



Kolkata Port Trust

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TRADE CIRCULAR

Subject : 24X7 working of Shipping Lines

A communication has been received recently by the Secretary, Ministry of Shipping from the Revenue Secretary, Ministry of Finance in which Government's focus on improving business climate in the country by introducing a series of reforms across various Ministries have been highlighted.

The communication referred to Central Board of Indirect Taxes (CBIC), which has been entrusted with the responsibility to improve the **Trading across Boarder** parameter of "Doing Business" report of World Bank.

In line with such commitments, CBIC has initiated various reforms during last few years. 24X7 Custom Clearance facility is currently available in 20 seaports (including Kolkata) and 17 Air Cargo Complexes, which reportedly handle close to 90 percent of volume of EXIM cargo, according to the communication mentioned above. It has been further stressed in the communication that besides the Customs, offices of all the agencies concerned with EXIM Cargo viz. Partner Government Agencies, custodian, Banks, Terminal operators, Custom Brokers etc. also needed to be available on 24X7 basis to make this facility a success.

It has been requested in the communication for the Port to issue instructions to all Shipping Lines, CHAs to deploy staff/officers at their offices for 24X7 hrs so that 24X7 custom clearances becomes more successful and enhance the level of Ease of Doing Business.

Accordingly, all Shipping Lines, MLOs, CHAs are instructed to deploy staff/officers at their offices for 24X7 hrs.


Traffic Manager