वित्तमंत्रालय / **Ministry of Finance**
राजस्वविभाग/**Department of Revenue**
सीमा शुल्क प्रधान आयुक्त का कार्यालय/**OFFICE OF THE PR. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS**
सीमा शुल्क गृह, नयी हार्बर एस्टेट,/**CUSTOM HOUSE, NEW HARBOUR ESTATE,**
तूतीकोरिन**628004**-/**TUTICORIN – 628 004.**

F.No.CUS/AG/PN/4/2025-POL **Date: 23.11.2026**

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 11/2026

Subject: Introduction of the facility for examination of Direct Port Delivery (DPD) containers at the Direct Port Delivery Examination Shed and issuance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)–Reg.

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Attention of Importers, Exporters, Customs Brokers (CBs), Trade, Port Terminal Operators, Shipping Lines / Shipping Agents, Container Freight Stations (CFSs), and other stakeholders operating under the jurisdiction of Custom House, Tuticorin, is invited to Notification No. 01/2026 dated 23.11.2026, issued by this office, approving a specified premises (Direct Port Entry Facility area) of V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port as a "Proper Place" for the examination of Direct Port Delivery (herein after referred as DPD) containers. Further attention is invited to Public Notice Nos. 19/2015 dated 19.06.2015 and 10/2017 dated 17.05.2017, Facility Intimation No. 20/2018 dated 31.05.2018, and the SOP dated 24.03.2025, issued by this office .

In furtherance of Ease of Doing Business and to reduce dwell time and logistics costs, a dedicated examination facility for DPD containers has been established at DPD Examination Shed in VOC Port Authority. This Public Notice consolidates and lays down the complete Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for clearance, scanning, examination, and release of DPD containers.

1. Eligibility and Prerequisites for Availing DPD Facility:

- **Eligible Importers:** The DPD facility is available to Authorized Economic Operators (**AEO** – Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3) as well as non-AEO importers who have imported atleast 25 Full Container Load (FCL) TEUs through a particular port or otherwise in the preceding financial year and registered with Custom House, Tuticorin, as DPD Importers.

- **Advance Filing & Duty Payment:** The Importer or Customs Broker must file an Advance / Prior Bill of Entry (B/E) via ICEGATE prior to the arrival of the vessel and complete customs duty payment before berthing/discharge to avail seamless clearance.

2. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Out of Charge (OOC) / Release of DPD Containers:

The procedure to be followed for granting Out of Charge (OOC) and releasing DPD containers at the aforementioned facility is detailed below:

Terminal Stacking and Initial Processing

- The Importer/Customs Broker shall file an advance/prior Bill of Entry (B/E) and upon discharge from the vessel, DPD containers shall be stacked in a separate, designated location inside the Port Terminals (**M/s DBGT** and M/s**TICT**).
- Importer/Customs Broker has to arrange the transport for movement of delivery of containers

A. RMS Facilitated B/E with No Scanning and No Examination: Where the Bill of Entry is fully facilitated by the Risk Management System (RMS) and Out of Charge (OOC) has been granted automatically or by the proper officer without scanning/examination, the terminal shall release the container directly to the importer/Customs Broker upon submission of the OOC copy and the Shipping Liner's Delivery Order (DO).

B. Containers Selected for Scanning

Movement to CSD: When a DPD container is selected for scanning, it shall be moved out of the terminal to the Container Scanning Division (CSD) through the Green Gate for scanning. The Superintendent (CSD) shall record the scanning result on the Equipment Interchange Report (EIR) copy of the container..

Case I – No Adverse Scanning Report:

- The Importer/CB shall upload the scanning result in the Bill of Entry via e-SANCHIT.
- The Superintendent (RMS Section) shall grant OOC, after which the container shall move out of the CSD.
- Remaining containers pertaining to the same Bill of Entry that were not selected for scanning and are lying at the terminal shall also be allowed for loading by the terminal based on submission of OOC copy of the Bill of entry and the Delivery Order (DO) issued by the Shipping Liner.

Case II – Adverse Scanning Report:

The Importer/CB shall move the container from the CSD facility to the DPD Examination Shed via Blue Gate..DPD Shed officials shall conduct a physical examination of the goods and video record the same shall be done using body-worn cameras.

i. **If no discrepancy in examination is found:** The examination report shall be written manually on the copy of B/E, and after uploading the examination result in the B/E via E -SANCHIT by the importer/CB OOC, shall be granted by the Superintendent (RMS).

ii. **If discrepancy in examination is found:** The container shall be sealed with a Customs One-Time Seal (OTS) and moved to **M/s CWC CFS** under Customs escort and further necessary action will be taken up by SIIB.

C. Non-Facilitated Bills of Entry & PGA Sampling

1. Examination Prescribed Upon Assessment: In case of DPD bill of entry which has been taken up for assessment as non-facilitated Bills of Entry and examination has been ordered by the Assessing Officers during assessment, the Importer/CB shall move the container to the **DPD Examination Shed**. The specific container(s) is/are to be selected for examination, the specific container(s) to be examined is to be marked by the Assistant/Deputy commissioner of Customs (RMS Cell) . After auto registration/ registration of the goods, examination of goods shall be conducted by the Examining Officials of DPD Examination Shed and the entire procedure right from seal cutting to resealing with a Customs OTS seal shall be video recorded using body-worn camera. The examination report shall be entered in the B/E in ICES, and OOC shall be granted by the **Superintendent (DPD)**. In case of discrepancy in examination , the container shall be re-sealed with a Customs One-Time Seal (OTS) and moved to **M/s CWC CFS** under Customs escort and further necessary action will be taken up by SIIB.

2. Sampling for Participating Government Agencies (PGAs): Where sampling by PGAs (e.g., FSSAI, PQ, AQ, Drug Controller) is required, sample drawal shall be carried out at the **Port Terminal**. Upon furnishing a **No-Use Bond** and uploading of NOC or provisional NOC by the PGAs where ever permissible under PGA norms, the **Superintendent (RMS)** shall grant OOC. In case of not obtaining OOC for the Bill of entry beyond 72 hours, the importer/CB may take either of the following option.

i. Amend SAM and then, move the container to their preferred CFS or

ii Move the container to CWC CFS without amending SAM and thereafter amend the SAM to add the warehouse code of CWC CFS , if necessary.

Otherwise, the terminal shall permit movement of the containers enbloc to CWC CFS and procedure stipulated in para 2B(2) above shall ensue thereafter.

D. Special Cases: Auto-OOC/OOC Granted but Selected for Scanning

Scanning Procedure: Where Auto-OOC has already been granted by the system or OOC has been granted by officers, but the B/E is subsequently selected for scanning, the container must be moved from the terminal to the CSD..

1. No Adverse Scanning Report:

The Superintendent (CSD) shall endorse on the copy of the Bill of Entry with the following remark:

"OOC has been granted already and container(s) shall be released."

Accordingly, the Importer/CB is permitted to move the container out of the CSD , and any other containers under the same B/E lying at the terminal shall also be released based on this permission.

2. Adverse Scanning Report:

The containers shall be moved to the DPD Examination Shed for examination, and the report shall be recorded manually on the B/E by DPD Shed officers.

i. If no adverse examination report is found: The Superintendent (CSD) shall endorse the copy of the Bill of Entry with the following remark:

"OOC has been granted already and container(s) shall be released."

Accordingly, the Importer/CB is permitted to move the container out of the CSD , and any other containers under the same B/E lying at the terminal shall also be released based on this permission.

ii. If discrepancy in examination is found: The container shall be sealed with an OTS Customs seal and moved to **M/s CWC CFS under customs escort** for examination of the goods by SIIB officer. .The Assistant Commissioner (CWC CFS) / Assistant Commissioner (SIIB) shall put up the file with necessary documents to the Additional/Joint Commissioner (EDI) for cancellation the OOC if necessary. Upon approval, the AC/DC (CWC CFS) shall cancel the OOC in **ICES** to initiate further necessary action.

E. Partial Release in case of Multiple Containers in one Bill of Entry:

Where multiple containers are covered under a single B/E and certain container(s) are \selected for scanning and or moved to M/s CWC CFS for detailed examination, the remaining containers with no adverse scanning report are free to move to the importer's premises, subject to execution of a No-Use Bond as per the proforma prescribed in Annexure-I. A User Guide on DPD, with special emphasize on No Use Bond, is attached hereto as Annexure-II, for reference.

F. Unmoved Containers: Containers lying at terminal and not granted OOC beyond free period of 72 hours shall be shifted to **M/s CWC CFS** .

3. Roles and Responsibilities of stakeholders:

A. M/s V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority (VOCPA)

(a) Equipment & infrastructure: Forklifts and other necessary equipment or resources including body worn camera with PC for storing its videos for minimum 18 months storage and CCTVs with minimum storage capacity of 180 days are to be made available to facilitate examination at the DPD Examination Shed by the VOC Port Authority.

(b) Seal Cutting Assistance: M/s VOC Port Authority shall deploy authorized personnel to facilitate seal cutting in the presence of Customs Officer(s) posted at the DPE/DPD Facility and the Customs Broker (CB) to open containers for examination or drawal of samples.

B. Port Terminal Operators (M/s DBGT & M/s TICT)

(a) Intimation of Scanning: Terminal operators must immediately inform DPD-facilitated importers or their Customs Brokers via email upon receiving scanning list/communication for scanning from Customs.

(b) Trailer/Vehicle Entry: When the Importer/CB deploys a trailer to move a container to the CSD for scanning, the Terminal Operator shall grant priority entry to the vehicle for picking up the DPD container(s).

(c) Selective Loading: In cases involving multiple containers under a single B/E, the Terminal Operator must ensure that only the container(s) selected for scanning / examination is(are) loaded onto the trailer, while the remaining containers stay inside the terminal. Remaining containers shall be allowed for clearance after granting of OOC by the Customs for that Bill of entry.

(d) Movement Authorization: Terminals shall allow the movement of containers for scanning at the CSD and examination at the DPD Examination Shed based on the official scanning list and the authorization letter issued by the Importer/CB, respectively.

4. Reporting and Monitoring:

The Inspector of Customs posted at the Green Gate shall maintain records of all DPD container movements as per the proforma prescribed in the Annexure-III to this notice. This weekly reporting (compiled as on Sunday) must be sent to Superintendent (RMS) via e-office every Monday by 12:00 hrs.

5. This Public Notice shall also be treated as a Standing Order for all officers and staff of Custom House, Tuticorin who have been assigned with the roles as stipulated above.

6. Effective Date & Difficulties: This facility and procedure shall come into effect from **01.12.2026**. Any operational difficulties faced by trade stakeholders in implementing this Public Notice may be brought to the immediate notice of the Deputy/Assistant Commissioner of Customs, RMS Cell, Custom House, Tuticorin.

Encl: As above.

Digitally signed by
Devendra Vasudeo Nagvenkar
Date: 23-11-2026 12:26:33

(DEVENDRA V. NAGVENKAR)
PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS

To:
i. Members/ Trade Associations.
ii. All ADC/JCs, Custom House, Tuticorin
iii. All AC/DCs, Custom House, Tuticorin
iv. EDI Section, Customs House, Tuticorin for uploading in the website
v. Notice Board, Custom House, Tuticorin

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

ANNEXURE-III TO PUBLIC NOTICE

Sl. No.	**B/E No. & Date** and **total number of Containers**	**Container No.**	**Seal No.**	**Gate-out Date &Time for scanning**	**Final gate out for Release to Factory /CWC CFS Date &Time**	**Initails of Inspector of Customs**
(1)	**(2)**	**(3)**	**(4)**	**(5)**	**(6)**	**(7)**