



# COVID-19

## TRADE FRIENDLY INITIATIVES BY CBIC

- ✔ 24\*7 Customs clearance of Goods are being done to avoid supply chain disruptions

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- ✔ Expeditious processing of GST and Customs Refund/drawback claims to provide immediate relief to business entities including MSMEs

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- ✔ Custom formations are working for clearance of both import and export cargo. Assessment, examination and ancillary work such as bond acceptance, warehousing, port clearance, amendment to documents is happening smoothly

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- ✔ A dedicated single window Novel Coronavirus helpdesk for EXIM trade has been created on CBIC website to facilitate quick resolution of issue(s) faced by importer/exporter

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- ✔ A nodal officer is designated in each Zone who can be approached for any issue pertaining to clearance of cargo

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- ✔ Importers can submit undertakings in lieu of the requisite bonds during the lockdown period which has to be replaced by proper bonds later

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- ✔ Requests and documents are being accepted via e-mail to avoid physical visits and contact between the trade and Customs officers. E-mail address has already been notified by each Zone

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- ✔ Late fee charged on delayed filing of Bill of Entry of import consignments from Covid-19 affected countries on account of non-receipt of document has been waived off

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- ✔ Based on email requisitions, computers and related accessories have been permitted by Customs to be transferred to residences of the employees of Software Technology Parks of India (STPIs), to facilitate work from home

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- ✔ The time limit for completion of proceedings and filing of any appeal under the Customs Act, 1962 has been extended till 30th June 2020 through an Ordinance

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- ✔ Board and zonal Chief Commissioners are promptly monitoring the situation through video conference meetings with the field formations and trade to resolve any emerging issue

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- ✔ Recognizing the difficulties faced by trade in taking delivery of imported cargo, MHA has revised its guidelines. Feedback from owners of Customs bonded warehouses, indicate many warehouses and godowns are open and functional

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- ✔ As per MHA directives, employees working for Customs Brokers (CBs) services are permitted to travel to ports or Customs House on passes issued by the Port

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- ✔ Regular coordination with District administration/Police authorities is being maintained by the Customs authorities for smooth movement of EXIM cargo

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