

Office of The Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs  
Mumbai Customs Zone II, Nhava Sheva, District-Raigad,  
Maharashtra-400707

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F.No.: S/3-Gen-92/ 2019-20/IN/JNCH  
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Date: 01.07.2021

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 61/2021

Subject : Implementation of the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations-reg

Attention of all Port Terminals (ATO), Shipping lines (ASC), Shipping Agents (ASA), Transhippers (ATP), Custodians (ACU), Freight forwarders (ANC), Customs Brokers, Importers, Exporters, and other stakeholders is invited to Board's Circular No. 12/2021-Customs dated 30.06.2021 read with Circular No. 43/2020- Customs dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 on the subject mentioned above.

2. Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations (SCMTR), 2018, were notified vide Notification No.38/2018-Customs (N.T.) dated 11.05.2018. The SCMTR seek to bring about transparency, predictability of movement, advance collection of information for expeditious clearance and supersedes the earlier regulations viz. Import Manifest (Vessels) Regulations, 1971 and Export Manifest (Vessels) Regulation, 1976. The Regulations stipulate for advance notice by authorized carriers for goods arriving in or being exported out of India through gateway seaports and further movement between Customs stations. They stipulate the obligations, roles and responsibilities for the various stakeholders involved in movement of imported/export goods. Based on the feedbacks from the various stakeholders, the changes were incorporated and the said regulations was made effective from 1st of August, 2019 with transitional provisions under Regulation 15 till the 30th of September, 2020.

3. Considering the disruptions caused due to Covid-19 Pandemic and non-readiness of the stakeholders, Board has issued several notifications time to time and the last one being Notification No. 50/2021-Customs (N.T.) dated 31.05.2021, vide which the transitional provisions under Regulation 15(2) have been extended till 30th June 2021 to enable submission of manifests under erstwhile regulations.

4. During this period, to handhold the trade, Directorate General of Systems has taken numerous outreach activities for both trade and officers. Advisories (on steps for registration, new pan – India Bonds, Dissemination of Entity Type information, message testing and filing, reports and enquiries) and communications from time to time have been issued to the field officers for engaging the stakeholders in handholding exercises and keeping the trade abreast with the latest developments with regards to the implementation of SCMTR and for smooth transition to the SCMTR regime. Directorate General of Systems has also issued various guidelines/advisory related to the registration process and filing requirements under the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations (SCMTR) for different stakeholders such as Shipping Lines, Freight Forwarders, Transhippers etc, who are integral to the implementation of the said regulations. The guidelines can be found at the following link (<https://www.icegate.gov.in/SeaManifestRegulation.html>). Directorate General of Systems has organized several webinar sessions with authorised carriers/agents, custodians, freight forwarders, console agents and other notified carriers. These outreach sessions were aimed at sensitizing them towards message filing requirement under SCMTR as per guidance and the formats available in ICEGATE.

5. Upon review of the progress of the adoption of the new procedures/formats by stakeholders, it has been noticed that the adoption for filling of messages is very low for Shipping lines (ASC) as well as Transshippers (ATP). It may be appreciated that complete and error free details of containers and its movement during Stuffing and the transshipment will greatly facilitate filing of Export messages. Currently, 25 CFSs under the jurisdiction of Mumbai Customs Zone-II have adopted and started filling messages in new formats/procedures. Non filling of messages in new formats/procedures is leading to difficulty in further integration.

6. To re-iterate, as elaborated in various outreach activities by the DG Systems, it has already operationalized a procedure to enable online filing of the electronic declaration at certain events by the custodians. This will enable reconciling the declarations filed by various carriers thus error-free. The above category known as ACU/ATOs and includes custodians of Container Freight Stations (CFS), Inland Container Depots (ICD) and seaports. These ACUs/ATOs are required to file the stuffing reports (SF) and stripping reports (ST). Stuffing and stripping reports are required to be filed electronically by the Custodians including Terminal Operators wherever the cargo is being segregated or stuffed in different containers. Stuffing (SF) and Stripping (ST) messages will be filed for every equipment (container) giving the PCINs (Primary Cargo Identification Numbers)/MCINs (Master Cargo Identification Numbers) being stuffed into or stripped out of that container. Additionally, Custodians will also have to file notifications of actual time of arrival and departure of conveyance (ATE/ELR for Terminal Operators and AT/DT for other Custodians). The same has been enabled on a voluntary basis since March 2021 for migrating to the new procedure.

6.1. Further, to speed up the direct delivery process, The ATOs are required to electronically file the following details with Customs, namely

- i. Voyage Call Number (VCN), which is required to be the port on confirmation of voyage by the vessel in such port.
- ii. Actual Time of Arrival (ATE), which is required to be filed immediately on arrival at the current port of call.
- iii. Equipment Landed on Arrival (ELR), which is also required to be filed on details of the containers offloaded from the vessel.
- iv. Equipment Loaded at Departure (ELR), which is required to be filed on details of the containers loaded on to the vessel.
- v. Actual Time of Departure (ATE), which is required to be filed immediately after departure from the Indian port of call.

7. Since sufficient time has been provided for adoption on a voluntary basis, Board has decided that following messages by the Custodian i.e., Stuffing Message (SF), ASR Filing, DP Filing and AR filing by the Custodians and VCN message by the Terminal Operators will be made mandatory w.e.f. 20th July 2021. The detailed guidelines and FAQs for different categories of stakeholders are available on ICEGATE (<https://www.icegate.gov.in/SeaManifestRegulation.html>) and may be kindly referred to. 8. Further, Board vide Customs Notification No. 56/2021 -Customs (N.T) dated 30.06.2021 has extended the transitional provisions of SCMTR till 31st July 2021 for to enable carriers continue mandatory filing on a parallel basis.

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9. Difficulty, if any may be brought to the knowledge of the dedicated Help desk at Nhava Sheva Customs. The following officers would be available to guide and help in this regard. All queries and replies in this regard may be emailed to [scmtr-jnch@gov.in](mailto:scmtr-jnch@gov.in) and [edi@jawaharcustoms.gov.in](mailto:edi@jawaharcustoms.gov.in)

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Sd/-  
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Commissioner of Customs (General),  
Mumbai Customs Zone-II

Copy to:

1. Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Customs Zone-II
2. Pr. Commissioner/Commissioner of Customs, NS-I/NS-II/NS-III/NS-V/NS-Gen./Audit
3. Port Terminals, CFSAI, CSLA, MANSA, BCBA, FFAI & all other stakeholders
4. All officer in Mumbai Customs Zone-II via website
5. DC/EDI- for uploading on JNCH website