नजीब शाह अध्यक्ष Najib Shah Chairman



31st March, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

On the eve of my demitting office, having attained the age of superannuation, I write to you to express my sincere thanks for your cooperation and support during my tenure in the Board.

The service is likely to undergo a metamorphosis with the introduction of GST. The officers of the CBEC have played a pivotal role in the framing of the GST Laws and Rules and we can all be justifiably proud. Now we will be implementing a new law, new concepts, working from new formations including being renamed as CBIC. We need to accordingly prepare ourselves and prepare the trade; empathy and an understanding of the challenges, are key to ensuring that the transition is smooth. We should rise up to the expectations of the Government and industry.

There were many other firsts that we achieved during the last two years. India's performance on the Logistics Performance Index improved with Customs ranking improving from 75 to 37 in the period 2014-16. We successfully conducted two Tax Payers Surveys with FICCI-KPMG, which showed a dramatic improvement in perception of the department. We should also be touching a record RE of Rs.8.50 lakh crore.

The Board faced headwinds in personnel matters but there has been progress, albeit belatedly. Thus, the promotion of a large number of officers from "B" to "A", of the 1983, 1986, 1987, 2007, 2012 batches have taken place; the process of resolving other HR issues including grant of NFU has been initiated.

I once again express my deepest gratitude to you and wish you all the very best.

With best wishes,

′ours sincere∕ly,

(Najib Shah)

To

All the Officers of Central Board of Excise & Customs.