



E-Serve No.: 84 of 2025 | Date: April 22, 2025

Sub: Amendment to guidelines issued vide Circular No. 38/2020 dated 21.08.2020

Dear Member,

CBIC has issued Circular No.14/2025-Customs dated 21.04.2025 ([copy enclosed](#)) amending guidelines related to the Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 (CAROTAR, 2020). This amendment follows Notification No. 14/2025-Customs (N.T.) dated 18.03.2025, which replaced "Certificate of Origin" with "Proof of Origin" to align with the amended Section 28DA of the Customs Act, 1962, reflecting a global shift towards self-certification.

"Proof of Origin" now covers both certificates issued by designated authorities and self-declarations by eligible exporters. Therefore, Circular No. 38/2020-Customs dated 21.08.2020 should be read with this change.

The type of proof of origin required will depend on the specific trade agreement. To streamline verification, all requests for proof of origin under trade agreements should now be directed to the Directorate of International Customs (DIC) in New Delhi.

The DIC's FTA Cell will manage the receipt and uploading of specimen signatures and seals of authorized officials from partner countries on the ICES portal and will also share these with DRI (Hqrs) and non-EDI locations. The FTA Cell will establish a standard operating procedure for tracking these records and submit periodic reports to the Board.

This change takes effect immediately.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal
Executive Director

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