

EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR EOUs AND SEZs

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> Circular No. 469 Dated 24.06.2024

Dear Member,

Sub: Implementation of ICEGATE at SEZs-reg.

There have been discussions regarding implementation of ICEGATE in SEZs.

EPCES had also got a study conducted in 2020-21 by Ernst and Young on this subject. As you are aware, Exporters in DTA don't have to pay charges for using ICEGATE while SEZ units have to pay charges for using SEZ Online as Government is not financing SEZ Online. Further, SEZs are not treated as EDI ports as ICEGATE is not there in SEZs. Further, Government announced extension of RoDTEP scheme to EOUs and SEZs in March 2024. EOUs have started getting the benefits of RoDTEP scheme as they are on ICEGATE but in case of SEZs, it could not be implemented as SEZs were not on ICEGATE.

Further, Union Finance Minister in her budget speech on 1.2.2022 announced that Government will also undertake reforms in Customs Administration of SEZs and it shall henceforth be fully IT driven and function on the Customs National Portal with a focus on higher facilitation and with only risk-based checks. This will ease doing business by SEZ units considerably.

In view of the above, after testing of new SEZ ICEGATE modules in various SEZs, it has been decided vide the Government vide Department of Commerce Letter dated 22.6.2024 that effective **1st July 2024**, ICEGATE system will be used by **non-IT/ITES Special Economic Zones (SEZs)** and **Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZs)** for filing documents for imports and exports i.e. Bill of Entry and Shipping Bill, DTA procurement/Sale, Intra and Inter SEZ transactions. A copy of the Department of Commerce letter dated 22.6.2024 is attached for your reference.

Sincerely,

EPCES