGs under a Zone at a glance.
- (iii) FAGs are to be set up under the Zones figuring in column 3 of Annexure II only. *To illustrate, w.e.f. 31.10.2020, while FAG for Group 5 is enabled pan India, this FAG will be functional only in the 10 Zones mentioned in the column 3 of Annexure II.* The Zonal Principal Chief Commissioner/Chief Commissioner may, of course, decide to include officers from different Customs stations within the Zone in the FAG.
- (iv) Further, based on the feedback from the formations, it is decided to
- a) merge Group 1Z existing in Kolkata Zone with other groups and

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b) create a new appraising Group 3A for chapter 71 to deal with Gems and Jewellery. While NAC (Textiles) would continue to supervise the functioning of Group 3A, the FAGs have been set up only in Ahmedabad, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Kolkata and Mumbai-III Zones.

4. Board expects that the aforementioned measures relating to streamlining the attendance of B/E during holidays, raising of queries, ordering First Check, re-assessment and submission of COO would certainly contribute to a reduction in the time taken for assessment and clearance of goods. It is expected that these measures would be strictly applied by all NACs and all FAGs.

5. Any difficulties faced or doubts arising in the implementation of this Circular may please be brought to the notice of Board.

Yours faithfully,



(Ananth Rathakrishnan)
Deputy Secretary (Customs)

Annexure I**(Revised annexure I of Circular No.40/2020-Customs dt.04.09.2020)****Implementation Phases for All India Roll-Out of Faceless Assessment**

Phase	Roll-Out Date	% Coverage of All India Bills of Entry	Faceless Assessment Clusters	Zones and Faceless Assessment Coverage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I	05.06.2020	14 %	5 & 5A - Bengaluru & Chennai	(a) Bengaluru – 5, 5A (b) Chennai – 5, 5A
II	03.08.2020	21%	(i) 3,5,5A,5B – Bengaluru, Chennai & Delhi (ii) Mumbai I,II,III – 2A	(a) 3, 5, 5A, 5B – Bengaluru (b) 3, 5, 5A, 5B - Chennai (c) 3, 5, 5A, 5B – Delhi (d) 2A - Mumbai I,II, III
III	15.09.2020	50 %	(i) 5,5A,5B - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai I, II & III, Visakhapatnam (ii) 4 - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Visakhapatnam (iii) 3 – Bengaluru, Chennai & Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Patna (Prev.), Guwahati (iv) 2G – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Meerut and Nagpur, Pune (v) 2A – Mumbai I, II, III, Chennai and Hyderabad	(a) 2A,5, 5A, 5B - Mumbai I, II, III (b) 2A – Hyderabad (c) 2G, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Ahmedabad (d) 2G, 3, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Bengaluru (e) 2G, 2A 3, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Chennai (f) 2G, 3, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Delhi (g) 2G – Bhopal, Meerut, Nagpur, Pune (h) 3 – Delhi (Prev.), Kolkata, Patna (Prev.), Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) (i) 4 – Bhubaneshwar (j) 4,5, 5A, 5B – Visakhapatnam
IV	01.10.2020	86.0%	(i) 5,5A,5B – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar , Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Delhi (Prev.), Meerut , Mumbai I, II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) , Visakhapatnam (ii) 4 – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal , Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Kolkata, Meerut ,	(a) 1,2A, 2G, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Mumbai -II (b) 1, 2G, 2A, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 - Chennai (c) 1A, 2A, 2G, 3, 3A,4, 5, 5A, 5B, – Mumbai-I (d) 2A, 2G, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Mumbai-III (e) 2A,2G, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Hyderabad (c) 1A, 2A, 2G, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Ahmedabad (d) 1A, 2G, 3, 3A,4, 5, 5A, 5B – Bengaluru (f) 1,2A, 2G, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B,

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Phase	Roll-Out Date	% Coverage of All India Bills of Entry	Faceless Assessment Clusters	Zones and Faceless Assessment Coverage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>Mumbai I, II,III, Nagpur, Pune, Visakhapatnam, Hyderabad</p> <p>(iii) 3,3A – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai & Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Kolkata, Mumbai I, II & III, Patna (Prev.), Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.),</p> <p>(iv) 2G – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Meerut, Mumbai I, II & III, Nagpur, Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.)</p> <p>(v) 2A – Ahmedabad, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai I, II, III.</p> <p>(vi) 1A – Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar, Mumbai-I, Visakhapatnam.</p> <p>(vii) 1,6 – Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai-II, Visakhapatnam.</p> <p>(viii) 2K – Ahmedabad, Mumbai-II, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.)</p>	<p>6 – Delhi (g) 2G, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Meerut, Nagpur, Bhopal, Pune (h) 1, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Kolkata (i) 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B – Delhi (Prev.) (j) 2G, 3,3A, 5, 5A, 5B – Thiruvananthapuram. (k) 1A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Visakhapatnam (l) 5, 5A, 5B, 4, 1A – Bhubaneshwar (m) 3,3A, 5, 5A, 5B – Patna (Prev.), Guwahati (n) 2G, 2K, 3,3A, 5, 5A, 5B – Tiruchirappalli (Prev.).</p>
V	31.10.2020	100%	<p>(i) 5,5A,5B – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, II & III, Nagpur, Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Patna (Prev.), Visakhapatnam</p> <p>(ii) 4 – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Kolkata, Meerut,</p>	<p>(a) 1, 1A, 2,2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Mumbai II (b) 1,1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 - Chennai (c) 1,1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Mumbai-I (d) 1, 1A, 2,2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Mumbai -III (e) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3, 3A, 4,</p>

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Phase	Roll-Out Date	% Coverage of All India Bills of Entry	Faceless Assessment Clusters	Zones and Faceless Assessment Coverage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>Mumbai, I,II,III, Nagpur, Pune, Visakhapatnam, Hyderabad,Patna (Prev.), Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Guwahati</p> <p>(iii) 3,3A – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I,II &III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam</p> <p>(iv) 2G – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam</p> <p>(v) 2A – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, II, III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam</p> <p>(vi) 1A – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, Mumbai II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.),</p>	<p>5, 5A, 5B, 6– Hyderabad (f) 1, 1A,2,2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 - Ahmedabad (g) 1, 1A, 2,2A,2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Bengaluru (h) 1, 1A, 2,2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B,6 – Delhi (i) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6 – Meerut, Nagpur, Bhopal, Pune (j)1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6- Kolkata (k) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6- Delhi (Prev.) (l) 1, 1A, 2,2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6- Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) (m) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B,6 – Visakhapatnam (n) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3,3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6- Bhubaneshwar (o) 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 5A, 5B, 6- – Patna (Prev.), Guwahati</p>

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Phase	Roll-Out Date	% Coverage of All India Bills of Entry	Faceless Assessment Clusters	Zones and Faceless Assessment Coverage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			Visakhapatnam (vii) 1,6 – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, Mumbai II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam (viii) 2K – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, Mumbai II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam (ix) 2,2A,2B,2C,2D, 2E, 2F,2H, 2I, 2J - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Delhi (Prev.), Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Meerut, Mumbai I, II & III, Nagpur, Patna (Prev.), Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli (Prev.), Visakhapatnam	
31st Oct 2020: All India – All Zones - All Imports under Faceless Assessment #				

Excluding Land Customs Stations/Diamond Bourses

Note : Zones and Faceless Assessment Groups in bold in columns 4 and 5 and are newly added as on the roll-out dates in column 2.

Annexure II**(Revised annexure II of Circular No.40/2020-Customs dt.04.09.2020)****National Assessment Centres**

National Assessment Centre	Faceless Assessment Groups (Chapters covered by Customs Tariff Act, 1975)	Nodal Commissioners & FAG from Zones	Conveners (Pr.CC/CC of the Zone)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Primary Products	1 (1-26)	1. Bengaluru 2. Bhubaneshwar 3. Chennai 4. Kolkata 5. Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) 6. Thiruvananthapuram 7. Vishakhapatnam	Kolkata
		1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Delhi(Prev.) 4. Guwahati 5. Mumbai II 6. Mumbai III 7. Patna (Prev.)	Guwahati
Mineral Products	1A (27)	1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Mumbai I 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III 6. Pune	Ahmedabad
		1. Bengaluru 2. Bhubaneshwar 3. Chennai 4. Kolkata 5. Tiruchirappalli (Prev) 6. Visakhapatnam	Bhubaneshwar
Chemicals 1	2,2A,2B,2C,2D,2E and 2F (28-38)	1. Ahmedabad. 2. Delhi 3. Delhi (Prev.) 4. Meerut 5. Mumbai II 6. Mumbai III	Mumbai II
		1. Chennai 2. Hyderabad 3. Kolkata 4. Mumbai I 5. Thiruvananthapuram 6. Visakhapatnam	Visakhapatnam

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National Assessment Centre	Faceless Assessment Groups (Chapters covered by Customs Tariff Act, 1975)	Nodal Commissioners & FAG from Zones	Conveners (Pr.CC/CC of the Zone)
Chemicals 2	2G (39)	1. Chennai 2. Hyderabad 3. Mumbai I 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III 6. Visakhapatnam 7. Thiruvananthapuram	Mumbai II
		1. Ahmedabad 2. Bhopal 3. Delhi 4. Delhi (Prev.) 5. Kolkata 6. Meerut 7. Patna (Prev.)	Bhopal
Chemicals 3	2H,2I,2J,2K (40-49)	1. Bengaluru 2. Bhopal 3. Chennai 4. Kolkata 5. Nagpur 6. Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) 7. Thiruvananthapuram 8. Visakhapatnam	Chennai
		1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Delhi (Prev.) 4. Meerut 5. Mumbai II 6. Mumbai III 7. Mumbai I 8. Patna (Prev.) 9. Pune	Patna (Prev.)
Textile Products	3,3A^ (50-71)	1. Ahmedabad ^ 2. Bengaluru 3. Delhi ^ 4. Delhi(Prev.) ^ 5. Kolkata ^ 6. Patna (Prev.)	Bengaluru
		1. Chennai ^ 2. Mumbai I 3. Mumbai II 4. Mumbai III ^ 5. Tiruchirappalli (Prev.) 6. Thiruvananthapuram	Tiruchirappalli (Prev.)
Metal Products	4 (72-83)	1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Delhi(Prev.) 4. Guwahati 5. Meerut 6. Mumbai I	Delhi (Prev.)

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National Assessment Centre	Faceless Assessment Groups (Chapters covered by Customs Tariff Act, 1975)	Nodal Commissioners & FAG from Zones	Conveners (Pr.CC/CC of the Zone)
		7. Mumbai II 8. Mumbai III 9. Kolkata	
		1. Bengaluru 2. Bhopal 3. Chennai 4. Hyderabad 5. Nagpur 6. Pune 7. Vishakhapatnam 8. Thiruvananthapuram	Nagpur
Mechanical Machineries	5 (84)	1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Delhi(Prev.) 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III	Mumbai III
		1. Bengaluru 2. Chennai 3. Hyderabad 4. Kolkata 5. Thiruvananthapuram	Hyderabad
Electric Machineries	5A (85)	1. Delhi 2. Ahmedabad. 3. Mumbai I 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III	Delhi
		1. Bengaluru 2. Chennai 3. Hyderabad 4. Kolkata 5. Thiruvananthapuram	Meerut
Automobiles and Instruments	5B (86-92)	1. Bengaluru 2. Chennai 3. Hyderabad 4. Kolkata 5. Thiruvananthapuram	Chennai
		1. Ahmedabad 2. Delhi 3. Delhi(Prev.) 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III	Pune
Misc. products/Project Imports	6 (93-98)	1. Ahmedabad. 2. Kolkata 3. Mumbai I 4. Mumbai II 5. Mumbai III 6. Hyderabad	Mumbai I
		1. Bengaluru 2. Chennai	Thiruvananthapuram

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National Assessment Centre	Faceless Assessment Groups (Chapters covered by Customs Tariff Act, 1975)	Nodal Commissioners & FAG from Zones	Conveners (Pr.CC/CC of the Zone)
		3. Delhi (Prev.) 4. Delhi 5. Thiruvananthapuram 6. Visakhapatnam	

^ Group 3A - Limited to the zones indicated.