Standing Order No. 34/2010

Sub: Classification of Artware / Handicraft items and composite goods in the Drawback Schedule reg.

It has been brought to the notice of this Commissionerate in a meeting with the representatives of Export Promotion Council of Handicrafts (EPCH) and Moradabad Handicrafts Exporters Association that difficulties were being faced by exporters in classification of articles declared as handicraft/artware items. It was also brought to the notice that AC/Exports were insisting for certification by EPCH / Development Commissioner for Handicrafts in all consignments of Handicrafts and artware items even before examination of the cargo.

In this connection, it is informed that this Commissionerate has already issued Public Notice No. 48/2010 dated 12.04.2010 on this issue based on the Board’s Circular No. 3/2010 CUS dated 12-02-2010. It was not the intention of the Board while issuing the above Circular that a certificate from EPCH / Development Commissioner of Handicrafts should be insisted for each and every consignment of Handicrafts / Artware except only in cases of doubt. Therefore, the Officers are hereby directed to follow the instructions issued under the said Circular and Public Notice. Some of the important aspects of the Public Notice are reiterated as below:

(i) Normally the export consignments of Handicrafts / Artwares should not be held up for want of Certification by EPCH / Development Commissioner for Handicrafts and the consignment of Handicrafts / Artwares may be allowed provisionally.

(ii) In any case where the certification by EPCH / Development Commissioner for Handicrafts has not been issued and the assessing Officer has a doubt regarding the nature of the consignment then the file has to be submitted to the Commissioner along with sample and photographs on the same date of examination as far as possible.
Normally in terms of para 4 of Public notice no. 48/2010 dated 12-04-2010 the assessing authority should accept the certificates issued by EPCH/Development Commissioner(Handicrafts). A decision to reject the said certificates should be taken only with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs / Central Excise and after discussions with the certificate issuing authorities. The exports in the mean time, should not be held up.

3. The representatives of Export Promotion Council of Handicrafts (EPCH) and Moradabad Handicrafts Exporters Association have agreed to make a video presentation of the manufacturing process relating to the Handicrafts / Artwares to familiarize the assessing and examining officers of this Commissionerate. The video presentation is scheduled in the last week of July 2010.

4. Any difficulty faced in implementing this Standing Order may be brought to the notice of Addl. Commissioner of Customs (Exports), JNCH or the undersigned, if not resolved.

(SUSHIL SOLANKI)
Commissioner of Customs (Export)

To
All the Concerned.

Copy to:-
1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone
2. The Commissioner of Customs (Import), JNCH
3. All the Addl./Jt. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
4. Moradabad Handicrafts Exporters Association / EPCH
5. Notice Board / JNCH website