TAX CONNECT

Knowledge Partner:

FEMA. FDI. INCOME TAX. GST. LAND. LABOUR

TAX CONNECT:

Mumbai : 5th floor, Ackruti Trade Centre Road Number 7 Kondivita, MIDC, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400093
Bengaluru : Go Spaze, B Narayana Pura, Mahadevapura, Outer Ring Road, Near HDFC Bank, Bengaluru Karnataka – 560016.
Delhi (NCR) : D-32, Second Floor, Main Vikas Marg, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi – 110092
Kolkata : 6, Netaji Subhas Road, 3rd Floor, Royal Exchange Building, Kolkata – 700001
- Room No. 119, 1st Floor, “Diamond Arcade” 1/72, Cal Jessore Road, Kolkata – 700055
- Tobacco House, 1, Old Court House St, Radha Bazar, Corner, Kolkata, West Bengal 700001

: Azizi Feirouz, 803, 8th Floor, AL Furjan, Opposite Discovery Pavillion, Dubai, UAE

: +91 7003384915

Website : www.taxconnect.co.in
Email : info@taxconnect.co.in

EDITORIAL

Friends,

In this edition, we will discuss the recent changes in GST portal functionality concerning utilization of Input Tax Credit ("ITC") under Section 49 of the CGST Act, 2017, and the compliance challenges arising from the withdrawal of the advisory-based ITC adjustment mechanism available during February and March 2026.

The recent changes in GST portal functionality have created significant compliance challenges for taxpayers, particularly in the manner of utilization of Input Tax Credit (ITC) under Section 49 of the CGST Act, 2017. In March 2026, vide advisory in Jan'26 & Feb'26, the portal allowed taxpayers to discharge IGST liability by first exhausting IGST ITC and then permitting set-off from SGST ITC, even before CGST ITC was fully utilized. This advisory-based mechanism enabled taxpayers to clear liabilities entirely through ITC balances, thereby avoiding cash outflows. However, with the withdrawal of this facility in April 2026 on GST Portal, the statutory position under Section 49(5)(c) of CGST Act 2017 has been strictly enforced, which requires that CGST credit must be utilized before SGST credit can be applied towards IGST liability.

This shift has immediate implications. For example, in a scenario where IGST liability exceeds available IGST ITC, taxpayers must again first use CGST ITC before SGST ITC can be applied, as per earlier mechanism. The statutory sequencing under Section 49(5) thus overrides the earlier portal advisory, and any returns filed in March 2026 based on the old advisory may now be considered defective. The Department may argue that returns filed in March 2026 are inconsistent with the law, since Section 49(5) does not permit SGST → IGST utilization before CGST → IGST utilization. This exposes taxpayers to potential interest liability under Section 50, as well as notices under Section 73 or Section 74 for short payment of tax. These disputes may escalate into litigation, with taxpayers contending that they merely followed the portal's advisory, while the Department insists on strict statutory compliance.

From a compliance perspective, this change underscores the primacy of statutory provisions over system advisories. Taxpayers must now realign their ITC utilization strategy to ensure conformity with Section 49 sequencing. Reliance on portal advisories without statutory backing can no longer be defended, as courts have consistently held that departmental instructions or system advisories cannot override the Act. Operationally, businesses will need to reassess their ITC planning and cash flow management. The inability to use SGST ITC for IGST liability before exhausting CGST ITC will result in increased cash payments, even when credit balances exist. This may particularly affect companies with skewed credit accumulation across different heads, such as exporters or businesses with high interstate transactions.

In conclusion, the April 2026 withdrawal of the portal advisory has reinforced the statutory sequencing of ITC utilization under Section 49(5), creating both compliance and cash flow challenges. Taxpayers who relied on the earlier advisory for February and March returns may face disputes, interest demands, and possible litigation. The episode highlights the critical need for businesses to prioritize statutory provisions over system advisories, and to maintain robust compliance frameworks that anticipate such shifts.

Just to reiterate, we remain available over telecom or e-mail for any clarifications.

Editor:
Vivek Jalan
Partner - Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP

Co-Editor:
Rohit Sharma
Joint Partner – Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP

SYNOPSIS

S.NO.	TOPICS	PAGE NO.
1]	TAX CALENDER	4
2]	INCOME TAX	5
NOTIFICATION	ORDER OF APPROVAL U/S 35(1)(IIA) OF THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 FOR M/S SHREE HARI AROGYAM FOUNDATION, GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT	
CASE LAW	ADJUSTMENT OF REFUND AGAINST DISPUTED DEMAND IS NOT SUSTAINABLE DURING PENDENCY OF STAY APPLICATION AND APPEAL - RECOVERY DURING PENDENCY OF STATUTORY REMEDIES: CALCUTTA HIGH COURT	
3]	GST	6
INSTRUCTION	INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE SCRUTINY OFFICERS OF GSTAT	
4]	FEMA	7
CIRCULAR	OPERATING FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITATING OUTWARD REMITTANCE SERVICES BY NON-BANK ENTITIES THROUGH AUTHORIZED DEALER (CATEGORY I) BANKS IN INDIA.	
5]	CUSTOM	8-15
NOTIFICATION	AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 22/2022-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 30TH APRIL, 2022 - AMENDS TO DUTY ON GOLD AND SILVER UNDER THE SCHEME OF FIRST TRANCHE OF INDIA UAE CEPA.	
NOTIFICATION	AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 57/2000-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 8TH MAY, 2000 - INCREASE IN RATE OF DUTY ON GOLD, SILVER AND PLATINUM IMPORTED UNDER SPECIFIED SCHEMES.	
NOTIFICATION	SEEKS TO AMEND NOTIFICATION NO. 11/2018-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 2ND FEBRUARY, 2018 AND NOTIFICATION NO. 11/2021-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 1ST FEBRUARY, 2021 - AMENDS SOCIAL WELFARE SURCHARGE AND AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT CESS ON GOLD, SILVER, COINS AND OTHER PRECIOUS MATELS.	
NOTIFICATION	AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 45/2025-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 24TH OCTOBER, 2025 - INCREASE IN DUTY OF CUSTOMS ON GOLD, SILER, PLATINUM, PRECIOUS METAL, SPENT CATALYST; PRECIOUS METAL RESIDUES ETC.	
NOTIFICATION	AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 12/97-CUSTOMS (N.T.) DATED THE 2ND APRIL, 1997 - INLAND CONTAINER DEPOTS FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING OF GOODS.	
CIRCULAR	EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF THE CIRCULARS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 143AA OF THE CUSTOMS ACT. 1962, TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES ARISING FROM ONGOING DISRUPTIONS IN MARITIME ROUTES DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ.	
CIRCULAR	IDENTIFICATION AND IMPORT CLEARANCE OF HAZARDOUS CARGO	
PUBLIC NOTICE	M/S INDEV LOGISTICS PVT. LTD. WAS APPOINTED AS CUSTODIAN AND APPROVED AS CUSTOMS CARGO SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE SAID CFS.	
PUBLIC NOTICE	PROCEDURE TO HANDLE EXPORT CARGO CONTAINERS CONTAINING LESS THAN CONTAINER LOAD (LCL) CONSIGNMENTS OFFLOADED AT FOREIGN PORTS AND SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO INDIA, IN VIEW OF DISRUPTION IN MARITIME ROUTES DUE TO CLOSURE OF THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ.	
6]	DGFT	16-19
NOTIFICATION	AMENDMENT IN EXPORT POLICY OF SUGAR	
PUBLIC NOTICE	AMENDMENT OF APPENDIX 2B [LIST OF AGENCIES AUTHORISED TO ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN (PREFERENTIAL)] OF FOREIGN TRADE POLICY, 2023	
PUBLIC NOTICE	AMENDMENTS IN PARA 2.88 AND PARA 2.91 OF HANDBOOK OF PROCEDURES	
TRADE NOTICE	CLARIFICATIONS ON INTEREST SUBVENTION SUPPORT FOR PRE- AND POST- SHIPMENT EXPORT CREDIT UNDER EXPORT PROMOTION MISSION	
7]	SECTIONWISE COMPENDIUM ON GST	20
8]	INCOME TAX SECTION-WISE COMMENTARY AND ANALYSIS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS	21
9]	LET'S DISCUSS FURTHER	22

TAX CALENDAR

Date	Form/Return/Challan	Reporting Period	Description
20th May	GSTR-3B	Apr-26	Summary return of outward supplies and input tax credit claimed, along with payment of tax by a registered person with aggregate turnover exceeding INR 5 Crores during the preceding financial year or any registered person who has opted to file monthly return.
20th May	GSTR-5A	Apr-26	Summary of monthly outward taxable supplies and tax payable by a person supplying OIDAR services.

INCOME TAX

NOTIFICATION

ORDER OF APPROVAL U/S 35(1)(IIA) OF THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 FOR M/S SHREE HARI AROGYAM FOUNDATION, GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT.

OUR COMMENT: The Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions), Central Board of Direct Taxes, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance notified Order under clause (iia) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 read with Rule 5F of the Income Tax Rules 1962 vide Notification No. 06/2026 dated 12.05.2026. It has been notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (iia) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, read with Rule 5F of the Income Tax Rules 1962, the Pr. Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions), Delhi hereby accords approval to the company **M/s Shree Hari Arogyam Foundation, (PAN: ABGCS1785A)**, having registered office at Sector 3, Gandhinagar Sector 23, S.O. Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India - 382024 for '**Scientific Research**' for the purpose of the said clause.

2. This Notification shall be applicable for five Assessment years from AY 2026-27 to AY 2030-31

[For further details please refer the Notification]

CASE LAW

ADJUSTMENT OF REFUND AGAINST DISPUTED DEMAND IS NOT SUSTAINABLE DURING PENDENCY OF STAY APPLICATION AND APPEAL - RECOVERY DURING PENDENCY OF STATUTORY REMEDIES: CALCUTTA HIGH COURT

OUR COMMENT: The petitioner in the present case challenges inter alia, the adjustment of refund due for the Assessment Year 2021-22 against the outstanding demand for Assessment Year 2023-24.

Main grievance is that such adjustment has been made despite the fact that the Stay Application is pending before the Assessing Officer and an appeal is pending before the CITA for Assessment Year 2023-24. The issues involved herein are as follows:-

i) Whether the Department can adjust a refund against the disputed demand when a Stay Application and Appeal are pending.

ii) Whether such adjustment violates the principles of natural justice and statutory safeguard under the income Tax Act.

iii) The Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the refund for Assessment Year 2021-22 has been determined and has become due to the petitioner. Without issuing any notice or affording any opportunity of hearing the respondents adjusted the said refund against the demand for Assessment Year 2023-24. It is further contended that for Assessment Year 2023-24 a Stay Application is pending before the Assessing Officer under Section 220(6) and an Appeal is also pending before the CITA, therefore, the demand for Assessment year 2023-24 is not final and cannot be enforced.

Reliance is placed upon CBDT Instruction No. 1914 dated 21.03.1996 and subsequent Circular which provides that no adjustment shall be made where stay application is pending or demand is not final. It is well settled proposition that an adjustment of refund against disputed demand during pendency of appeal is impermissible.

It is further submitted that adjustment without adjudication of Stay and Appeal causes financial prejudice and defeats the purpose of the statutory remedies. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner places reliance upon two judgments of this Court which are respectively reproduced below:

i) DANIELI INDIA LIMITED Versus THE ASST. COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX CENTRAL CIRCLE 2 (2), KOLKATA reported in 2023 (9) TMI 1726 –CALCUTTA HIGH COURT.

ii) GAURAV ENTERPRISES VERSUS UNION OF INDIA AND ORS. reported in 2025(12) TMI 624 - CALCUTTA HIGH COURT.

After hearing the rival contention of the parties upon perusing the records made available that the adjustment of refund for Assessment Year 2021-22 against the demand for Assessment Year 2023-24 is set aside and quashed in light of the judgment/order passed by the coordinate Bench of this Court in DANIELI INDIA LIMITED (supra) and GAURAV ENTERPRISES (supra). Accordingly, respondent Nos. 2 and 3 are directed to release the refund for Assessment Year 2021-22 along with interest under Section 244A within six weeks from the date of communication of this order.

The Assessing Officer shall not take any coercive steps for recovery of demand for Assessment Year 2023-24 until the Stay Application is disposed of. The CITA is requested to dispose of the pending appeal in a time bound manner preferably within 8 weeks.
[Decided in favour of the assessee.]

INSTRUCTION

INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE SCRUTINY OFFICERS OF GSTAT

OUR COMMENT: Hon'ble President of GST Appellate Tribunal issued instruction to be followed by the Scrutiny officers vide F.No. GSTAT/Pr. Bench/Portal/125/25-26 dated 14.05.2026. As per the instruction, in continuation of this office order No. 16/2026 dated 20th January, 2026 and Instructions dated 10th March 2026, considering the difficulties being faced by the appellants in the initial phase for filing of appeals on the GSTAT Portal, I, hereby, in exercise of authority conferred upon me under Rule 123 of Goods & Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 2025, direct that the guidelines of the Order dated 20th January, 2026 and instructions dated 10th March 2026 shall be followed till 31st December, 2026, for ease of filing appeal by the Appellants.

INSTRUCTIONS To be followed by the Scrutiny officers :

The Registrar / Joint Registrars / Deputy Registrars / Assistant Registrars shall examine if APL-05 contain soft copies of Show Cause Notice (SCN), Order-in-Original (OIO), Order-in-Appeal (OIA), Statement of Facts, grounds of appeal, pre deposit and Court fees, wherever required. In such cases and in cases where any orders of the Higher Courts for exemption of Court Fee / Pre Deposit then flag (defect) should not be raised.

In case the Appellant prefers Under Sub-Section (1) of Section 112 by attaching a scanned copy certified OIO, OIA and if the Scrutiny officer is satisfied from the endorsement made therein by the issuing Authorities, that it is a certified copy of OIO or OIA, a flag(defect) should not be raised.

The Appellant / taxpayer shall also upload a copy of the Authorization issued in favour of the tax professional or Vakalatnama executed in the name of an Advocate.

As far as the application filled by the Revenue under Sub-Section (3) of Section 112 are concerned, the following documents are necessary.

1. Show Cause Notice.
2. Order in Original
3. Order in Appeal.
4. Opinion of the Commissioner directing his officer to make the application.
5. Statement of facts.
6. Grounds of appeal.

No Court Fee / Pre Deposit is required in appeal filed by the Revenue (Department).

One Verification and Digital Signature of appellant is required.

[For further details please refer the Instruction]

FEMA

CIRCULAR

OPERATING FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITATING OUTWARD REMITTANCE SERVICES BY NON-BANK ENTITIES THROUGH AUTHORIZED DEALER (CATEGORY I) BANKS IN INDIA.

OUR COMMENTS: The Chief General Manager, Reserve Bank of India, issued Circular No. 10 dated 13.05.2026 clarified that Attention of Authorised Persons is invited to Master Direction - Miscellaneous (Master Direction No. 19/2015-16 dated January 1, 2016), as amended from time to time.

2. Paragraph 10 of the Master Direction provided a framework under which non-bank entities could obtain specific approval from the Reserve Bank for tie-up arrangements to facilitate outward remittance services through Authorised Dealer Category-I banks in India subject to certain conditions.

3. On a review, it has been decided to dispense with the process of granting of the approvals by RBI for such tie-ups and instead Authorised Dealers are advised to comply with instructions furnished in Annex while facilitating cross-border outward remittance of funds for non-trade current account transactions using third party entity in online mode (website/ online platform/ software application/ mobile application/ any other interface). Therefore, the para 10 of the Master Direction - Miscellaneous dated January 1, 2016 (as amended from time to time) stands deleted with immediate effect.

4. The directions contained in this circular have been issued under sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) and are without prejudice to permissions / approvals, if any, required under any other law.

[For further details please refer the Circular]

NOTIFICATION

AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 22/2022-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 30TH APRIL, 2022 - AMENDS TO DUTY ON GOLD AND SILVER UNDER THE SCHEME OF FIRST TRANCHE OF INDIA UAE CEPA.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Notification No. 18/2026-Customs dated 12.05.2026 notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendments in the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 22/2022-Customs, dated the 30th April, 2022, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 328(E), dated the 30th April, 2022, namely :-

In the said notification, in the TABLE III, against S. No. 12, -

I. in column (5), for the entry, the entry "10" shall be substituted;

II. in column (6), for the entry, the entry "4" shall be substituted.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 13th day of May, 2026.

[For further details please refer the Notification]

NOTIFICATION

AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 57/2000-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 8TH MAY, 2000 - INCREASE IN RATE OF DUTY ON GOLD, SILVER AND PLATINUM IMPORTED UNDER SPECIFIED SCHEMES.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Notification No: 17/2026-Customs dated 12.05.26 notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 57/2000-Customs, dated the 8th May, 2000, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-Section (i), vide number G.S.R. 413 (E), dated the 8th May, 2000, namely:-

In the said notification, in the TABLE, against Sl. No. 1, in column (4), for the entry "4.35%" wherever it occurs, "10%" shall be substituted.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 13th day of May, 2026.

[For further details please refer the Notification]

NOTIFICATION

SEEKS TO AMEND NOTIFICATION NO. 11/2018-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 2ND FEBRUARY, 2018 AND NOTIFICATION NO. 11/2021-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 1ST FEBRUARY, 2021 - AMENDS SOCIAL WELFARE SURCHARGE AND AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT CESS ON GOLD, SILVER, COINS AND OTHER PRECIOUS MATELS.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Notification No: 16/2026-Customs dated 12.05.2026 notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) read with sections 110 of the Finance Act, 2018 (13 of 2018) and 124 of the Finance Act, 2021 (13 of 2021), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby amends the following notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), specified in column (2) of the TABLE below, to the extent specified in the corresponding entries in column (3) of the said TABLE, namely:-

TABLE

S. No.	**Notification No. and Date**	**Amendments**
(1)	**(2)**	**(3)**
1.	11/2018-Customs, dated the 2nd February, 2018, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section	In the said notification, in the TABLE, - (i) against Sl. No. 1, in column (2), for the figures "7108,", the figures "7107, 7108, 7109, 7111, 7112," shall be substituted; (ii) Sl. No. 54A and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted; (iii) for Sl. No. 56A and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely: -

CUSTOMS

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>(i), vide number G.S.R. 114(E), dated the 2nd February, 2018</td><td>
<table>
<tr><td>(1)</td><td>(2)</td></tr>
<tr><td>“56A.</td><td>All goods falling under heading 7118.”;</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.</td><td>11/2021-Customs, dated the 1st February, 2021, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 69(E), dated the 1st February, 2021</td><td>
In the said notification,

(A) in the TABLE, -

(i) against Sl. No. 15A, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "5.4%" shall be substituted;

(ii) against Sl. No. 15B, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "4.35%" shall be substituted;

(iii) against Sl. No. 15C, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "4.35%" shall be substituted;

(iv) against Sl. No. 15D, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "5%" shall be substituted;

(v) for Sl. No. 15E and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely: -

<table>
<tr><td>(1)</td><td>(2)</td><td>(3)</td><td>(4)</td></tr>
<tr><td>“15E.</td><td>7112</td><td>Spent catalyst or ash containing precious metals

Provided that the importer follows the procedure set out in the Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty or for Specified End Use) Rules, 2022:

Provided further that the importer at the time and place of clearance: —

(a) gives an undertaking to the Deputy Commissioner of Customs or Assistant Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, regarding percentage of precious metals contained in spent catalyst or Ash containing precious metal being imported and to the effect that the said goods are imported for recovery of precious metals.;

(b) produces a certificate from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change before the Deputy Commissioner of Customs or Assistant Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, permitting import of spent catalyst or Ash containing precious metal for recovery or recycling purposes.</td><td>4.35%”;</td></tr>
</table>

(vi) after Sl. No. 15E and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be inserted, namely: -

<table>
<tr><td>(1)</td><td>(2)</td><td>(3)</td><td>(4)</td></tr>
<tr><td>“15EA.</td><td>7112</td><td>All goods other than those</td><td>5%”;</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

CUSTOMS

		mentioned at Sl. No. 15E	

(vii) for Sl. No 15F and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
"15F.	7113	(i) Gold findings; (ii) Silver findings; (iii) Platinum findings. *Explanation. - For the purposes of this entry, gold, silver or platinum findings mean a small component such as hook, clasp, clamp, pin, catch, screw back used to hold the whole or a part of a piece of jewellery in place*	5% 5% 5.4%";

(viii) for Sl. No 15G and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
"15G.	7118	All goods	5%";

(ix) after Sl. No. 15G and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. Nos. and entries shall be inserted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
"15H.	7107 00 00	All goods	5%
15I.	7109 00 00	All goods	5%
15J.	7111 00 00	All goods	5.4%
15K.	7106, 7108	Gold and Silver covered under Sl. No. 1 of TABLE of notification No. 57/2000-Customs dated 8th May, 2000 *vide* number G.S.R.413(E), dated the 8th May, 2000	4.35 %
15L.	71	All goods on which exemption from basic customs duty is claimed and allowed under notification No. 57/2000-Customs, dated 8th May, 2000 *vide* number G.S.R.413(E), dated the 8th May, 2000, other than those mentioned at Sl. No. 15K	Nil";

(B) in the ANNEXURE, Sl. No. 11 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 13th day of May, 2026.

[For further details please refer the Notification]

NOTIFICATION

AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 45/2025-CUSTOMS, DATED THE 24TH OCTOBER, 2025 - INCREASE IN DUTY OF CUSTOMS ON GOLD, SILER, PLATINUM, PRECIOUS METAL, SPENT CATALYST; PRECIOUS METAL RESIDUES ETC.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Notification No 15/2026-Customs dated 12.05.26 notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and sub-section (12) of section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the

CUSTOMS

following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 45/2025-Customs, dated the 24th October, 2025, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 781(E), dated the 24th October, 2025, namely: —

In the said notification, in TABLE I, -

(1) against S. No. 192, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(2) against S. No. 193, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(3) against S. No. 194, in column (4), for the entry "5%", at both the places, the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(4) against S. No. 195, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(5) against S. No. 196, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(6) against S. No. 197, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

(7) after S. No. 200 and the entries relating thereto, the following S. No. and entries shall be inserted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
"200A.	7112	Spent catalyst or ash containing precious metals: **Provided** that nothing contained in this S. No. shall have effect after the 31st March, 2027	10%	-	3 and 24";

(8) for S. No. 202 and the entries relating thereto, the following S. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
"202.	7107 00 00, 7109 00 00, 7110 11 11, 7110 11 19, 7110 11 21, 7110 11 29, 7110 19 10, 7110 19 90, 7110 21 00, 7110 29 00, 7110 41 00, 7110 49 00, 7111 00 00, 7112, 7118	All goods other than those mentioned at S. No. 200A	10%	-	-";

(9) against S. No. 203, in column (4), for the entry "5%", the entry "10%" shall be substituted;

2. This notification shall come into force on the 13th day of May, 2026.

[For further details please refer the Notification]

NOTIFICATION

AMENDMENT IN NOTIFICATION NO. 12/97-CUSTOMS (N.T.) DATED THE 2ND APRIL, 1997 - INLAND CONTAINER DEPOTS FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING OF GOODS.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued

CUSTOMS

Notification No 44/2026-Customs (N.T.) dated 11.05.26 notified that in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (aa) of sub-section (1) read with sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs hereby makes the following further amendment in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 12/97-Customs (N.T.) dated the 2nd April, 1997, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 193 (E), dated the 2nd April, 1997, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table, against serial number 8 relating to the State of Madhya Pradesh, in column (3) and (4), after item (x) in column (3) and the entries relating thereto in column (4), the following item and entries shall be inserted, namely: -

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		"(xi) Village Namli, Ratlam	Unloading of imported goods and the loading of export goods or any class of such goods."

[For further details please refer the Notification]

CIRCULAR
EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF THE CIRCULARS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 143AA OF THE CUSTOMS ACT. 1962, TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES ARISING FROM ONGOING DISRUPTIONS IN MARITIME ROUTES DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Circular No 25/2026-Customs dated 14.05.26 clarified in this regard, that upon due consideration of the prevailing circumstances, the Board has decided to extend the validity of the aforesaid circulars. Accordingly, the facilities which are extended vide Circular No. 09/2026-Customs dated 08.03.2026, Circular no. 10/2026-Customs dated 10.03.2026, Circular no. 12/2026- Customs dated 17.03.2026, Circular no. 15/2026-Customs dated 27.03.2026, Circular no. 19/2026-Customs dated 10th April, 2026 and Circular no. 21/2026-Customs dated 15th April, 2026 shall continue to remain in force up to the **30th June, 2026**. All other facilities, terms and conditions as stipulated in the said Circulars shall remain unchanged.

3. Difficulties, if any, in implementation of this Circular may be brought to the notice of the Board for further necessary action.

[For further details please refer the Circular]

CIRCULAR
IDENTIFICATION AND IMPORT CLEARANCE OF HAZARDOUS CARGO

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Circular No 24/2026-Customs dated 14.05.26 clarified that the trade requesting appropriate identification and import clearance of Hazardous cargo. It was requested that the Bills of Entry covering such goods may be flagged by the System so that the assessing officers can identify and process the same expeditiously.

2. Consultations were undertaken by Board with Mumbai Customs Zone-II (NAC Chemicals) and a list of selected hazardous cargo has been compiled based on industry feedback (as detailed in Annexure-A).

3. As a measure to assist officers in the verification and processing of imported Hazardous cargo, appropriate changes are being made in the system to identify such cargo at the time of filing the Bill of Entry by the importer.

4. The importer will be required to mandatorily declare Hazardous cargo at the item level in the Bill of entry, if the goods being imported fall under the corresponding Chapters mentioned in Annexure-A. Such Bills of Entry will be flagged by the system to the officer for expeditious clearance of such goods. At the time of assessment, examination and out of charge, for such Bills of Entry, a message will be displayed by system to the Customs Officer to indicate that the Bill of Entry contains Hazardous cargo, so as to identify and ensure expeditious processing of such shipments. A detailed Advisory in this regard shall be issued by the DG Systems. This facility will be implemented across all customs formations by 01.07.2026.

5. NCTC shall also make suitable modifications in RMS for providing better facilitation for such identified hazardous cargo.

6. These guidelines may be brought to the notice of the trade under your jurisdiction by issuing suitable Trade / Public Notices. Suitable Standing Orders may also be issued for the guidance of the field officers.

7. Difficulties faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board immediately.

[For further details please refer the Circular]

CUSTOMS

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S INDEV LOGISTICS PVT. LTD. WAS APPOINTED AS CUSTODIAN AND APPROVED AS CUSTOMS CARGO SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE SAID CFS.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Public Notice No 52/2026-Customs dated 12.05.26 notified that area admeasuring approx. 38,040 SQM of Container Freight Station located at Plot No. 10, Somathane Village, Kon-Savla Rasayani Road, SH-82, Panvel Taluka, Dist .: Raigad, Maharashtra, of M/s Indev Infra Private Limited (earlier known as M/s Kerry Indev Logistics Pvt. Ltd./ M/s Indev Logistics Pvt. Ltd.) was notified as "Customs Area" under the provisions of Section 8 of the Customs Act, 1962 vide Notification No. 03/2012 dated 14.02.2012. Further, vide CFS Notification No. 07/2014 dated 23.07.2014, M/s Indev Logistics Pvt. Ltd. was appointed as Custodian and approved as Customs Cargo Service Provider for the said CFS and the same was subsequently renewed vide CFS Notification No. 03/2017 dated 08.05.2017. Now M/s Indev Infra Private Limited has acquired and developed additional land admeasuring 7,824 SQM, mentioned in the Schedule and map below, for their Container Freight Station.

2. Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 8(a) of the Customs Act, 1962, I, Unmesh Sharad Wagh, Commissioner of Customs (NS-General), Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House, Nhava Sheva, hereby notify the additional land as mentioned in the Schedule and map below of M/s Indev Infra Private Limited as a place for unloading of imported goods and for loading of export goods, subject to the strict observance of the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and other instructions issued in this behalf by the Government of India or the Commissioner of Customs, Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House, from time to time.

3. Further, under Section 8(b) of the Customs Act, 1962, I, Unmesh Sharad Wagh, Commissioner of Customs (NS-General), hereby specify the limits of the Customs Area added to the Container Freight Station as the area of land parcels within the Survey numbers of the land as mentioned in the Schedule and map below. Thus, the total notified area of the CFS of M/s Indev Infra Private Limited becomes 45,864 SQM as (38,040 Sqmtrs + 7,824 Sqmtrs = 45,864 Sqmtrs).

[For further details please refer the Public Notice]

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROCEDURE TO HANDLE EXPORT CARGO CONTAINERS CONTAINING LESS THAN CONTAINER LOAD (LCL) CONSIGNMENTS OFFLOADED AT FOREIGN PORTS AND SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO INDIA, IN VIEW OF DISRUPTION IN MARITIME ROUTES DUE TO CLOSURE OF THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ.

OUR COMMENTS: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued Public Notice No 31/2026-Customs dated 12.05.26 notified that the attention of all Exporters, Customs Brokers, Shipping Lines, Terminal Operators, and other stakeholders is invited to Public Notice No. 27/2026 dated 20.04.2026 issued by this office prescribing the procedure for handling export cargo containers offloaded at foreign ports and subsequently returned to India, in view of disruption in maritime routes due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, in line with CBIC Circular No. 21/2026-Customs dated 15.04.2026. The said Public Notice prescribes the procedure applicable to Full Container Load (FCL) export containers.

2. Representations have been received from trade and field formations highlighting procedural challenges in respect of Less than Container Load (LCL) export containers originating from India, which have been offloaded at intermediate foreign ports, particularly at Sri Lanka, and are being returned to India without delivery at the final destination. The matter has been examined and the following procedure is hereby prescribed for expeditious handling of such LCL containers.

3. The procedure prescribed hereunder shall apply to LCL export containers that have returned to Chennai Ports on or before 30.04.2026, in accordance with CBIC Circular No. 21/2026-Customs dated 15.04.2026.

4. Procedure

A. Filing of Sea Arrival Manifest (SAM)

SAM shall be filed by the Shipping Line or its authorised representative, as there would be a change in the vessel, consignor-consignee, and the Bill of Lading details on account of discharge and return of cargo to the Indian port.

B. Movement to CFS

All LCL containers returned to Indian ports shall invariably be moved to a CFS after verification of integrity of seals. No LCL container shall be processed at the port terminal itself. If the Seal is found to be broken or tampered with, it should be sealed with Customs Seal and moved to 'O' Yard or any other

CFS for 100% examination. The EIR Copy may be suitably endorsed, by the officer posted at Port/terminal, in this regard.

C. Submission of Request by Trade

The Exporter or Customs Broker or Liner shall submit a request letter along with all requisite documents — including Shipping Bill Number and date, Port Code, Gate Way Port Code, Container Number, Seal Number, PNR details and Bill of Lading details — to the AC/DC in-charge of the CFS to which the container has been moved.

D. SAM Verification and Container/Seal Verification

On receipt of the request, the AC/DC (CFS) shall direct the Preventive Officer posted at the CFS to verify the SAM filed by the Shipping Line or its authorised representative and to verify the container particulars with the corresponding details in the SAM and other shipping documents. Since all LCL containers are stuffed at a CFS with RFID e-seal or Customs bottle seal having a unique number, the Preventive Officer, under the supervision of the Shed Superintendent/Appraiser, shall also verify the seal details against those declared in the Shipping Bill. If the seal details are not retrievable from the System, the field formation shall coordinate with DG Systems to obtain the details of the seal entered in ICES at the time of entering the stuffing report for the export container.

E. Where the integrity of the container seal is found to be intact and matches with the seal details declared in the Shipping Bill

E.(i) Forwarding of Seal Verification Report by Preventive Officer

The Preventive Officer posted at the CFS shall forward a container-wise seal verification report through e-Office, through proper channel via the AC/DC (CFS), to the AC/DC, EDC Section, Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, for further processing towards cancellation of the Shipping Bill and LEO. The seal verification report shall contain the container details, seal number, cargo details as mentioned in the SAM, and photographs of the seal intactness and container number clearly visible.

E.(ii) De-stuffing by Custodian

On verification of the container details and intactness of the seal by the Customs officers, the seal of the container shall be cut in the presence of the authorised representative of the Custodian, the Liner, and the Preventive Officer posted at the CFS, under CCTV coverage. Thereafter, the Custodian shall de-stuff the cargo line number and sub-line number wise and store it safely in the export warehouse and ensure the custody of the same until clearance/shut out.

E.(iii) Procedure to be followed by EDC Section

a. On receipt of the container-wise seal verification report from the Shed officers, the EDC Section shall maintain a record thereof and shall ensure that all Shipping Bills pertaining to the said container are processed in the same file.

b. Where a request for Back to Town (BTT) of an LCL consignment is received from an Exporter, Customs Broker, or Consolidator in respect of a container whose file has already been forwarded to the EDC Section, the procedure at Para E.(i) above need not be repeated for each such subsequent request.

c. On receipt of the file or such a request, the EDC Section shall forward the e-file to the Drawback Section and the IGST Refund Section of Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, so that recovery of export incentives including Drawback and IGST refund, if any, wherever already disbursed, may be effected before further action. The concerned sections shall revert the file to the EDC Section after effecting recovery.

d. After confirming recovery of all export incentives, the EDC Section shall cancel the Shipping Bill and LEO using the "Post EGM SB Cancellation" module in the EDI system, as per ICES Advisory 16/2026 dated 24.03.2026.

e. After cancellation of the Shipping Bill and LEO, the EDC Section shall issue a communication to the concerned Exporter/Customs Broker, with a copy marked to the AC/DC (CFS), Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, granting BTT permission for the specific consignment. The container-wise file shall be retained at the EDC Section and forwarded to the AC/DC (CFS), Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, only after completion of all BTT applications pertaining to that container in respect of consignments where LEO was granted by the Chennai sea ports.

F. Transshipped cargo originating from other Customs formations (Ports/SEZs/ICDs) moved to a CFS

On receipt of a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the originating Customs Formation, the following procedure shall apply:

i. For containers already covered under Para E.(i) above: The Preventive Officer, with the approval of the AC/DC (CFS), Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, through e-Office, shall allow the movement of the subject consignment for BTT, where the seal is found to be intact and matches with the seal details declared in the Shipping Bill.

ii. For containers not yet covered under Para E.(i) above: The Preventive Officer posted at the CFS shall prepare a container-wise seal verification report containing the container details, seal number, cargo details as mentioned in the SAM, and photographs, and submit the same to the AC/DC (CFS) through e-Office. The de-stuffing procedure set out at Para E.(ii) above shall thereafter be followed. Where the seal is found to be intact and matches with the seal details declared in the Shipping Bill, the movement of the subject consignment for BTT shall be allowed. The container-wise file shall subsequently be forwarded to the EDC Section for record purposes and for processing any further BTT requests pertaining to the said container.

G. Where the container seal is found to be tampered or not intact

The Preventive Officer posted at the CFS shall record the findings in the seal verification report. The container shall be subjected to 100% examination and the existing procedures for re-import shall be followed for such containers, as prescribed in Para 2(vi) of CBIC Circular No. 21/2026-Customs dated 15.04.2026.

H. Maintenance of Registers

Separate registers shall be maintained to record all such requests and the date and time of process completion by Customs at each CFS, EDC Section, and Drawback/IGST Refund Section, with all steps in the process duly recorded therein, on a daily basis, for future reference.

5. This Public Notice shall also be construed as a Standing Order for all officers of Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate posted at CFSs, who are hereby directed to follow the procedures prescribed herein strictly and without deviation.

6. All concerned stakeholders are requested to ensure strict compliance with the procedures prescribed above. Difficulties, if any, in implementation may be brought to the notice of the Commissioner of Customs, Chennai IV (Export) Commissionerate, by email at commr4-cuschn@gov.in.

7. This Public Notice shall come into effect from the date of its issue.

8. This issues with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs, Chennai IV Commissionerate

[For further details please refer the Public Notice]

DGFT

NOTIFICATION

AMENDMENT IN EXPORT POLICY OF SUGAR

OUR COMMENTS: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry issued Notification No. 16/2026-27 dated 13.05.2026 notified that the Central Government, in exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 read with Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No. 22 of 1992), as amended, read with Para 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023, hereby amends the export policy of Sugar under Chapter 17 of ITC (HS), Schedule - II as under:

ITC (HS) Code	Description	Existing Policy	Revised Policy	Policy Condition
1701 14 90 1701 99 90	Sugar (Raw Sugar, White Sugar and Refined Sugar)	Restricted	Prohibited	Export of Sugar is prohibited with immediate effect till **September 30, 2026**, or till further orders, whichever is earlier

2. This prohibition shall not apply to Sugar being exported to the EU and USA under CXL and TRQ quota, as per the prescribed procedure in the respective Public Notices.

3. Export of Sugar under the Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) shall continue to be governed as per existing provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 and the Handbook of Procedures, 2023.

4. This Notification shall come into effect immediately. The provisions of Para 1.05 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 regarding transitional arrangement shall not be applicable under this Notification. Notwithstanding the above prohibition, export of Sugar shall be permitted in respect of consignments fulfilling any one of the following conditions :-

(i). where loading of sugar on the ship has commenced before the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette;

(ii). where the Shipping Bill has been filed and the vessel has berthed or arrived and anchored in an Indian port, with its rotation number allocated by the Port Authority, before the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette. The approval for loading in such vessels shall be issued only after confirmation by the concerned Port Authority regarding berthing/anchoring prior to this Notification; or,

(iii). where the sugar consignment has been handed over to Customs/Custodian before the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette and is registered in their electronic system, with verifiable evidence of the date and time of such handing over.

5. The export of the above products/ items, however, shall be allowed on the basis of permission granted by the Government of India to other countries to meet their food security needs and based on the request of their governments.

6. In case the date of prohibition on sugar exports under this Notification is not extended beyond September 30, 2026, the export policy for sugar falling under ITC (HS) Code 1701 14 90 and 1701 99 90 shall revert back to "Restricted".

Effect of this notification: The export policy of Sugar (Raw Sugar, White Sugar and Refined Sugar) under ITC (HS) Codes 1701 14 90 and 1701 99 90 is amended from 'Restricted' to 'Prohibited' with immediate effect till September 30, 2026, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. This prohibition is not applicable to Sugar being exported under: (i) EU and USA under CXL and TRQ quota, (ii) Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS), (iii) Government-to-Government exports, and, (iv) consignments already in physical export pipeline.

This is issued with the approval of the Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

[For further details please refer the Notification.]

PUBLIC NOTICE

AMENDMENT OF APPENDIX 2B [LIST OF AGENCIES AUTHORISED TO ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN (PREFERENTIAL)] OF FOREIGN TRADE POLICY, 2023

OUR COMMENTS: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry issued Public Notice No. 10/2026-27 dated 11.05.2026 notified that in exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 and 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby amends Appendix-2B [List of Agencies Authorised to issue Certificate of Origin (CoO) (Preferential)] of the FTP by including the list of Authorised Agencies allowed to issue CoO for India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (India- UK CETA), as under:

S.No.	Name of the Agreement	Authorized Agencies	Product Assigned to each agency
20.	India-United Kingdom - Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (India-UK CETA)	Directorate General of Foreign Trade and its regional offices	All products
		Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies	All products
		Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)	Agricultural Products
		Marine Products Export Development Authority and regional offices	Marine products
		Central Silk Board and regional offices	Silk products
		Coir Board Development Commissioner, Handicraft and regional offices	Coir and Coir products Handicrafts
		Spices Board	Spices and Cashew nuts
		Textile Committee and regional offices	Textiles and Clothing
		Tobacco Board	Tobacco and Tobacco products
		Cochin Special Economic Zone,	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		Falta Special Economic Zone	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		Kandla Special Economic zone,	All products by Units in Surat SEZs and all SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		MEPZ Special Economic Zone	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		NOIDA Special Economic Zone	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		SEEPZ Special Economic Zone	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal Development Commissioner
		Vishakhapatnam Special Economic Zone	All products by Units in SEZs and EOUs located within the jurisdiction of the Zonal

			Development Commissioner

2. **Effect of the Public Notice:** The Public Notice notifies the list of authorised agencies permitted to issue Preferential Certificates of Origin under the India-UK CETA.

[For further details please refer the Public Notice.]

PUBLIC NOTICE

AMENDMENTS IN PARA 2.88 AND PARA 2.91 OF HANDBOOK OF PROCEDURES

OUR COMMENTS: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry issued Public Notice No: 09/2026-27 dated 11.05.2026 notified that in exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 and 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendments in the provisions of Para 2.88 and Para 2.91 of the Handbook of Procedures 2023:

(A) Under Para 2.88 (a) of HBP, a new entry with serial no. xv is inserted after the existing list of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) as under:

"xv. India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (India-UK CETA)"

(B) Under Para 2.91 of HBP 2023, the sub-para (e) is amended as mentioned below:

"**2.91 (e)**: In case of India- EFTA TEPA and India-UK CETA, Certificates of Origin may also be obtained on the basis of self-declaration by the exporter concerned, in addition to issuance of Certificate of Origin by an authorised agency".

Effect of this Public Notice: Para 2.88(a) and Para 2.91 of the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) 2023 have been amended to facilitate exporters to obtain the Certificate of Origin (CoO) under the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) through self-declaration, in addition to the existing system of issuance of Certificates of Origin by the authorised agencies.

[For further details please refer the Public Notice.]

TRADE NOTICE

CLARIFICATIONS ON INTEREST SUBVENTION SUPPORT FOR PRE- AND POST- SHIPMENT EXPORT CREDIT UNDER EXPORT PROMOTION MISSION

OUR COMMENTS: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry issued Trade Notice No: 03/2026-27 dated 11.05.2026 notified that In reference to the guidelines for Interest Subvention Support for Pre- and Post- Shipment Export Credit under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) issued vide Trade Notice No. 20/2025-26 dated 02.01.2026, Trade Notice No. 22/2025-26 dated 16.01.2026, Trade Notice No. 33/2025-26 dated 20.03.2026 and Trade Notice No. 01/2026-27 dated 20.04.2026.

2. Representations have been received on difficulties faced regarding UIN under Equalisation Intervention Scheme stating that the implementation involved onboarding of multiple lending institutions, development of internal banking workflows and alignment of technical systems for UIN validation and claim processing. During this initial implementation period, certain practical and procedural difficulties have arisen at the operational level resulting in non-uniform implementation across banks. Specific problems faced by the Industry is as below:

a. UDIN was generated under erstwhile IES Scheme, but credit has been disbursed on or after 02.01.2026.

b. Credit has been disbursed on or after 02.01.2026, but were unable to complete the UIN process prior to disbursal.

3. The issue has been examined in this Directorate. In the interest of ease of doing business, it has been decided to provide a window for firms to generate a UIN in cases where credit was disbursed in FY 2025-26 (on or after 02.01.2026) using erstwhile UDIN and also for entities who were disbursed loan under EPM on or after 02.01.2026 prior to UIN generation. Hence, the following amendments are issued to the existing guidelines. These shall form part of the Interest Subvention Support for Pre- and Post- Shipment Export Credit under Export Promotion Mission (EPM) - Niryat Protsahan as issued earlier :-

Para No.	Existing Text	Revised/Inserted Text
Draft HBP Para X.4(d)	The Entity shall furnish the applicable UIN to their lending bank, and the bank shall report interest subvention claims mapped to the	The Entity shall furnish the applicable UIN to their lending bank, and the bank shall report interest subvention claims mapped to the corresponding UIN. A new Unique Identification Number (UIN) shall be required to be generated

DGFT

	corresponding UIN. A new Unique Identification Number (UIN) shall be required to be generated reflecting the revised bank details in cases where the borrower changes the lending bank. Portability of UIN shall not be permitted, and the existing UIN shall not be transferred to the new bank. The rate of interest subvention applicable shall be the rate prevailing on the date of loan disbursal.	reflecting the revised bank details in cases where the borrower changes the lending bank. Portability of UIN shall not be permitted, and the existing UIN shall not be transferred to the new bank. **a. FY 2025-26 (02.01.2026 to 31.03.2026) -** Interest subvention claims may be submitted by the lending bank in respect of a UIN generated after the date of disbursal of eligible pre-shipment or post-shipment export credit, subject to the following conditions: (i) the eligible export credit has been disbursed on or after 02.01.2026; and (ii) the UIN has been generated on or before 31.05.2026. For the purposes of yearly monitoring, the exporter shall ensure that the UIN shall be generated specifically selecting the year in which disbursal was made by the bank. In such cases, interest subvention shall be admissible from the date of loan disbursal and not merely from the date of UIN generation. Banks shall ensure that interest subvention for eligible exporters is computed and credited accordingly, including for the period from 02.01.2026, on a priority basis.
		b. FY 2026-27 onwards – A UIN generated within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of original disbursal of eligible pre-shipment or post-shipment export credit shall be treated as valid for the purpose of admissibility of interest subvention support. Interest subvention shall be admissible from the date of disbursal in such cases. c. The **rate of interest subvention** applicable shall be the rate prevailing on the date of loan disbursal. **d.** The banks shall also ensure the claim being filed in respect of an UIN is specific to the year in which the disbursal of credit was/is made.

4. All scheduled commercial banks and other lending institutions participating in the EPM Interest Subvention Scheme are directed to implement the above amendments immediately and uniformly.

[For further details please refer the Trade Notice.]

:IN STANDS

Sectionwise Compendium on GST

Features of the Book:

1. **Comprehensive and updated Sectionwise Commentary & Coverage of Acts, Rules, Judgements, Rulings, Notifications, Circulars**
2. **GSTAT Rules, Drafting Appeals & Filing on GSTAT Portal**
3. **GST 2.0 Rate Changes**
4. **56th GST Council Meeting Decisions**
5. **Quick 3 Day GST Registrations, IMS**
6. **Notification of Finance Act 2025 from 1st October 2025.**

Author:

Vivek Jalan

[FCA, LL.M (Constitutional Law), LL.B, MBA(International Trade), B.Com(H)]

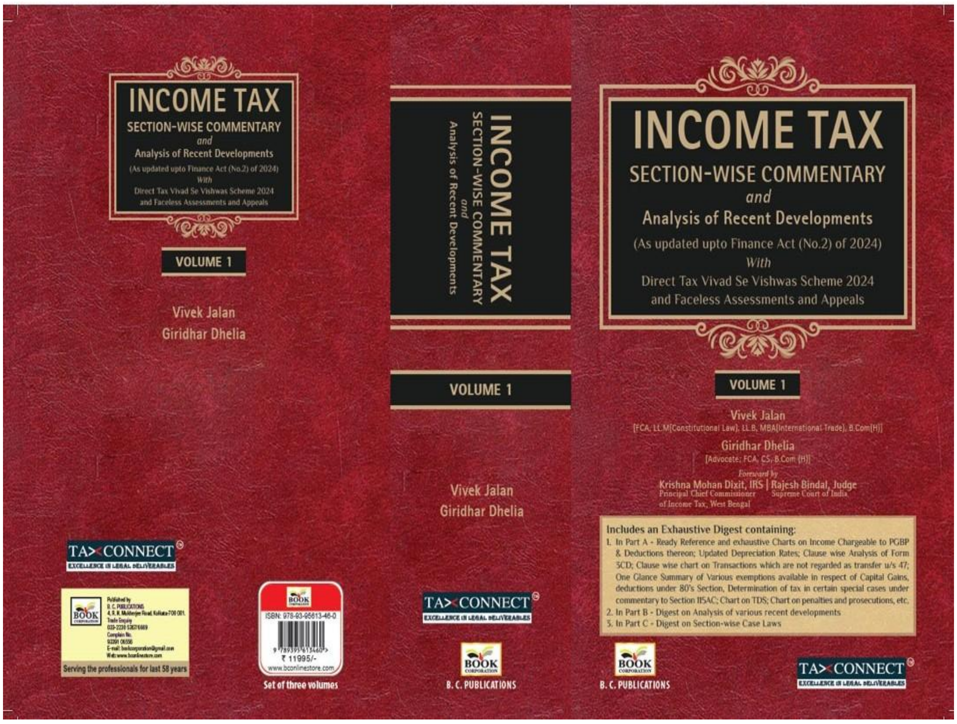
S. K. Panda
[IRS-Retd.; Ex-Member CBIC & Special Secretary - GoI]

Published by:
BOOK CORPORATION
4, R. N. Mukherjee Road
Kolkata 700001
Phones: (033) 64547999
Cell: 9830010297, 9331018333
Order by email:bookcorporation@gmail.com
Website : www.bookcorporation.com

In Association With:
TAX CONNECT ACADEMY
6, Netaji Subhas Road,
Kolkata 700001
Cell: 7003384915
Order by email:info@taxconnect.co.in
Website : www.taxconnect.co.in

:IN STANDS

Income Tax Section-Wise Commentary and Analysis of Recent Developments



CONTENTS

1. In Part A – Ready Reference and exhaustive Charts on Income Chargeable to PGBP & Deductions thereon; Updated Depreciation Rates; Clause wise Analysis of Form 3CD; Clause wise chart on Transactions which are not regarded as transfer u/s 47; One Glance Summary of various exemptions available in respect of Capital Gains, deductions under 80's sections, Determination of tax in certain special cases under commentary to section 115AC; Chart on TDS; Chart on penalties and prosecutions, etc.
2. In Part B – Digest on Analysis of various recent developments
3. In Part C – Digest on Section-wise Case Laws

Authors:

Vivek Jalan
[FCA, LL.M (Constitutional Law), LL. B, B. Com(H)]

Published by:

BOOK CORPORATION
4, R. N. Mukherjee Road
Kolkata 700001
Phones: (033) 64547999
Cell: 9830010297, 9331018333
Order by email:bookcorporation@gmail.com

In Association With:

TAX CONNECT ACADEMY
6, Netaji Subhas Road,
Kolkata 700001
Cell: 7003384915
Order by email: info@taxconnect.co.in
Website : www.taxconnect.co.in

LET'S DISCUSS FURTHER!

OUR OFFICES:

MUMBAI

5th floor, Ackruti Trade Centre Road Number 7 Kondivita, MIDC, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400093
Contact Person: Prashant Jha

Email:prashant.jha@taxconnect.co.in

BENGALURU

Go Spaze, B Narayana Pura, Mahadevapura, Outer Ring Road, Near HDFC Bank, Bengaluru Karnataka – 560016.

Contact Person: Tarun Singh Bhadouria

Email:tarun.bhadouria@taxconnect.co.in

DELHI (NCR)

D-32, Second Floor, Main Vikas Marg, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi – 110092

Contact Person: Poonam Khemka

Email:poonam.khemka@taxconnect.co.in

KOLKATA

6, Netaji Subhas Road, 3rd Floor, Royal Exchange Building,
Kolkata - 700001

Contact Person: Sandeep Mandal

Email:sandeep.mandal@taxconnect.co.in

KOLKATA

R No 119; 1st Floor; Diamond Arcade; 1/72, Cal Jessore Road,
Kolkata – 700055

Contact Person: Uttam Kumar Singh

Email:uttam.singh@taxconnect.co.in

DUBAI

Azizi Feirouz, 803, 8th Floor, AL Furjan, Opposite Discovery Pavillion,
Dubai, UAE

Contact Person: Rohit Sharma

Email:rohit.sharma@taxconnect.co.in

Disclaimer:

This e-bulletin is for private circulation only. Views expressed herein are of the editorial team and are based on the information, explanation and documents available on Government portal platforms. Tax Connect or any of its employees do not accept any liability whatsoever direct or indirect that may arise from the use of the information contained herein. No matter contained herein may be reproduced without prior consent of Tax Connect. While this e-article has been prepared on the basis of published/other publicly available information considered reliable, we do not accept any liability for the accuracy of its contents.