

CNK & Associates LLP

Advisory on Customs/ Foreign Trade Policy Compliances

With the Financial Year 2020-21 closing and Financial Year 2021-22 approaching, we have endeavoured to collate activities that needs to be undertaken to ensure compliance with Customs/ Foreign Trade Policy provisions.

1. *Every year between April – June, all IEC holders/ e-IEC holders have to ensure that all their details in the IEC is updated electronically:*

- a) IEC holders/ e-IEC holders whose IEC details remain same also need to confirm the details online within the prescribed period.
- b) An IEC shall be de-activated if it is not updated/ confirmed within the period. However, the de-activated IEC may be activated after successful updation/ confirmation.
- c) The re-activation of IEC would be subject to any other action that may be taken for violation of any other provisions of FTP.

(Notification No. 58/2015-2020 dated 12th February 2021)

2. *Filing of Advance Bills of Entry (BE) before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day of arrival of the vessel/aircraft/vehicle*

- a) Section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 has been amended vide Finance Act, 2021 mandating filing of advance BE before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day of arrival of the vessel/aircraft/vehicle carrying the imported goods at a Customs port/station at which such goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing.
- b) These changes facilitate pre-arrival processing and assessment of BE.
- c) The existing provision that a BE may be presented upto 30 days prior to the expected arrival of the aircraft/vessel/vehicle continues.
- d) The CBIC has done away with the requirement of Master Bill of Lading (MBL)/ Master Airway Bill (MAWB) for filing of advance BE. An advance BE can now be filed with reference to House Bill of Lading (HBL)/ House Airway Bill (HAWB). MBL/ MAWB can be subsequently updated and will get auto approved.

e) Timelines are varied as given in the table below to facilitate the importers. BE filed after the timeline shall attract late charges.

S.N.	Customs Station	BE is required to be filed latest by end of the day of Arrival of the Vessel/Aircraft/Vehicle	BE is required to be filed latest by the end of day preceding the day of Arrival of the Vessel/Aircraft/ Vehicle
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Sea Port	Imports consigned from following countries viz. 1. Bangladesh 2. Maldives 3. Myanmar 4. Pakistan 5. Sri Lanka	Imports consigned from all countries other than those mentioned in column (3)
2.	Airport	All imports	None
3.	Land Customs Station (LCS)	All imports	None
4.	Inland Container Depot (ICD)	None	All imports

(Board Circular No. 08/2021-Customs dated 29.03.2021,
Board Instruction No. 05/2021-Customs dated 24.03.2021,
Board Advisory No. 10/2021 dated 29.03.2021)

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