

PRESS RELEASE

Central Government with a view to facilitate exports and give a fillip to the global outreach of India's exporters via e-commerce has permitted all IEC holders to export goods through Foreign Post Offices (FPO).

At present e-commerce parcels are accepted at Kochi FPO at YMCA Building, Chittoor Road. An exclusive counter has been set up where export parcels are accepted on all working days. Some of the advantages of export through Post are cost effectiveness in terms of freight charges and digital tracking of the export consignment. A consignor has the advantage of filing only one postal bill of export which can be used for transactions relating to multiple consignees. In other words, there will be no limit on the number of postal shipments which can be effected using a single Postal Bill of Export by a particular consignor.

Cochin Customs house amongst the exporters has accordingly brought out Trade Facility notices 17/2018 (<u>http://www.cochincustoms.gov.in/upload/trade/TF 17-2018.PDF</u>) and 26/2018 dated 18/09/2018 (<u>http://www.cochincustoms.gov.in/upload/trade/ TF 26-</u> 2018.PDF) detailing procedure to be followed for e-commerce exports through FPO. These Public Notices are available on the Cochin Custom House website.

It is however observed that response from the exporters in this regard has been tepid so far. With a view to create greater awareness amongst the exporters, Cochin Customs and Postal authorities at FPO along with FIEO are organizing an outreach program for sensitizing the Exim trade about the facilities available at Kochi Foreign Post office for e-commerce at 9.00 AM on 30.05.2019 at Indian Merchant Navy Conference Hall, Willingdon Island, Cochin-682003.

Members of trade and media, are requested to avail this opportunity of acquainting themselves with the e commerce facilities available at FPO Kochi by attending the aforesaid outreach programme and if they so desire, can also visit the Foreign Post Office, located at YMCA Building, Chittoor Road, Kochi-6820135 and apprise themselves first hand of the facilities available in this regard.

Members of the Media are requested to give wider publicity to this event which is meant for creating greater awareness amongst the trade fraternity.

Sum

COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS