STANDING ORDER NO. 09/2020

Sub: Procedure regarding clearance of containers from CFS Gates after Out of Charge given by Proper Officers of Customs – reg.

Attention of all the officers, specially those posted at gates of Port Terminals and various CFSs falling under jurisdiction of JNCH, is invited to Standing Order No. 09/2014 dated 5th June, 2014 on the subject matter of ‘Procedure regarding clearance of containers from CFS Gates after Out of Charge given by Proper Officers of Customs’.

2. Keeping in view the difficulties being faced by the Trade arising due to lockdown on account of COVID-19 and to minimise human contact, paragraph 2(v) of the said Standing Order is hereby amended. The same will now read as follows-

Para 2(v)-“It has been decided that if the Importer/Customs Broker/driver presents the Gate Pass containing details of number and date of the Bill of Entry, issued by the CFS, or the copy of the Bill of Entry, to the Gate Officer at the time of delivery of the goods, the Gate officer will not insist for any other document for effecting delivery of goods. The Gate officer shall verify the container numbers and Out of Charge status of the Bill of Entry in the ICES 1.5 system installed at the gates of CFSs and Port Terminals. If the ICES 1.5 system is not available/non-functional, the status of Out of Charge will be verified by the Gate Officer by feeding the Bill of Entry number and date at the ICEGATE portal. Since the Container numbers cannot be verified through the ICEGATE, the Importer/Customs Broker/driver will have to produce the copy of the Bill of Entry to the Gate Officer in all such cases.

3. It is emphasised that the Gate Officer will not insist for physical documents in case the gate pass is containing bill of entry number and date among other details. In case the Gate Pass is not containing details of Bill of Entry, the Gate Officer will ask for only Bill of Entry in such case. However, if the details are to be verified through ICEGATE in the circumstances detailed in para 2 above, the copy of the Bill of Entry will have to be produced. Further, the presence of Customs Broker/Importer will also not be insisted by the officer and the delivery of goods will be given to the driver who produces the Gate pass issued by the CFS containing the number and date of the bill of entry or the Bill of Entry, to the Gate Officer.

4. The said Standing Order stands modified to the above extent till the lockdown on account of COVID-19 is in operation. This Standing Order will be reviewed at the appropriate time.

5. In case of any difficulty being faced, the Gate P.O. should contact Deputy Commissioner/Assistant Commissioner (Docks) and (DCPG).
6. Any difficulty faced in implementation of this Standing Order should be immediately brought to the notice of Joint Commissioner, Appraising (Main), Imports Ms. Saroj Samaiya at 8349250437 (Mobile).

(SUNIL KUMAR MALL)
COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (NS-I)

Copy to:-
1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone- II
2. The Commissioner of Customs General, NS-II, NS-III, NS-Audit and NS-V
3. All the Addl/Joint Commissioners of Customs, JNCH
4. All Deputy/Assistant Commissioners of Customs, JNCH
5. DC/EDI for uploading in JNCH website.
6. All Gate Officers
7. All Trade Associations