



कार्यालय, प्रधान आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क
(पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश एवं चंडीगढ़)
कस्टम हाउस, जी.टी. रोड, साहनेवाल, लुधियाना
OFFICE OF THE PR. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
(Punjab, Himachal Pradesh & Chandigarh)
Customs House, G.T. Road Sahnewal, Ludhiana- 141120
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DIN: 20260375NK000000F550

Public Notice No. 09/2026

Date:09-03-2026

Subject: Procedure for allowing “Back to Town” (BTT) of Export Cargo where Export General Manifest (EGM) has not been filed in view of disruptions in shipping operations in the Middle East region – Reg.

Attention of all Exporters, Customs Brokers, Shipping Lines, Custodians of Inland Container Depots (ICDs)/Container Freight Stations (CFSs), and other stakeholders is invited to the prevailing geopolitical situation and ongoing war conditions in the Middle East region. The disruption of maritime routes, suspension of bookings by certain shipping lines, and operational constraints at ports in the affected region have resulted in export consignments destined for such locations remaining stranded at various ICDs/CFSs under the jurisdiction of Ludhiana Customs.

2. In order to mitigate the hardship faced by the trade and to facilitate decongestion at the ICDs/CFSs, the following procedure is hereby prescribed for permitting “Back to Town (BTT)” movement of such export consignments in cases where the “Export General Manifest (EGM) has not been filed”:

- i. Where the exporter intends to bring back the export goods to town, the “Exporter or their authorized Customs Broker (CB)” shall submit a request to the “jurisdictional Assistant/Deputy Commissioner of Customs” at the concerned ICD/CFS.
- ii. Upon receipt of such request, the Customs officers shall verify the “electronic seal (e-seal)” in case of self-sealed containers or the “Customs bottle seal” in case of containers sealed under Customs supervision, along with verification of the relevant “Shipping Bill particulars and stuffing records”.
- iii. If the seal is found intact, while keeping in mind the detailed procedure prescribed in Public Notice No.02/2025 dated 19.02.2025 the following simplified procedure shall be followed for grant of BTT permission:
 - For self-sealed containers: BTT permission may be granted on the basis of

verification of the e-seal without requiring further physical examination of the cargo.

- For containers sealed under Customs supervision or where destuffing is required: The container may be destuffed and “inspection of the individual packages/lots pertaining to the respective Shipping Bills shall suffice”, without resorting to detailed examination.
 - iv. Accordingly, “the requirement of physical examination prior to granting BTT permission is hereby relaxed” in such cases in order to expedite clearance and minimize additional handling costs to the exporters.
 - v. Further, considering the exceptional circumstances arising from the disruptions in shipping operations, any fees/penalties associated with BTT processing under the Customs Act, 1962 or the regulations framed thereunder may be waived” for such consignments, subject to the satisfaction of the jurisdictional officer.
3. This Public Notice shall come into force with “immediate effect” and shall remain in force until further orders or until normalization of shipping operations in the affected region. All other extant procedures relating to BTT which are not inconsistent with this Public Notice shall continue to apply.
4. Difficulties, if any, in implementation of this Public Notice may be brought to the notice of this office.

This issues with the approval of Pr. Commissioner of Customs, Ludhiana.

Digitally signed by
Jitender Singh Jitender Singh
Date: 09-03-2026
11:31:17
JOINT COMMISSIONER
Ludhiana Customs Commissionerate

Copy to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Delhi Zone.
2. All Additional/Joint Commissioners, Ludhiana Customs Commissionerate.
3. All Deputy/Assistant Commissioners, Ludhiana Customs Commissionerate.
4. Custodians of all ICDs/CFSS under Ludhiana jurisdiction.
5. Ludhiana Customs Broker Association / Trade Associations.
6. EDI Section for uploading on the Commissionerate website.
7. Notice Board / Office

