



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS PREVENTIVE COMMISSIONERATE
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SUB: Customs – Trade Facilitation Gap Analysis-Reg

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Despite several steps taken for trade facilitation , the task remains unfinished and further concerted efforts are needed on the part of all stake holders . There still exist procedural , legal and administrative bottlenecks constraining the free flow of import and export trade and thereby denying India her rightful place in the International market

2. In the light of the above , Commissioner of Customs, Customs Preventive Commissionerate , Vijayawada has commissioned a Study to carryout domestic trade facilitation gap analysis , i.e. the gap between the Department's own trade facilitations steps and the continuing bottlenecks, if any. The Study attempts to identify those areas where constraints need to be removed to ensure smooth flow of trade. In addition , certain long – term measures are required to be taken up. . The Study attempts to find out what kind of change of mindset on the part of public servants is required who are accustomed to the regulatory environment prevailing in India for decades . The Study also touches upon certain areas where importers and exporters bear unnecessary costs , which erode their competitiveness in international market .

3. Methodology :

3.1 . The study has identified following operators/ agencies as the main stake holders in the process for trade facilitation

- * Importers
- * Exporters
- * Shipping Agents / Steamer Agents
- * Customs Brokers
- * Port Operators (Sea)
- * Government Regulatory and Promotions bodies
 - Customs Department
 - Director General of Foreign Trade
 - Apex Industry bodies such as Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) , FAPSCI , Vijayawada Chamber of Commerce , Andhra Pradesh Chamber of Commerce
- * Other Agencies like Ports , Health Authorities , Plant Quarantine Authorities

3.2. The Study proposes mainly focuses in identifying the bottlenecks in import clearance which suffers greater delay than export clearance due to legal and procedural complexities . Import goods, apart from being subject to customs duty , also face a number of non-tariff barriers . The procedure for control and assessment of these goods to import duty itself is complex and the additional requirements of meeting the standards of health and quality call for chemical tests and more documents . At the same time , in view of the importance of exports for the overall balance of trade of the country , the study also focuses on different aspects of export clearance .

3.3. The interaction with the stake holders is aimed at understanding the rationale of the prescribed procedures and the constraints under which they perform their role . To facilitate this process, questionnaires are being circulated to these agencies to identify the documentation , administrative processes , legal requirements etc., which constrain the free flow of goods and also to suggest ways and means to improve , modify and facilitate for free flow of the Trade . Questionnaires used for interactions with different stake holders are enclosed as Annexure (A) to Annexure (F) to this Public Notice .

The questionnaires are being issued to the stake holders via e-mail/ courier directly as well as through the offices of the Custodian/ Customs Brokers

4. All the Importers ,Exporters ,Customs Brokers , Shipping Agents /Steamer Agents , All Stake Holders , All Trade Associations / Chambers of Commerce are requested to fill up the questionnaires and submit back with soft copy as well as hard copy to the following offices/ officers . The duly filled in soft copy may be sent back to the mentioned e-mail addresses .

Sl.No	Nam of Custom House	Name of the Officer Shri	Designation	e-mail address
1	Krishnapatnam Custom House	Chan Basha Meeran	Deputy Commissioner	Chanbasha.Meeran@icegate.gov.in
		N.Srujan Kumar	Assistant Commissioner	Srujan.Nakidi@icegate.gov.in
2	Kakinada Custom House	D.Srikanth	Deputy Commissioner	Sreekanth.Musuluru@icegate.gov.in
		V.Srinivasa Rao	Assistant Commissioner	<u>Srinivasa.Rogirala@icegate.gov.in</u>
3	ICD, Marripalem, Guntur	K.Raja Sekhara Reddy	Assistant Commissioner	Konda.Reddy@icegate.gov.in

5. For the Year 2014-2015 ,the above officers may collect the duly filled in Questionnaire and analyze the data and send consolidated reports to Hqrs. Office by 15-04-2015 . This exercise shall be repeated for every Financial Year.

6. All the Trade Associations / Chambers of Commerce and the Customs Brokers Association are requested to bring/publicize the contents of this Public Notice among their Members/Constituents for their information and necessary action.


[S.K. RAHMAN]
COMMISSIONER

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Encl : As above.

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