



## SPICES BOARD

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry Govt. of India)  
Sugandha Bhavan  
N.H.By-pass  
P.B.No. 2277  
Palarivattom P.O.  
Kochi - 682 025, India

## स्पाइसेस बोर्ड

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
सुगन्ध भवन  
एन.एच.बाईपास  
पी. बी. नं. 2277  
पालारिवट्टम पी.ओ.  
कोच्ची - 682 025, भारत

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

### CIRCULAR.01/2026-27

**Sub :** Return of International Transhipment of FCL/LCL cargo from all Ports/Airports due to Disruption in maritime routes – Facilitation Measures for Re-stuffing of consignments of spices & spices products- reg

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During the stakeholders' virtual meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026, representations were received from the trade indicating that, due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz and the consequent disruption in maritime routes, certain vessels carrying export cargo from India are unable to reach their destination ports and led to diversion / return of export cargo to Indian ports.

The trade has requested facilitation by Spices Board for re-stuffing of such containers, along with a simplified and uniform procedure, including in cases involving movement through multiple Customs stations. Representations have also been received from the Exporters regarding procedure for re-stuffing of containers which are Back to Town (BTT).

The matter has been examined by the Board. In order to facilitate the exporters of spices & spice products during the disruption time in maritime routes due to closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the Board has decided to consider such requests for re-stuffing of returned cargo, that has been brought back to their factories (Back to Town). In such cases, the retesting of consignment shall not be required, provided that the seal & container numbers are found to be matching with those mentioned in the Test Report or Health Certificate issued by Spices Board.

This facility is also extended to cover international transhipment of LCL cargo which are returned to India subject to 100% examination and verification of the integrity of the consignment.

Accordingly, the Board has enabled a provision in the Export Support System (ESS) for submission of requests for re-stuffing. In this regard, the following guidelines are issued to exporters of spices and spice products for re-stuffing of consignments returned to India.

- The Exporter shall submit an online intimation for re-stuffing in Export Support System (ESS).




- Subsequently, the exporter shall submit the copies of Cancelled Shipping Bills & Let Export Order/ Sea Arrival Manifest, whichever is applicable, to the SRD concerned in Originating place.
- Re-stuffing of consignments shall be permitted only subject to verification of the integrity of the container seal. The seal number must match with the details recorded in the documents issued at the time of issuance of the Final Report.
- If the seal is found tampered or not intact, the container will not be permitted for re-stuffing. In such cases, the exporter shall place new intimation for further sampling & stuffing as per the system in place

The above facility will be available in Export Support System with effect from 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026 and shall remain in force till 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

All exporters of spices and spice products are advised to avail this facility during the period of disruption.

This order is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.



Director (Mktg)

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To

All Exporters of Spices & Spice Products  
All Spice Exporters Association

Copy to  
The Under Secretary, DoC, MoC&I, New Delhi  
The Secretary, Spices Board Kochi  
All Regional Offices of the Board  
Office Copy  
Guard File