



वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance

राजस्व विभाग / Department of Revenue

सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय / Office of the Commissioner of Customs

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Subject: Encouraging Women participation in International Trade – reg.

Attention is invited to Board's Circular No. 42/2013-Customs dated 25.10.2023 regarding setting up of 'Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee' (CCFC) and Circular No. 13/2015-Customs dated 13.04.2015 pertaining to Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee' (PTFC) instituting a structured mechanism for receiving feedback from the trade and removing bottlenecks in procedure.

2. To make the most of trade as a catalyst for equality, women must be represented at all levels. Women also must be represented across different job roles and functions of trade – be it as traders, customs house agents, freight forwarders, or customs brokers. Keeping in view the growing participation of women in the logistics sector, a conscious effort is required by all participants including Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) and trade bodies in this regard.

3. In view of the above all trade bodies/custodians and other stakeholders are appealed to make sure there must be representation of women in the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) and Customs Clearance Facility Committee (CCFC) meetings, preferably through women associations. Henceforth, at least one agenda point submitted by the trade bodies/custodians and other stakeholders should be from women perspective.

4. Further, trade bodies/custodians and other stakeholders should make sure to establish dedicated help desks and processing mechanisms for women traders and women logistics service providers.
5. To support, in upskilling women logistics service providers, freight forwarders and custom brokers, relevant training sessions will be organised for women.
6. Difficulties, if any, in this regard may be brought to the notice of the undersigned.

(VIKAS NAIR)
COMMISSIONER OF
CUSTOMS