To
All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs/ Customs (Preventive),
All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs & Central tax,
All Principal Commissioners/ Commissioners of Customs/ Customs (Preventive),
All Principal Commissioners/ Commissioners of Customs & Central tax,

Madam/Sir,

Subject: IGST refunds on exports-extension in SB005 alternate mechanism -reg.


2. The above-mentioned Board Circulars provide the facility for resolving invoice mis-match errors with officer interface as an alternative measure for the specified period which was further extended, several times, based on representations received from Trade regarding continuance of such error. Last such extension has been granted for the Shipping Bills filed upto 31.12.2019 vide above referred Circular No. 22/2020-Customs dated 21.04.2020.

3. There have been several representations from the Trade to extend the Officer Interface to resolve the genuine error committed during data entry. The issue has been examined. It is noticed that, the quantum of Shipping Bills pending on account of such errors being committed by the Trade have come down significantly, but still it is occurring in some cases resulting in hold-up of IGST refunds.

4. Keeping in view the above factual position, it has been decided as a measure of trade facilitation to keep the Officer Interface available on permanent basis to resolve such errors on payment of specified fee by the exporter. The exporter may avail the facility of correction of Invoice mis-match errors (error code SB-005) in respect of all past shipping bills, irrespective of its date of filling, by following the procedure as provided in the above Circulars, subject to payment of Rs. 1,000/- as fee towards such rendering of service by Customs Officers for correlation and verification of the claim. Necessary amendments have been made in the Levy of Fee (Customs Documents) Regulations, 1970 vide Notification No.17/2021 dated 17th February, 2021.

5. Suitable Trade Notice/ Standing order may please be issued to guide the trade and industry. Difficulty, if any, faced in implementation may be brought to the notice of Board immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(Vineeta Sinha)
Joint Commissioner (Customs)