#GTTaxUpdates

COVID-19: Update on Turant Suvidha Kendra and other initiatives
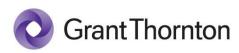
Summary

To mitigate the impact of COVID-19 crisis, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) had announced measures to facilitate and expedite customs clearance process by making it contactless, i.e., automated and paperless (online). In addition to above, the CBIC has now decided to take certain measures as under:

Turant Suvidha Kendra (TSK)

The Principal Chief Commissioners of Customs/Chief Commissioners of Customs are advised to set up TSKs in all customs stations by **15 July 2020.** This step is being taken before the pan-India rollout of faceless assessment, which would be done in phases and will be announced soon.

The document verification by customs officers at assessment and customs compliance verification (CCV) stages would normally be based on the documents uploaded in the e-Sanchit and did not require physical submission of the documents. However, if in any exceptional situation, the physical submission of documents is required by customs for defacement or validation, such submission would be made only at the TSKs.

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New functionalities on ICEGATE

New functionalities, as under, have been enabled **effective from 6 July 2020** in ICEGATE to reduce the need for physical interaction between customs and trade and also speed up the customs clearance process.

1. Registration of authorised dealer (AD) code, bank accounts through ICEGATE

A functionality within ICEGATE login has been enabled to allow the exporters to make an online request for registration/modification of their AD code/bank account(s) and also electronically submit the Passbook copy or bank authorisation letter through e-Sanchit. The detailed step-by-step guide is available on the **ICEGATE portal**.

The Principal Commissioner/Commissioner of Customs is advised to ensure that the concerned customs officer completes the approval process for registration/updation of the AD code and bank account(s) details in ICES **within the same working day** of receiving the applications, if all requirements are submitted in ICEGATE.

2. Automated debit of bond after Assessment

ICES would automatically debit the Bond and reflect the same in the first copy of the Bill of Entry, provided the details of the Bond are provided during submission of the Bill of Entry.

3. Simplified Registration of Importers/Exporters in ICEGATE

Simplified registration module for importers/exporters based on verification provided in associated GSTIN has been provided. This does not require a digital signature.

Importers/exporters are advised to register on ICEGATE and conduct their customs clearances electronically. The simplified registration on ICEGATE can be done easily by following the steps given on the portal.