Subject: Roll-out of Faceless Assessment for Chapter 29, Group 2A in Mumbai Zones I, II and III - regarding.

Attention of stakeholders is drawn to CBIC Circular No. 34/2020-Cus dated 30.07.2020 on the above subject which is to be read with CBIC Circular No. 28/2020-Customs dated 05.06.2020 and Notification No. 50/2020-Cus (NT) dated 05.06.2020. By virtue of these, the roll-out of faceless assessment of Bills of Entry for import covered under 1st phase would continue, and in the 2nd phase beginning 03.08.2020 the faceless assessment will cover the specified Customs Zones and imports as described in Circular No. 34/2020-Cus.

2. In this new phase, the imports primarily under chapter 29 of the CTA, 1975 in Appraisal Group 2A has been covered for faceless assessment for the Customs Zones Mumbai I, Mumbai II (Nhava Sheva) and Mumbai III. The Bills of Entry of Group 2A pertaining to Mumbai I, II and III will get assigned by Customs Automated System to officers of the Faceless Assessment Groups.

3. For this purpose, the Public Notice No. 91/2018 dated 30.07.2018 is hereby further amended to also specify in the work allocated to Commissioner of Customs, Nhava Sheva-I, the Faceless Assessment covering imports primarily under Chapter 29 of the CTA, 1975 under Import Group 2A against the Head “Import Groups”.

4. The CBIC Circular No. 34/2020-Customs has specified the said Commissioner of Customs, Nhava Sheva-I also as one of the Nodal Commissioners (along with the relevant Commissioner of Zone I and Zone III) as administratively responsible for monitoring and ensuring speedy and uniform assessments, in regard to the Bills of Entry assigned by the System to the officers of the Faceless Assessment Groups.

Towards this end, the CBIC Circular Nos. 28/2020-Customs and 34/2020-Customs have already described and given reference to detailed Instructions dated 05.06.2020 issued by the Board. In terms of these, it shall be ensured that the requisite arrangement are put in place as described therein and responsibilities of Nodal Commissioner, responsibilities of port of import, procedure for verification of assessment of bill of entry by Faceless Assessment Group, speaking order or review of any speaking order of re-assessment, issuing demands and adjudication thereof, provisional assessment, amendment of bills of entry and exchange of communication exclusively by electronic mode and authentication of electronic records, etc. is adopted and followed. Further, the Faceless Assessment Group would consist of Appraisers / Superintendents and Assistant / Deputy Commissioner and be supervised by Joint / Additional Commissioner under the overall control and monitoring of the Commissioner. These all shall be taken as Standing Order for the Commissioner / officers concerned. It is expected that Nodal Commissioner would ensure smooth and faster clearance process with uniformity in assessment.

5. Commissioner of Customs, Nhava Sheva-I shall issue further Public Notice (not later than 01.08.2020) to guide the trade for smooth implementation of Faceless Assessment and make suitable directions for the officers and staff. Once operational from 03.08.2020, Faceless Assessment and related work should be closely monitored by Commissioner, Nhava Sheva-I for smooth functionality.
6. The Turant Suvidha Kendra (TSK) is already set up vide Public Notice No. 80/2020 dated 08.07.2020 read with No. 82/2020 dated 14.07.2020 and it shall suitably cater to the relevant functions consistent with the above cited Board’s Circulars for Faceless Assessment Group, for which coordination, supervision and monitoring shall be maintained by Commissioners of Customs Nheva Sheva - III and I.

7. The Notification No. 63/2020-Customs (N.T.) dated 30.07.2020 is issued by the Board for the purpose of empowering the jurisdictional Commissioner of Customs (Appeals) interalia at Mumbai Zone II to take up appeals filed in respect of Faceless Assessments pertaining to imports made in their jurisdictions even though the assessing officer may be located at the other Customs station.

This is issued with the approval of Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Customs Zone-II.

Copy for kind information to:

1. AIIEA, BCBA, FIEO and other trade associations.
2. Commissioner of Customs, NS-G/NS-I/NS-II/NS-III/NS-IV/NS-V and NS-Appeal, Mumbai Zone-II.
3. All officers in Mumbai Zone II via website.
4. Port Terminal (JNPT / GTI / BMCT / NSICT & NSIGT), MANSA, CSLA, CFSAI.
5. AC/DC, EDI for uploading on JNCH website.

(Dipin Singla)
Joint Commissioner, CCCU

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