



S. Ramesh Chairman

D.O.No.10/CH(IC)/2018

भारत सरकार वित्त मंत्रालय राजस्व विभाग

केन्द्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर एवं सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड नार्थ ब्लाक, नई दिल्ली - 110 001

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31st August, 2018

Colleagues, Dear

It was a moment of pride for our young Officer Trainees of the 68th batch of IRS (C&CE), to call on the President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on 30th August, 2018. Some of them shared their poignant story of their journey from humble backgrounds to joining the Civil Service. The President of India, in his address, said "Last year, Government introduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the most comprehensive tax reform the nation has seen. It was your service that had the responsibility of making sure that this mega reform was implemented across the nation and the tax assessees were properly educated about the new tax system. It is a matter of satisfaction that the GST regime has been implemented with success ushering in a progressive tax structure that will benefit the economy and the honest tax payers." I am sure that that these Officer Trainees will cherish this memorable occasion and serve the Nation with dedication and integrity as exhorted by the President.

CBIC, as you are aware, is spearheading the efforts under the National Trade Facilitation Action Plan. The Fifth meeting of the Steering Committee to monitor the progress being made in implementing the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) was held on 28th August, 2018. In this meeting, it was decided to set up a new Working Group, to be co-chaired by Member (Customs) and DGFT. This Working Group shall compile all regulatory information pertaining to cross border trade with respect to our Partner Government Agencies.

As regards AEO programme, we have eased the compliance requirement for AEO T1 by simplifying the application format. Additionally, the processing of AEO T1 applications has been decentralized. This would greatly help in reducing the processing time in accreditation of the applicant while ensuring safe and secure trading across borders. Further, the digitization of the AEO Certification Process is in advanced stage and the webapplication for AEO T1 processing will be up and running soon.

On the GST front, four Amendment Acts have been notified. These aim at reducing the compliance burden and enhance the ease of doing business. One of the most important features is that they facilitate the new system of return filing approved by the GST Council and will allow taxpayers to amend their tax returns in order to rectify errors. I urge you all to carefully go through these Amendment Acts and sensitize the taxpayers about the same.

I am glad to inform that Shri V. V. S. Prasad, Superintendent, Hyderabad CGST Zone, a Guinness World Record holder for his performances in martial arts, has added further laurels by winning the Bronze Medal at the 12th CK Classic International Open Taekwando Championship held in Malaysia. I congratulate him on behalf of all the officers and staff of the department for this wonderful performance.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(S. Ramesh)

To,

All officers and staff of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs