

INDIA LEGAL UPDATE

June 16, 2023

CBIC circular on mandatory fulfilment of a 'pre-import condition' for advance authorization

Notification Date:

June 7, 2023

Effective Date:

June 7, 2023

Legal Framework:

Customs Act, 1962

Government Authority:

Central Board of Indirect

Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

Weblink:

CBIC Circular

UOI and others v. Cosmo Films

<u>Ltd.</u>

LEGAL UPDATE

The CBIC has issued a <u>Circular No. 16/2023-cus dated June 7, 2023</u>, in light of the Supreme Court's direction in the case of <u>UOI and others v. Cosmo Films</u> <u>Ltd.</u> dated 28.04.2023 relating to mandatory fulfilment of a 'pre-import condition' for advance authorization.

The Foreign Trade Policy as amended on October 13, 2017, provided that imports under Advance Authorization for physical exports are also exempt from the whole of the integrated tax and compensation cess, subject to meeting the pre-import condition.

The Supreme Court while setting aside the HC's order has held that relevant imports that do not meet the 'pre-import condition' requirements must pay IGST and Compensation Cess to that extent. Further, a direction is issued to the Revenue to permit a claim of refund or ITC (Input Tax Credit).

After considering the SC's order, CBIC has issued the following procedure to be adopted at the POI (Port of Import):

- For those imports that could not meet the pre-import condition, the importers may approach the concerned assessment group with relevant details for payment of the tax and cess along with applicable interest.
- The assessment group shall cancel the OOC (Out of Charge) along with their remarks.
- The BE (Bill of Entry) shall be re-assessed.
- The payment of tax and cess, along with applicable interest, shall be made against the electronic challan generated in the Customs EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) System.
- Upon completion of the payment, the port of import shall make a notional OOC for the BE on the Customs EDI System.
- The date of payment shall be considered as the relevant date for eligibility of ITC/refund as per GST provision.

CBIC also noted that:

1. The For payment of customs duties on a BE after giving the OOC to the goods, duties can be paid only through a TR-6 challan.

2. The BE for the assessment of integrated tax/compensation cess on imports is one of the documents based on which the ITC may be availed by a registered person and the TR-6 challan is not a prescribed document for the purpose.

3. The nature of the facility for suo moto payment of customs duty in case of bona fide default in export obligation is not adequate to ensure a convenient transfer of relevant details between Customs and GSTN so that ITC may be taken by the importer.

CLOSING REMARKS

- The above-mentioned procedure shall apply only once to a BE.
- In case such ITC is utilized for payment of IGST on outward zero-rated supplies, then the benefit of refund of such IGST paid may be available to the registered person as per the CGST Act, 2017.

Queries?

If you have any queries about this article, please reach out to our experts:



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