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Ref.No.MAIT/PY/2442

February 23, 2022

Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, IAS  
Director General  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade

**Sub: Request for urgent clarification on the acceptability of import licenses for shipments having AWB dated prior to the license issuance date**

**Ref:** DGFT Notification No.54/2015-2020 dated 09<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Respected Sir,

***Greetings from MAIT!***

First and foremost, we have received feedback from the industry on the expeditious license issuances and industry is extremely grateful to you for taking this step which shall help the industry for importing items brought under “Restricted” category vide DGFT Notification No.54/2015-2020 dated 09<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

However, **we wish to bring to your kind notice that the industry is still not able to get the items cleared from Customs as AWB of the shipments are prior to the license issuance date.**

This is putting tremendous stress on the industry resulting in disruption due to the goods stuck at the ports for the past 13 days.

To release the goods, Industry is being asked by Customs to get a clarification from DGFT that **“the license issued can be used to clear the goods lying at the port and for shipments of goods having AWB/Bill of lading dated prior to the license issuance date”**

Hence, **we request DGFT to kindly issue a general clarification to that effect.** This will ease the burden significantly and save tremendous amount of time and effort.

In case, the license needs to be endorsed, we request you to do this on top priority.

Looking forward to an early confirmation.

With regards,

George Paul  
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & IT  
CC: Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
CC: Shri Saurabh Gaur, IAS, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & IT  
CC: Shri Hardeep Singh, ITS, Addl. Director General, DGFT  
CC: Ms. Asha Nangia, Sr. Director, Ministry of Electronics & IT