PUBLIC NOTICE NO.01/2013

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (IMPORT)
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, SHEVA
TAL. URAN, DISTT: RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA


PUBLIC NOTICE NO.01/2013

Subject: Measures for promoting cost efficiency of imports by Indian Trade and Industry—regarding.

1. Copy of letter F.No.450/95/2012-Cus.IV dated 20.11.2012 from the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Excise and Customs on the above mentioned subject is enclosed for the information and of Trade and CFSs/ICDs.

2. The permission for facility under section 49 of the Customs Act and de-stuffing of cargo from the imported container in a CFS/ICD shall be accorded by the Deputy/Assistant Commissioner of Customs of the concerned CFS/ICD on filing of such request by the importer.

3. The CFS/ICD shall ensure that a separate space is earmarked with proper security for storage of such de-stuffed imported goods.

4. The exercise of de-stuffing of the imported containerized cargo/storage of imported de-stuffed goods in the local containers shall be carried out under general supervision of preventive staff. Proper records in this regard shall be maintained by the concerned CFS/ICD.

Sd/-
(MANOJ KRISHNA)
COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (IMPORT)

To,
All Trade Association
The Bombay Custom House Agent Association

Copy to:
i.Chief Commissioner of Customs, JNCH, Mumbai – II
ii.Commissioner of Customs (Export), JNCH, Mumbai – II
iii.All Addl./Joint Commissioner of Customs, JNCH, Mumbai – II
iv.All Deputy/Asstt. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH, Mumbai – II
v.Website of JNCH

F. No.450/95/2012-Cus.IV
Government of India
To,
All Chief Commissioners of Customs / Customs (Prev.).
All Chief Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise.
All Commissioners of Customs / Customs (Prev.).
All Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise.
Director General of Revenue Intelligence.

Subject: Measures for promoting cost efficiency of imports by Indian Trade and Industry – regarding.

Sir / Madam,

1. Trade has represented that with the growing container traffic in India, allowing the importers to transfer the goods from foreign containers to domestic shipping containers under Customs supervision in respect of imported goods lying uncleared for more than five days in a Customs area (CFSs / ICDs), can prove beneficial in reducing outflow on account of foreign exchange payments for foreign shipping containers and help Indian trade and industry to become more cost effective.

2. The matter has been examined in the Board. In this regard, Section 49 of the Customs Act, 1962 provides facility of storing goods in warehouses pending clearance in case where goods cannot be cleared within a reasonable time. Moreover, even presently an importer may de-stuff and release a foreign container immediately on arrival in the CFS / ICD. Generally this option is not utilized by importers who have preference to clear goods at their premises as well as to avoid additional handling charges incurred on account of de-stuffing of the containers. It is also possible that some importers may not be aware of this option.

3. In the aforesaid circumstances, Board reiterates that importers have the option to avail of the facility under Section 49 of the Customs Act, 1962. Further, importer may exercise the option to de-stuff goods from foreign containers and keep the same in the CFS / ICD including in empty domestic containers therein, under Customs supervision, for subsequent clearance as per law.

4. These instructions may be brought to the notice of all the officers concerned by issuing suitable Standing Orders/instructions/Public Notices.

Yours faithfully,

(G. S. Sinha),
OSD (Customs IV)
Copy to:
Internal circulation (as usual).