



THE COTTON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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Sub: On International Women's Day, CBIC provisions gender inclusive facilities and encouraging women participation in International Trade through two circulars

Dear Member,

To foster a gender-inclusive trade environment that encourages women participation in international trade, CBIC has undertaken various steps. A Press Release dtd. 9th March, 2024 ([enclosed](#)) and Circulars Nos. 2/2024-Customs ([enclosed](#)) and 03/2024 ([enclosed](#)), both dated 8th March, 2024 (enclosed) is issued by the Ministry of Finance.

(1) Vide Circular No. 2/2024-Customs, CBIC directs its field formations to ensure that:

- Representation of women in the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) and Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) meetings should be preferably through women association.
- Inclusion of at least one agenda point from women perspective.
- Encourage Trade bodies/custodians to establish dedicated help desks and processing mechanisms for women traders and women logistics service providers, and
- Support in upskilling women logistics service providers, freight forwarders and custom brokers by offering relevant trainings for women.

(2) Vide Circular No. 3/2024-Customs, CBIC directs its field formations to ensure that :

- Safe and secure working environment is provided to women and gender inclusive infrastructure, including care infrastructure and services, especially creches, sufficient lighting, panic buttons, regular upgradation of facilities from a gender perspective.
- Awareness is spread by holding regular gender sensitisation training sessions for all concerned staff/ stakeholders.

Members may kindly make a note of the above initiatives of CBIC.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal
Executive Director

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