

सीमा शुल्क (निवारक) के आयुक्त का कार्यालय OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (PREVENTIVE COMMISSIONERATE)

55-17-3, सी-14, 2 तल, औद्योगिक एस्टेट, ऑटो नगर, विजयवाड़ा – 520 007 55-17-3, C-14, 2nd Floor, Road No.2, Industrial Estate, Autonagar, Vijayawada - 520 007

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C.No.VIII/09/02/2019-Cus.TFC.

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 12 /2019-Cus

Sub: Guidelines for launching of Prosecution in relation to offences punishable under the Customs Act, 1962-reg.

Attention of all the Importers, Exporters, Customs Brokers, Steamer Agents, Custodians/ Customs Cargo Service Providers, Trade Associations / Chamber of Commerce, Members of the RAC/ PGC and the Public is invited on the above subject.

- Attention is also invited to Board's Circular No.12/2019-Customs dated 24.05.2019 on the cited subject. Also refer to the Prosecution Guidelines issued vide Board's Circular No. 27/2015-Customs dated 23.10.2015 on the above mentioned subject and the subsequent amendments vide Circular No. 46/2016 dated 04.10.2016 and Circular No. 07/2017 dated 06.03.2017.
- It was brought to the notice of the Board that there has been a steep rise in the cases of outright smuggling of gold and foreign currency by foreign nationals and these accused persons have no interest/ assets in India; and once released on bail, they are not available to face trial. Therefore, service of Show Cause Notice (SCN) to these foreigners also becomes difficult. Accordingly, it was suggested that 'foreign currency' may be added in the list of items mentioned in Para 6 of the Circular dated 23.10.2015 as amended, and where the case relates to foreign nationals, it may be allowed to launch prosecution within 60 days.

4. Board has examined the matter. Accordingly, it has been decided to substitute Para 6 of the aforesaid Circular with the following, namely,-

"6. Stage for launching of Prosecution: Normally, prosecution may be launched immediately on completion of adjudication proceedings. However, in respect of cases involving offences relating to items, viz. Gold, Foreign Currency, Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN), arms, ammunitions and explosives, antiques, art treasures, wild life items and endangered species of flora and fauna, prosecution may preferably be launched immediately after issuance of Show Cause Notice under the Customs Act, 1962. Further, in cases involving Foreign National(s), prosecution may be launched at the earliest, even before issuance of the Show Cause Notice.'

- 5. All the members of the Regional Advisory Committee, Trade and Industry Associations are requested to circulate the Public Notice among their constituent members for implementation and guidance.
- 6. Action to be taken in terms of decisions taken in this Public Notice should be considered as Standing Order for the purpose of officers and staff.
- 7. Any difficulty, experienced in the implementation, may be brought to the notice of the undersigned.

(एस. फहीम अहमद/S.FAHEEM AHMED) PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER

To All the Importers / Exporters / Customs Brokers Agencies / Customs Brokers Licensees / Customs Brokers Associations under the jurisdiction of Customs Commissionerate (Preventive), Vijayawada through the Additional / Joint Commissioner of Customs, Krishnapatnam Custom House / Kakinada Custom House and the Deputy / Assistant

Commissioner of Customs, ICD, Marripalem.

 Copy submitted to the Chief Commissioner of Customs and Central Tax, Visakhapatnam zone, GST Bhavan, Port Area, Visakhapatnam – 530035 for information.

Copy to:

- 1. The Additional Commissioner of Customs, Krishnapatnam Custom House, KAPS Building, CVR Complex, Krishnapatnam Port Area, Gopalapuram, MUTHUKURU-524344 S.P.S.R Nellore District for information with a direction to give wide publicity among the exporters under the jurisdiction of KPCH.
- 2. The Joint Commissioner of Customs, Kakinada Custom House, Port Road, Kakinada 533007, East Godavari District for information with a direction to give wide publicity among the exporters under the jurisdiction of KKDCH.
- 3. The Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of Customs, ICD Marripalem 522233, Guntur District for information with a direction to give wide publicity among the exporters under their jurisdiction.
- 4. The Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Customs Division, Visakhapatnam / Kakinada / Vijayawada / Tirupati for information.
- 5. The Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Hqrs. Trade Facilitation Centre, Hqrs. office, CC(P), Vijayawada for information.
- 6. Copy to Superintendent (Computers), CPC, Hqrs.office, Vijayawada for display on CPC, Vijayawada website www.apcustoms.gov.in
- 7. Copy to M/s Krishnapatnam Port Company Ltd., (KPCL) the custodian / Custom Cargo Service Provider of Krishnapatnam Port, Muthukur, SPSR Nellore District (Through the Additional Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Krishnapatnam) for information.
- 8. Copy to M/s Kakinada Seaports Ltd.,(KSPL) the custodian / Custom Cargo Service Provider of Kakinada Port, Kakinada (Through the Joint Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Kakinada) for information.
- Copy to M/s Leap International Private Ltd, the custodian / Custom Cargo Service Provider of ICD Marripalem, Guntur (Through the Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of Customs, ICD, Marripalem, Guntur) for information.
- 10. Copy to the Notice Board.