



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (NS-III)
TURANT SUVIDHA KENDRA, GROUND FLOOR,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, POST. SSHEVA,
TALUKA-URAN, DIST. RAIGAD,
MAHARASTHRA - 400707

DIN NO. 20240877000000618777

Date: 21/08/2024

Public Notice No.70/2024

Subject: Creation of "FTA Cell" at JNCH - Reg.

Attention is drawn towards Section 28DA of the Customs Act, 1962 read with Rule 6 of the Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 [also known as CAROTAR 2020], notified vide the Notification No. 81/2020-Customs (N.T.) dated 21st August, 2020, which provide for verification of the Certificate Of Origin (COO) issued under the Trade Agreement (commonly referred to as FTA) in certain situations.

2. It has been noticed that the current process of verification of the Certificate Of Origin (COO) issued under the Trade Agreement (hereinafter referred to as FTA-COO) is resulting in delays in completion of the verification process, and the resultant action thereafter. This is not only putting additional financial burden on the importers in the form of delays in release of bank guarantees when the outcome of FTA-COO verification is positive, but also it is delaying the action for recovery of duty in cases where the outcome of FTA-COO verification is negative.

3. In order to streamline the entire process of verification of FTA-COO issued under various Trade Agreements, a centralised "FTA Cell" is being set up in NS-III Commissionerate of JNCH, as the single point of contact for all FTA related work. All correspondences related to verification of FTA-COOs issued under any Trade Agreement will be handled exclusively by the FTA Cell of JNCH. For this purpose, a dedicated email ID **coo.vrfn-jnch@gov.in** has been created.

4. Members of the Trade are advised to make inquiry in respect of the status of verification of the FTA-COO at the above email ID only.

5. For streamlining the process of verification of FTA-COOs, a detailed Standing Order No. 25/2023 dated 10.11.2023, explaining the steps to be taken by officers of Appraising Groups and TSK, was issued. In partial modification of para 6 of Standing Order No. 25/2023 dated 10.11.2023, officers of all Appraising Groups of JNCH shall henceforth send the requests for verification of FTA-COOs to the centralised FTA Cell of JNCH, which alone will correspond with the Directorate of International Customs (DIC) in this regard. The Deputy / Assistant Commissioner incharge of Appraising Group shall ensure that requests for verification of FTA-COOs, are sent to the centralised FTA Cell of JNCH after the approval of the incharge Commissioner, without any delay.

6. FTA Cell of JNCH will maintain records of cases sent for verification in a Register in the format attached as Annexure to this Public Notice. FTA Cell of JNCH will proactively follow up with the FTA Cell, DIC, CBIC for early verification of all FTA-COOs so as to avoid additional financial burden on the importers caused by the delays in release of bank guarantees or delay in recovery of duty in cases where the outcome of FTA-COO verification is negative.

7. This Public Notice shall be considered as a Standing Order for the concerned Officers and Staff of this Custom House.

8. This issued with the approval of Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs Mumbai, Zone-II.

Signed by Ashwini Kumar
Date: 21-08-2024 13:46:39

(Ashwini Kumar)
Commissioner of Customs,
NS-III, JNCH, Nhava Sheva
MUMBAI Customs Zone-II

Copy to:-

1. The Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II, JNCH
2. The Commissioner of Customs, NS-General, NS-I, NS-II, NS-III, NS-IV & NS-V, JNCH, Nhava Sheva
3. The Deputy Commissioner of Customs, EDI Section, JNCH for uploading on website
4. Office Copy

