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**Subject: Special measures for liquidation of pending Drawback Claims -
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Attention of Exporters and all concerned is invited to the fact that a large number of drawback claims are pending in various queues in the EDI system in this Commissionerate. It is needless to say that the department aims at disbursing duty Drawback claims of the exporter as soon as the Export General Manifest (EGM) is filed in respect of the goods exported. However, in some category of cases, the release of drawback gets held up for long time for want of appropriate action on the part of the exporters / CHA / Shipping lines/ Custodians. In this backdrop, it is in the interest of the exporters to check and obtain the current status of their drawback claims immediately after Let Export Order and after filing of EGM on **ICEGATE website (www.icegate.gov.in)**. The status of drawback claim against any shipping bill can be seen at the website along-with the reasons of pendency.

2. A special drive was launched in January, 2012 to clear the pending drawback claims and a large number of claims were sanctioned. In fact all the claims were sanctioned except those which require action / response on the part of the exporters on following issues:

- a) Exporters – for query reply
- b) Ready for Scroll generation

A. Exporters – for query reply:

It has been observed that a large number of drawback claims are pending disbursement for want of the reply to the query from exporters and such claims are shown pending in "Query Raised to the Exporter" queue since long time. It is to be noted that as soon as the query is replied by the exporters in the EDI system with the prior approval of the Asstt Commissioner/ Dy Commissioner (DBK) their claims are immediately processed online and drawback is disbursed forthwith.

In this context, it is important to note that consequent to migration on ICES 1.5 version at ICD, Tughlakabad, New Delhi, the exporters can view the current status of their drawback Shipping Bills on ICEGATE website i.e. www.icegate.gov.in. The exporters are simply required to click at "Tracking at ICES" and then at "Tracking at ICES 1.5" to examine the status of their pending drawback Shipping Bills. Thereafter, the exporters are required to obtain a printout of their query memo raised against their Shipping Bill(s) and approach the Drawback Section with relevant papers for the reply of the query. Once reply is filed then the Shipping Bill will move to the drawback queue for online processing of the Drawback claim and the claim will be settled immediately.

The exporters are requested to submit reply to the queries on priority so as to enable this office to process their drawback claims. It must be ensured that reply to the query is complete in all aspects and no further information is required to be furnished.

In view of pendency of large number of drawback claims in Exporters – for query reply queue, it has been decided that in respect of all the Shipping Bills where the Let Export Order (LEO) has been given prior to 01.10.2011, the drawback claim shall be processed to 'Zero' drawback if the query is not replied by 25.03.2012.

B. Ready for Scroll generation:

The exporters who wish to export their goods under claim of duty drawback are required to compulsorily give details of their foreign exchange dealers with their AD code and details of their bank with IFSC code. In the absence of these mandatory details, even if their drawback claim is processed, it is not possible for the Customs to scroll out the drawback claim and to credit the drawback amount in the exporter's Bank account. It is therefore essential to furnish these details correctly to the Customs for speedy disbursement of their drawback claims.

Currently a large number of claims are pending at ICD, TKD in Ready for Scroll generation queue due to incomplete / incorrect bank details. The exporters are requested to furnish correct bank details in such cases so that their claims are disposed of immediately.

In view of pendency of large number of drawback claims in Ready for Scroll generation queue, it has been decided that in respect of all the Shipping Bills where the Let Export Order (LEO) has been given prior to 01.10.2011, the drawback claim shall be processed to 'Zero' drawback if the correct bank details in respect of these shipping bills are not received in this office by 25.03.2012.

3. **Revival of claim** : Any exporter desiring to claim drawback in at a later date where in the drawback has been processed as "Zero" drawback, may file a Supplementary claim as per procedure laid down under Rule 15 of the Custom, Central Excise Duties & Service Tax Drawback Rules, 1995 within a period of 3 months. This period may be extended by Assistant Commissioner / Deputy Commissioner (Drawback) for 9 months or Commissioner by another 6 months on payment of application fee. Thus where no reply is received by 25.3.2012 and claim is processed to Zero; the supplementary claim can be filed normally within a period of 3 months and in exceptional cases on sufficient cause being shown by another 9 months by AC / DC and by further 6 months by commissioner. This time line needs to be taken note of.

4. In case of any difficulties, the Exporters may contact Additional Commissioner (Drawback) at 011-26368850 or Deputy Commissioner (Drawback) at 011-26361693 or e-mail sanjay1.roy@icegate.gov.in.

Manshet Singh
(M.S.ARORA) 7.03.2012
COMMISSIONER

Copy to All concerned as per mailing address.