This column is compiled by Consultant [EXIM Policy] of EPCH. It contains recent Public Notices, Notifications and Circulars of DGFT, CBEC and Department of Revenue. If a handicraft exporter has question[s] to ask on Foreign Trade Policy, he/she may please write / e-mail to EPCH at policy@epch.com

Impex # 1

'Ease of doing business in DGFT offices'

Exporters and importers should insist on timely disposal of their applications as per 'Time bound disposal of applications' of DGFT.

In order to ensure that the applications of importers and exporters are disposed off within a reasonable time, DGFT has laid down time limits of various categories of applications. The time schedule of disposal is given in para 9.11 of the Handbook of procedure (Vol.1) of 2009-14 and is reproduced below:

9.11 Time Bound Disposal of Applications

RA shall dispose off applications expeditiously. Following time schedule shall normally be followed to dispose of applications provided it is complete in all respects and is accompanied by prescribed documents.

S.N	No.	Category of Application	Time Limit For Disposal (in working days)
(a)	IEC Number		2
(b)	Advance Authorization where input-our paragraph 4.7, Advance Authorization f	•	3
	Advance Authorization where input-out cases are to be approved by Commerce	•	15
	Advance Authorizations where input-ou	utput Norms are not notified,	45
	Fixation of input-output norms		120
(c)	DEPB		3
(d)	(i) EPCG Authorizations on self-declara	ation basis	3
	(ii) EPCG Authorizations for fixation of	nexus (other than those covered in (i) above	45
(e)	All Authorizations under Gem & Jewelle	ry scheme.	3
(f)	Revalidation of Authorisation and exten	sion of export obligation period by R.A.	3
(g)	Acceptance of BG/LUT		3
	Redemption of BG/LUT for Advance Aut	thorizations and DFIA.	15
	Redemption of BG/LUT for EPCG Author	rizations.	30
(h)	Issuance/renewal of status certificate.		3
(i)	Amendment of any category of Author	ization	3
(j)	Fixation of deemed exports Drawback r	ate	45
(k)	Miscellaneous		10
(1)	All applications filed through EDI mode		1
(m) Refund of DBK/TED under deemed expo	ort	30 days from export the date of receipt of complete application

Cases of undue delay in disposal of applications may be brought to notice of head of regional offices by way of a written representation, which shall be promptly enquired into and responded to.

Impex # 2

Ouestions & Answers

Question: We have failed to furnish the installation certificate within six months from the excise authority? Can we seek extension of time for the same?

Answer: An EPCG Authorization holder is required to produce a cer-tificate from the Central Excise Au-thority, confirming installation of Capital Goods at factory or premises of authorization holder or his sup porting manufacturer(s) or vendor(s) within six months from date of completion of import. How ever, extension in time for Installa tion of Capital Goods up to a maximum period of 18 months from the date of completion of import can be considered by the concerned RA under Public Notice 48 dated January 10, 2014.

Question: Does the factory stuffing and sealing facility by excise is available to a merchant exporter?

Answer: The facility of examination and sealing of export containers by the Central Excise Officers at the place of dispatch is available to both manufacturer- exporters (except when the export is on free Shipping Bill) and merchant-exporter in respect of the goods exported in terms of Rule 18 or 19 of the Central Excise Rules, 2002. Such exam-ination, stuffing and sealing of export containers by the Central Excise Officers are permitted at the factory or warehouse or any other approved premises.

Question: We have exported in a foreign currency which does not appear in the list of customs. How can we calculate the foreign exchange received for discharging our export obligation?

Answer: In such cases, total realized value in rupee as mentioned by bank in the eBRC should be converted into USD by using the USD or INR exchange rate prevailing on the date of realization as published by customs through notification.

Question: We are merchant exporter and we include name and EPCG number of our supporting exporter on shipping bills. Will such exports get benefit of the Incremental Exports Scheme?

Answer: Please see the definition of the third party given in paragraph 9.62 of the Foreign Trade Policy. Such shipping bills will be considered as a third party exports and thus will be ineligible for benefit under Incre-mental Exports Incentivisation Scrip Scheme.

Question: An Export House has received an order which is being passed on to us for execution. Can we obtain credit from the bank against the export order which is not in our name?

Answer: Banks may grant export packing credit to manufacturer suppliers who do not have export orders in their own name and goods are exported through the export houses. Apart from the usual stipulations, the following requirements have to be complied:

- a) Banks should obtain a letter setting out the details of the export order from the export house and the portion thereof needs to be executed by the supplier that the export house has not obtained packing credit in respect of such order.
- b) The export house should open inland Letter of Credits in favour of the supplier giving relevant particulars of the export orders. The outstandings in the packing credit account should be extinguished by negotiation of bills under such inland LCs. If it is in convenient for the export house to open such inland LCs in favour of the supplier, the latter should draw bills on the export house in respect of the goods supplied for export and adjust packing credit advances from the proceeds of such bills.
- c) Banks should obtain an undertaking from the supplier that the advance payment, if any, received from the export house against the export order would be credited to the packing credit account.