

CORPORATE ADVISORY ON CHANGES IN IMPORT-EXPORT RELATED REGULATIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India, under its initiative of 'Turant Customs Programme' has recently introduced a number of initiatives that leverage technology in order to enhance the efficiency in the Customs clearance process of goods imported by Indian entities. The focus of this Programme is on speedy clearances, transparency in decision making, ease of doing business and very importantly, reduction of physical contact in the prevailing pandemic situation.

One such initiative was to enhance the functionality of Indian Customs Electronic Gateway (**ICEGATE**), which is the national portal of Indian Customs of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Department that provides e-filing services to the Trade, Cargo Carriers and other Trading Partners electronically. Through this facility Indian Customs offers a host of services, including electronic filing of the Bill of Entry (import goods declaration), Shipping Bills (export goods declaration), e-Payment of Customs Duty, etc.

II. MANDATORY REGISTRATION WITH ICEGATE

CBIC vide its *Circular No.32/2020-Customs* dated 06.07.2020, mandated **e-submission** of Shipping Bills, Bill of Entries and other related documents through only ICEGATE portal. Until December, 2021, this circular couldn't be implemented on account of practical and technical difficulties, however, the difficulties have been resolved and the circular has come into force. It must be noted that:

- A) **Prior to importing and/or exporting goods, the entities are required to register themselves on ICEGATE platform.** Shipping Bills, Bill of Entries and other important Custom documents shall be filed online through ICEGATE portal.

- B) Once registered on ICEGATE platform, importers and exporters are also required to register their Authorised Dealer (AD) Code and Bank Account(s) details. **Import or export can be completed only on approval of AD Code and Bank Account details on ICEGATE platform.**

I ITALY

Via Giovanni Falcone, 3
41012 Carpi (MO) - Italy
PHONE: +39 059 9770184
FAX: +39 059 9770186

I INDIA

411, DLF Tower B, Jasola District
New Delhi 110076 - India
PHONE: +91 11 41525055
FAX: +91 11 46536399
CIN: U744140DL2007PTC172026

I VIETNAM

26-28 Ham Nghi Street
Ben Nghe Ward, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City - Viet Nam
PHONE: +84 8 38248440
FAX: +84 8 38248441

I BRAZIL

Alameda do Inga, 840
34000 000 Nova Lima
Belo Horizonte - Brazil
PHONE: +55 31 32344008



Some other functionalities introduced under ICEGATE are Management of Bank Accounts, Ledger View, IGST Refund status, Query Reply etc. Hence, registering on ICEGATE will be useful and shall enable importers / exporters to better manage their imports/ exports.
