



17th April, 2020

Shri M. Ajit Kumar, IRS
Chairman
Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
North Block, New Delhi-110001.

Sub: Request for instructions /guidelines for waiver of ground rent/detention/demurrage charges by Container Freight Stations and Terminal Authorities w.e.f. 22.03.2020 to till lockdown is in effect.

Ref: Letter dated 15.04.2020 sent to you by Mundra Custom Brokers' Association (copy attached)

Respected Sir,

Greetings from Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI).

We are in receipt of a copy of the above referred letter sent to us by Mundra Custom Brokers' Association regarding charging of detention, demurrage and ground rent charges for the period 25.03.2020 to 14.04.2020 in violation of the advisory issued by Mundra Customs vide File No. VIII/48-42/AG-CHM/Advisory No. 01/2020 dated 12.04.2020.

Sir, as mentioned in the letter, the major ports of India have already issued the advisory for waiver of detention, demurrage and ground rent charges. However, the private ports are not following the same even though the advisory has been issued by the Mundra Customs for waiver of these charges.

Sir, you will understand that in view of the current situation, the burden of detention, demurrage and ground rent charges should not be imposed on the importers who are already struggling for their survival. The waiver of these charges will provide relief to a large number of importers, which include importers of raw materials and inputs related to essential commodities.

We therefore request you to kindly look into the matter and issue necessary instructions for waiver of ground rent/detention/demurrage charges by Container Freight Stations and Terminal Authorities w.e.f. 22.03.2020 till the lockdown is in effect.

With Regards,

Sincerely,

Durgesh Buch
President

Copy to:

Shri Sivasailam, IAS, Special Secretary (Logistics), Dept. of Commerce, Govt. of India

Durgesh V. Buch
President

Natubhai Patel
Sr. Vice President

Bhargav Thakkar
Vice President

Sanjeev Chhajer
Secretary

Dilip M. Padhya
Secretary (R)

Pathik S. Patwari
Treasurer