



Ministry of Finance



# No COVID-related import consignment should face delay in clearance: CBIC



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**Mumbai, May 13, 2021**

The Government of India is taking all necessary measures to facilitate speedy import of essential supplies as the nation fights against COVID-19. It is being ensured that no COVID-related consignment faces delay in clearance. Online systems are being used wherein 95% of COVID-related shipments are assessed by system and not by any officer. Even if the consignment is sent to Faceless Assessment System, the nodal officers try and ensure expeditious clearance. These and other policy measures to expedite and streamline essential imports were explained to trade, industry and media, at a webinar on 'Customs clearance of COVID-19 related Imports', held by the Mumbai Customs Division, under the Directorate General of Taxpayer Services, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs today. More than 400 stakeholders participated and cleared their doubts regarding the import and customs clearance processes.





### Maharashtra State Nodal Authority Details in respect of Adhoc Exemption Order

State	Name	Designation	Office	Phone No.	E-mail
Maharashtra	Dr. Harshdeep Kamble	Development Commissioner (Industries)	Directorate of Industries	9915831000	<a href="mailto:didci@Maharashtra.gov.in">didci@Maharashtra.gov.in</a>

Web link for State Nodal Authorities – <https://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/covid-19/covid-19-measures-new>

CBIC informs that the process for application of Importer Exporter Code number has been made easy and online, while other procedures involved in customs clearance have been streamlined.

The webinar discussed latest notifications and duty exemptions related to customs clearance of Covid related imports. Adhoc exemption order applies only where the importer gets goods free of cost for free distribution. Other instances are not covered by the exemption order.

## Mumbai Customs Nodal Officers for expeditious Customs clearance of COVID-19 related imports

Sr. No.	Office/City	Name	Phone no.	E-mail	Designation
1	Mumbai – I NCH	Ayaz Ahmed Kohli	9810286644	ayaz.kohli@gov.in	Additional Commissioner
2	Mumbai – II JNCH	Dipin Singla	9711105944	adcccu-jnch@gov.in	Additional Commissioner
3	Mumbai – III Air Cargo	Vishal Sanap	9619000050	vishal.sanap@gov.in	Additional Commissioner

Web link for CBIC Nodal Officers: <https://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/covid-19/covid-19-measures-new>

### Maharashtra State Nodal Authority for Adhoc Exemption Order

CBIC has also been facilitating clearance, processing and delivery of COVID19 related emergency shipments. One can make use of their Mobility application for tracing clearance status of shipment.

<https://eccsmobility.cbic.gov.in/eicimobility/import>

An online grievance redressal form has been created (URL <https://t.co/IAOQenWwO2>) to seek details in a structured format and redress issues at the earliest. For general queries, the users may send an email through [icegatehelpdesk@icegate.gov.in](mailto:icegatehelpdesk@icegate.gov.in) or call up toll free number 1800-3010-1000. The requests being received at Helpdesk will be closely monitored for early resolution.

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What will be the procedure for certification of the statement containing details of such imported goods distributed free of cost, if distributed within the state whose nodal authority authorising the importing entity/ relief agency, and if distributed in other states.

certification of statement shall be done by the nodal authority that authorises the relief agency and issues certificate to relief agency recommending exemption under the adhoc order. There is no prescribed procedure for certification of statement and the States/ State nodal authorities are at liberty to devise their own suitable mechanism as deemed fit, for certification of statement.

The department has also set up a dedicated helpdesk to handle queries and grievances for COVID19 related equipment. Complete list of nodal officers across the country can be accessed here

[https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/NodalOfficers&ClientRelationshipMangaersList\\_2111.pdf](https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/NodalOfficers&ClientRelationshipMangaersList_2111.pdf)

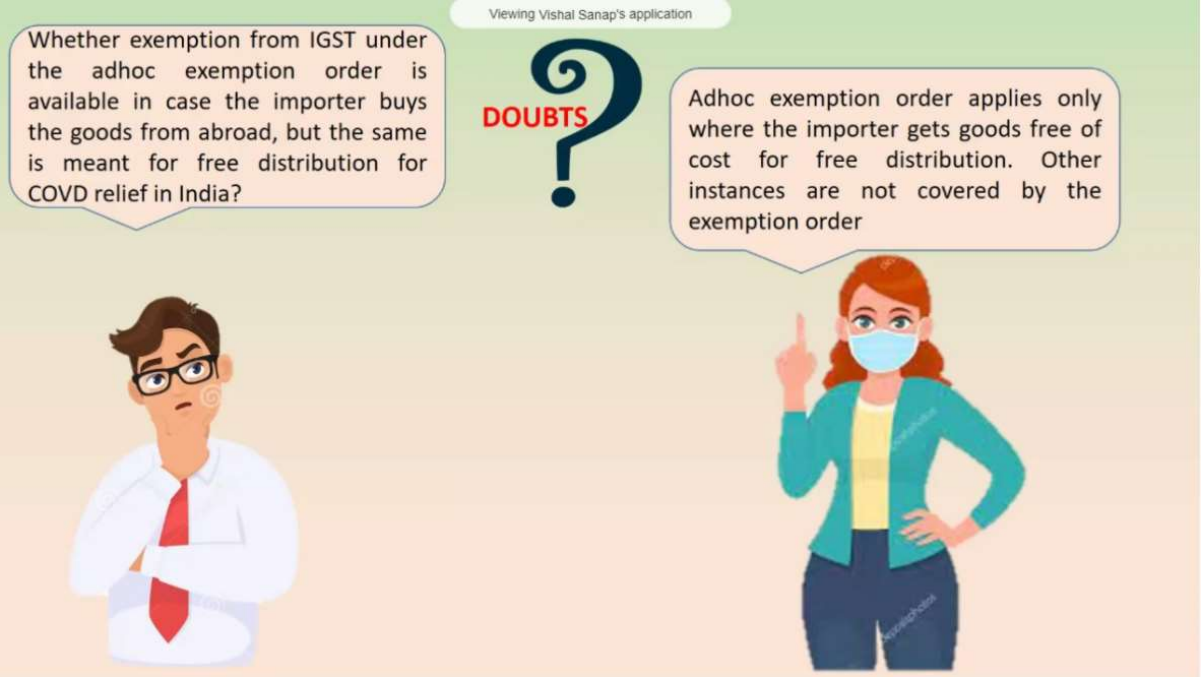


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Whether exemption from IGST under the adhoc exemption order is available in case the importer buys the goods from abroad, but the same is meant for free distribution for COVID relief in India?

**DOUBTS**

Adhoc exemption order applies only where the importer gets goods free of cost for free distribution. Other instances are not covered by the exemption order



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The nodal authority will issue the certificate to the entity who will submit the same before the concerned customs authority at the time of clearance of goods. Is this understanding, correct?


Yes, Condition No. 3 of Annexure to said Order may be referred to. As mentioned therein, the State nodal authority will authorize the importing entity, and the importer will produce the said authorization before Customs at time of clearance for availing the exemption.





Is the certificate to be issued import consignment wise or a certificate could be issued covering multiple imports by a relief agency?

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Although a certificate is required to be produced by an importer to Customs at the time of clearance of each consignment, a separate, consignment-wise certificate is not necessary. A certificate issued to a relief agency may cover goods imported under multiple consignments. The certificate should specify port-wise anticipated import by relief agency, in the format as mentioned at S. No. 3 above.

DJM/DL/PM



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