



वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance

राजस्व विभाग/ Department of Revenue

सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय/ Office of the Commissioner of Customs

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दिनांक / Dated 29.09.2021

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 16/2021**

**Subject: Implementation of Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations-Reg.**

Kind attention of Authorized Sea Carriers (including Shipping lines), Authorized Sea Agents (Steamer/Shipping Agents), Authorized Carriers (Transhippers), Terminal Operators, Custodians, Freight Forwarders, Importers, Exporters, Customs Broker, Authorized persons of all the above, Associations and Federations representing the above persons all other concerned stakeholders are invited to Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations, 2018 notified vide Notification No.38/2018-Customs (NT) dated 11.05.2018 as amended and issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), New Delhi.

2. The .SCMTR seek to bring about transparency, predictability of movement, advance collection of information for the 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 stipulated the obligations, roles and responsibility for the various stakeholders involved in movement of imported/export goods. Based on the feedbacks from various stakeholders, the changes were incorporated and the said regulation was made effective from 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2019 with transitional provision under Regulation 15 till the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 2020.

3. Considering the disruption caused due to Covid-19 Pandemic and non-readiness of the stakeholders, Board has issued several Notification from time to time and the last one being Notification No.70/2021-Customs (NT) dated 31.08.2021 vide which the transitional provision under Regulation 15(2) have been extended till 30<sup>th</sup> September,2021 to enable submission of manifests under erstwhile regulations.

4. The Directorate of General of System 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. The DG 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 (<http://www.icegate.gov.in/seamanifestregulation.html>). Directorate General of Systems has organized several webinar sessions with the authorized carriers/agents, custodians,

freight forwarders, console agents and other notified carriers. These outreach sessions were aimed at sensitizing them towards message filing requirements under SCMTR, as per guidance and formats available in ICEGATE.

5. The Board has reviewed the progress of the adoption of the new formats/procedures by the stakeholders. While it is noticed that the regulation of the entities and submission of National Bonds is almost complete, very few entities keep filing the declarations as stipulated in the SCMTR. The Adoption of new message formats in Export related messages is exceptionally low, compared to the import related messages. In this stage it may be appreciated that complete and error free details of Containers and its movements during stuffing and the transshipments will greatly facilitate filing of Export and Import messages.

6. To re-iterate, as elaborated in various outreach activities by the DG Systems, it has already operationalized the procedure to enable online filing of the electronic declaration at certain events by the Custodians. This will enable reconciling the declaration filed by the 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 where 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 PCIN (Primary Cargo Identification Numbers)/ MCINs (Master Cargo Identification Number) being stuffed into or stripped into or stripped out of that container. Additionally, Custodians will also have to file notification of actual time of arrival and departure of conveyance (ATE/ELR for Terminal Operators and AT/DT for other Custodians). The same has enabled on voluntary basis since March, 2021 for migrating to the new procedures.

7. 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 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 also required to be filed on details of the containers offloaded from the vessel.
- v. Actual time of Departure (ATE), which is required to be filled immediately after departure from the Indian Port of Call.

8. Further, Board vide Customs Notification No.70/2021-Customs (N.T) dated 31.08.2021 has extended the transitional provision of SCMTR till 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

9. In case of any difficulty faced in this regard may be brought to the notice of this office.

  
(DINESH K.CHAKRAVARTHY)  
COMMISSIONER

To

As per Mailing List I, II and III.

Notice Board,

EDI Section, Custom House, Tuticorin for uploading in the website

Copy submitted to: The Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Trichy.