



E-Serve No.: 80 of 2026 | Date: March 07, 2026

Sub: Procedure for allowing “Back to Town (BTT)” of Export Cargo where EGM has not been filed due to the ongoing war conditions in the Middle East region

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Dear Madam / Sir,

Members are informed that the O/o Commissioner of Customs, NS-II, JNCH, Nhava Sheva has issued Public Notice No. 31/2026 dated 06.03.2026 ([click here](#)) prescribing a special procedure for allowing Back to Town (BTT) of export cargo where EGM has not been filed, in view of the ongoing geopolitical disturbances and war conditions in the Middle East region.

Due to the disruption in maritime routes, suspension of bookings by major shipping lines, and closure of certain Gulf ports, a large number of export consignments destined for the Middle East are presently lying at Terminals, Container Freight Stations (CFS) and Container Parking Plaza (CPP) at JNCH.

To mitigate hardship faced by exporters and to decongest the port terminals, Customs has introduced the following trade facilitation measures:

#### Key Highlights

**Request for BTT:** Exporters or their authorized Customs Brokers may approach the concerned Assistant/Deputy Commissioner (AC/DC) of the respective CFS or CPP to seek permission for BTT of the cargo.

**Verification of Container Seals:** Customs officers will verify the electronic seal (e-seal) on self-sealed containers or the Customs bottle seal on dock-stuffed containers and match the details with the shipping bill and stuffing records.

#### Procedure for Containers at CPP:

- BTT permission will be granted based only on verification of the e-seal.
- No physical examination of cargo will be required.

#### Procedure for Containers at CFS:

-- Containers will be destuffed, and inspection of individual lots related to respective shipping bills will be carried out.

-- No further detailed examination will be required.

Waiver of Physical Examination: For such affected shipments, the requirement of physical examination before granting BTT has been waived in order to expedite evacuation of cargo and reduce handling costs.

Waiver of BTT Fees/Penalties:

BTT-related fees or penalties under the Customs Act, 1962 have also been waived for these shipments in view of the prevailing circumstances.

This Public Notice comes into force with immediate effect and will remain valid until further orders or normalization of shipping operations in the affected region.

Members having export consignments stuck at JNCH, CFS and CPP due to disruptions in the Middle East trade route may take note of the above facility and approach the concerned Customs authorities for necessary action.

Regards,

[Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal](#)  
Executive Director

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Engineering Centre, 5th Floor, Shrimad Rajchandraji Marg,  
Mumbai, Maharashtra 400004, India

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