Circular No. 38/2026 -Customs

No. 450/58/2015-Cus.IV(Pt.I)
Ministry of Finance
(Department of Revenue)
(Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs)
*****

Room No. 16049, Kartavya Bhavan-1,
New Delhi, the 1st September, 2026.

To
The Principal Chief Commissioners/Chief Commissioners of Customs/Customs (Preventive)/ Customs & Central Tax,
The Principal Commissioners/Commissioners of Customs/Customs (Preventive)/Customs & Central Tax,
The Principal Director Generals/Director Generals under CBIC.

Subject: Implementation of the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations (SCMTR), 2018-reg.

Madam/Sir,

Kind attention is invited to the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transhipment Regulations (SCMTR), 2018 issued *vide* Notification No. 38/2018- Customs (N.T.) dated 11th May, 2018 Customs Notification No. 73/2026-Customs (N.T.) dated 1st September, 2026.

2. With the completion of development and testing of electronic messages under SCMTR framework, the same have been made operational for the trade. However, there is still low filing of messages by the stakeholders.

3. In view of the above, the SCMTR, 2018 shall be made operational with effect from 1st Sept,2026 across ports in a phased manner, as per schedule mentioned at **Annexure A**. It is expected that all stakeholders will file respective electronic messages in Customs Automated System for smooth functioning and clearance of cargo.

4. The SEZ units may utilise this transition period for on-boarding into SCMTR

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framework. The field formations may issue suitable Public Notices and undertake outreach measures, in coordination with stakeholders to familiarise trade with provisions of the SCMTR, 2018 for smooth roll-out of SCMTR, 2018. The field formations shall resolve the system related issues in coordination with the DG System, and policy related issues shall be brought to the notice of the Board. No penal action should be taken during this implementation phase.

5. Any difficulties in implementation may be brought to the notice of the Board.

Hindi version shall follow.

Yours faithfully,

(Pankaj Jain)
OSD (Cus IV)
Customs Policy Wing

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ANNEXURE-A

Schedule for phase-wise implementation of all SCMTR messages

S.No	Port Name	Port Code	Date of implementation of SCMTR messages
1	Goa	INMRM1	01-Sep-26
2	Bombay	INBOM1	01-Sep-26
3	Mangalore	INNML1	07-Sep-26
4	Vizag	INVTZ1	07-Sep-26
6	Kakinada	INCOK1	07-Sep-26
5	Tuticorin	INTUT1	11-Sep-26
7	Gangavaram	INGGV1	11-Sep-26
24	Cuddalore	INCDL1	11-Sep-26
8	Cochin	INKAK1	21-Sep-26
9	Paradeep	INPRT1	21-Sep-26
10	Ennore	INENR1	21-Sep-26
11	Kattupalli	INKAT1	21-Sep-26
12	Kandla	INIXY1	28-Sep-26
13	Kolkata	INCCU1	28-Sep-26
14	Hazira	INHZA1	28-Sep-26
15	Dahej	INDAH1	28-Sep-26
16	Pipavah	INPAV1	28-Sep-26
17	Karanja	INKRN1	28-Sep-26
18	Haldia	INHAL1	28-Sep-26
19	Sikka Port	INSIK1	28-Sep-26
20	Dhamra Port	INDMA1	28-Sep-26
21	Vadinar Port	INVAD1	28-Sep-26
22	Magdalla	INMDA1	28-Sep-26
23	Jaigad	INJGD1	28-Sep-26
25	Bhavnagar	INBHU1	05-Oct-26
26	Okha Port	INOKH1	05-Oct-26
27	Karwar Port	INKRW1	05-Oct-26
28	Dabhol Port	INDHP1	05-Oct-26
29	Redi Port	INRED1	05-Oct-26
30	Mundra	INMUN1	05-Oct-26

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31	Chennai	INMAA1	09-Oct-26
32	Nhava Sheva	JNCH	15-Oct-26
33	Remaining Ports		15-Oct-26

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