ACTION HISTORY OF RTI REQUEST No.CCUM2/R/T/26/00213/1

Applicant Name	Pragya Dubey
Text of Application	1. Authorization Protocol for Withholding Consignments: Please provide the designation of the Competent Authority empowered to grant pre-facto and post-facto approval for the Hold, Interdiction, or Withholding of import/export consignments by intelligence branches in various Customs formations. Please provide certified copies/ link of the relevant Public Notice, Standing Order, Circular, Notification or Departmental Advisory governing these authorization protocols. 2. Deviations from Approval Protocols: Are there any defined exigencies or emergency circumstances under which the requirement for formal approval (pre-facto or post-facto) for withholding a consignment may be bypassed or waived by the investigating agency in various Customs formations? If such provisions exist, Please provide certified copies/ link of the relevant Public Notice, Standing Order, Circular, Notification or Departmental Advisory that outlines these exceptions and the subsequent reporting requirements. 3. Mandatory Seizure Procedures during Examination: When an investigation or examination is conducted by an intelligence agency in various formations, is it mandatory under existing departmental instructions to formally seize all original documents associated with the consignment under a Panchnama at the time of the examination? Furthermore, please clarify if the seizure of representative samples of the goods must also be recorded under the same or a supplementary Panchnama. 4. Procedure for Handling and Preservation of Sealed Samples: Please provide the official guidelines or Standing Orders regarding the opening of a Sealed Sample previously seized under Panchnama. Specifically: (a) Is it mandatory to draw a fresh Panchnama when such a seal is broken by an intelligence agency in various Customs formations in their office for further investigation or testing? (b) Is there a mandatory requirement for the intelligence agency in various Customs formations to preserve the remnants or the original sealed sample for the purpose of future cross-examination or re-testing during departmental adjudication/inquiry proceedings? If so, please provide certified copies/ link of the relevant Public Notice, Standing Order, Circular, Notification or Departmental Advisory specifying the duration and manner of such preservation. 5. Statutory Requirements for Panchnama Documentation: Is it a mandatory procedural requirement that a Panchnama be drafted in a language that the Panchas (witnesses) can read, write, and understand? Please provide any Public Notice or Instruction that specifies the procedure to be followed if the Panchas are not proficient in the language of the document. Additionally, please state if any deviation from this procedure is legally permissible under existing Board (CBIC) guidelines.
Reply of Application	The Reply of the Said RTI is enclosed herewith as per the RTI Act, 2005.

SN.	Action Taken	Date of Action	Action Taken By	Remarks
1	RTI REQUEST RECEIVED	08/04/2026	Nodal Officer	CCUM2/R/T/26/00213
2	REQUEST FORWARDED TO CPIO	08/04/2026	Nodal Officer	Forwarded to CPIO(s) :
3	REQUEST DISPOSED OF	21/04/2026	Pravin N. Mhatre-(CPIO)	

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