

Return Of Export Cargo From International Waters Due To Closure Of The Strait Of Hormuz - Section 143AA Of The Customs Act, 1962



THE PLASTICS EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL

दि प्लास्टिक एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन कौन्सिल

(भारत सरकार, वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, वाणिज्य विभाग द्वारा प्रायोजित)

THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Sponsored By The Ministry Of Commerce & Industry, Deptt. Of Commerce, Government Of India)

Ref: Plex/Cir/415

Date: 21 August 2026

To

All Members of Plexconcil / COA Members

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Return of export cargo from international waters due to closure of the Strait of Hormuz - Section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962

Ref: Circular No. 36/2026-Customs dated 20th August 2026

With reference to the above-mentioned subject and Customs Circular No. 36, issued with reference to the earlier Circular No. 12/2026-Customs dated 17.03.2026, Circular No. 15/2026-Customs dated 27.03.2026, and subsequent Circular No. 25/2026-Customs dated 14.05.2026, issued under Section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962, in view of the ongoing crisis in West Asia.

In order to facilitate the uninterrupted international trade, it is clarified that international transshipment of both FCL and LCL cargo shall be permitted from all seaports and international airports, including cases involving transshipment through other Customs stations, subject to compliance with the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

It has been decided that, the following measures shall temporarily be followed in case of transshipment of Liquid Bulk, Break Bulk and Solid/Dry Bulk international cargo:

1. Temporary Permission for Unloading, Storage and Transshipment/Re-export of Liquid Bulk, Break Bulk and Solid/Dry Bulk Cargo Destined for Foreign Ports but Diverted to Indian Ports Due to Maritime Security Concerns, Disruption of International Shipping Routes or Other Logistical Exigencies, in Customs Areas, Bonded Warehouses, Bonded Tanks, Silos, Yards and Other Approved Storage Facilities.
2. Such permission may be granted on a case-to-case basis, subject to Customs supervision, proper inventory, execution of a suitable bond/undertaking, testing of cargo, and continued Customs control without clearance for home consumption or diversion to the Domestic Tariff Area.
3. Solid/Dry Bulk Cargo shall be governed by the same operational framework applicable to Break Bulk Cargo, particularly with regard to weighment, quantity verification and safeguards against diversion.
4. Repacking of bulk cargo, wherever operationally necessary, may be permitted within the Customs area on a case-to-case basis under Customs supervision, subject to maintenance of proper accounts and compliance with all applicable statutory provisions.

The procedure prescribed in the Board Circulars No. 14/2007-Cus dated 16.03.2007, No. 12/2026-Customs dated 17.03.2026 and No. 15/2026-Customs dated 27.03.2026 for allowing International Transshipment of FCL/LCL cargo from all Ports/Airports shall be duly followed. The Nodal Officer shall ensure that permissions for international transshipment are granted by the

jurisdictional Assistant/Deputy Commissioner of Customs, duly authorised by the jurisdictional Commissioner, on priority basis, after due verification.

For, transshipment involving multiple customs stations, existing procedures prescribed under Circular No. 15/2026-Customs dated 27.03.2026 for movement and transshipment of containerized cargo through Indian ports, airports and other Customs stations shall continue to apply.

These facilitative measures shall remain in force **up to 31.10.2026**.

Members are requested to refer the official circular for more information.

https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260821120533.pdf

Enclosed Reference circulars:

1. Circular No. 12/2026-Customs dated 17.03.2026- https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260318023059.pdf
2. Circular No. 15/2026-Customs dated 27.03.2026: https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260330033254.pdf
3. Circular No. 25/2026-Customs dated 14.05.2026: https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260515113625.pdf

This is for information.

Best Regards

Bharti Parave

Dy. Director (Trade and Policy)

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