PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 72/2016

Attention of all Exporters, Customs Brokers and other stakeholders is invited to the Board Circular No. 14/2009 dated 06.05.2009 & Circular No. 13/2011 dated 28.02.2011, DGFT Notification No. 54/2009-14 dated 03.08.2010 and JNCH Public Notice 11/2014 dated 01.4.2014 regarding compliance of ISPM-15 or phytosanitary measures on wood packaging.

2. In the international trade, every consignment accompanied with solid wood packaging materials (SWPM) needs to be treated and marked in accordance with the provisions of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.15. Any article, if found packed with raw/solid wood packaging material without specified treatment and without marking as per ISPM-15 or if not accompanied by phytosanitary certificate with treatment endorsed, as the case may be, are considered as untreated and are referred by the Customs to Plant Quarantine Officer. The Customs grants release of such articles packed with untreated wood packaging material only after ensuring that the wood packaging material has been appropriately treated, provided that above conditions are not applicable to wood packaging material wholly made of processed wood products such as ply wood, particle board, oriental strand board or veneer that have been created using glue, heat and pressure or combination thereof.

3. Some export consignments have recently been intercepted by importing countries for non-compliance of ISPM-15 Standards relating to wood packaging materials used for export of materials. Violations of ISPM-15 will not only dent our reputation as a responsible trading partner, but also expose our exports to entry restrictions in overseas markets. Therefore, phytosanitary standards & ISPM-15 need to be complied with strictly.

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(SUBHASH AGRAWAL)
Commissioner of Customs (NS-IV)
JNCH, Nhava Sheva

Copy to:
1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II.
2. The Pr. Commissioner of Customs, NS-Gen/NS-II.
3. The Commissioner of Customs NS-IV.
5. All the Dy. / Asstt. Commissioner of Customs, NS-II, NS-IV and NS-Gen.
6. Notice Board and Website.