



# CBIC NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- **India's participation in 138<sup>th</sup> Council Session of WCO**
- **Revamping of the Quality Assurance Review System for evaluating quality of Audits**
- **Highlights of 44<sup>th</sup> GST Council Meeting**
- **Vaccination drive under the aegis of 'CBIC Aashvasan'**
- **Celebration of World Environment Day & International Yoga Day**
- **Swift clearances of COVID-19 relief items**



## From the Desk of the Director General, DGTS, CBIC

The month of June saw a lot of events and participation from all the Zonal offices across the country. It makes me proud to see everyone putting in their best efforts to stay positive physically, mentally and emotionally, and giving their best in the service of the nation.

This issue covers India's participation in the 138<sup>th</sup> Council Session of World Customs Organization. The issue also highlights the celebration at various Zonal offices on World Environment Day, International Yoga Day, and International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking as a part of Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav.

The department also organized a series of webinars and sensitization workshops on the GST Amnesty Scheme; the latest changes in GSTN Portal, the latest initiatives taken during the COVID-19 pandemic; challenges, preparedness and precautions for the third wave of pandemic; GST outreach; and trade facilitation programs. The department also arranged virtual talks and awareness workshops for Yoga and drug abuse.

This issue largely talks about the efforts and measures taken to fight these difficult times. I hope it also reflects that essence and finds you and your family members in the best of health.

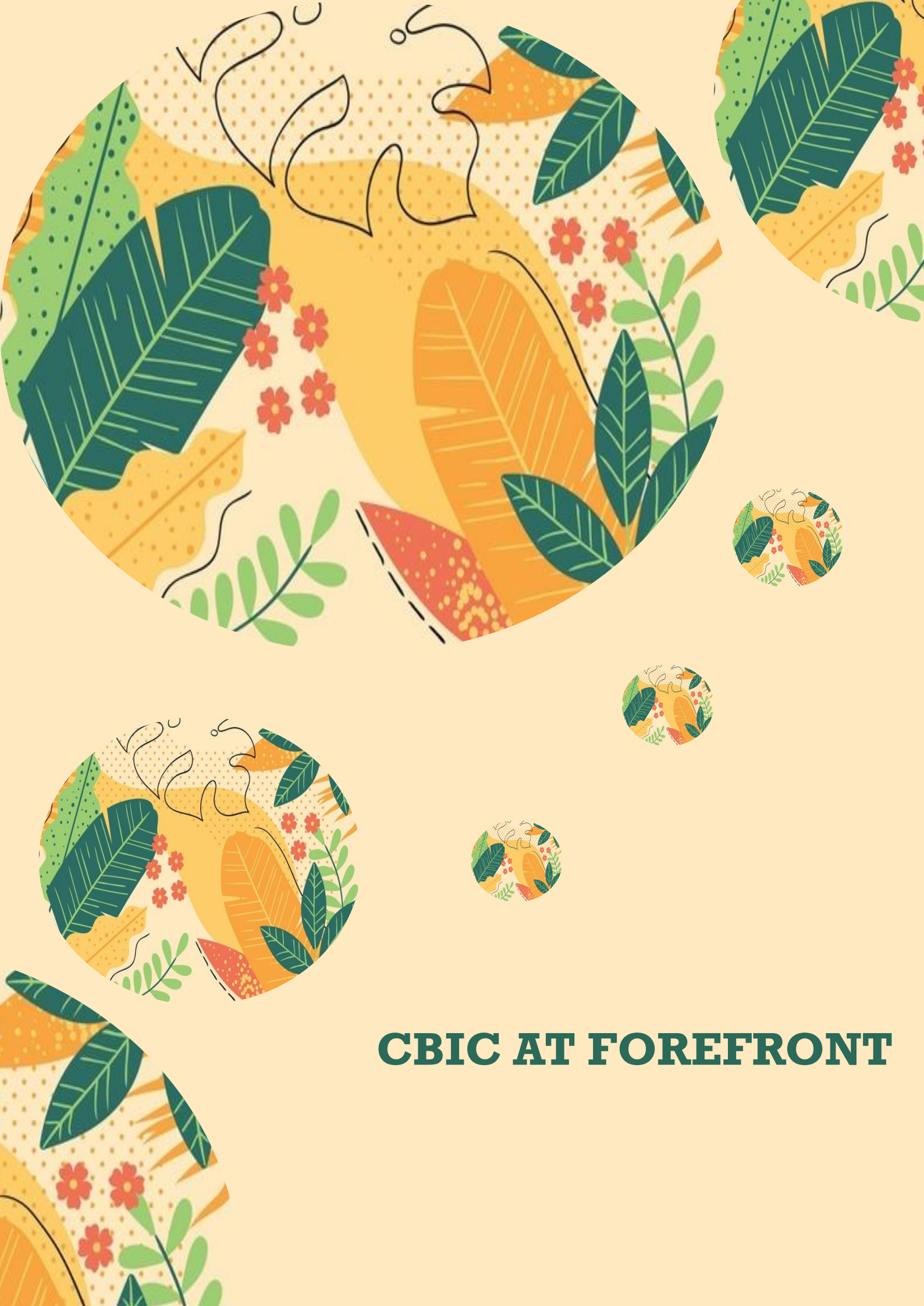
Yours sincerely,

*B. V. Siva Naga Kumari*

B.V. Siva Naga Kumari  
DG, DGTS

EDITOR'S NOTE





# **CBIC AT FOREFRONT**

# 138<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL SESSION WCO 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021



Chairman CBIC, Shri M. Ajit Kumar led the Indian delegation at the 138<sup>th</sup> Council Session of the World Customs Organization - Organisation mondiale des douanes (WCO\_ OMD) that commenced on 24<sup>th</sup> June. The session was attended by the delegates of Customs Administrations of more than 150 countries across the globe.



Chairman CBIC spoke about the key components of India's successful response to supply chain disruptions caused by the pandemic. By leveraging its IT strength, and introduction of initiatives such as Turant Customs, it removed geographical barriers for faceless & contactless assessment. The introduction of paperless processes and increased AEO participation in trade encouraged the rebuilding of trade volumes.





## 44<sup>th</sup> GST Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021

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The 44<sup>th</sup> GST Council Meeting was conducted under the Chairmanship of Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman through video conferencing. The Council in its meeting decided to reduce the GST rates on the specified items being used in Covid-19 relief and management till 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs Shri Anurag Singh Thakur besides Finance Ministers of States & UTs and senior officers of the Central & States/UTs governments.



# **CBIC KEY INITIATIVES**

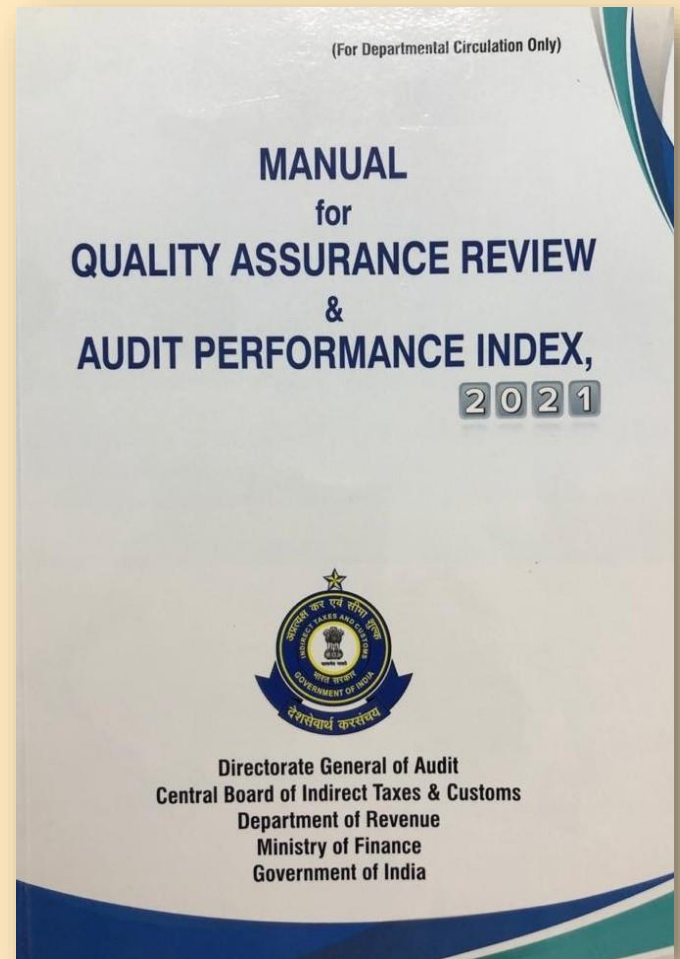


# Revamping of the Quality Assurance Review System for evaluating the quality of audits

The Directorate General of Audit carries out evaluation of the performance of audits conducted by the CGST Audit Commissionerates on Qualitative and Quantitative parameters. The Qualitative parameters are evaluated through Quality Assurance Review (QAR) mechanism. The Directorate General also evaluates Quantitative performance through the Audit Performance Index (API) mechanism.

Hitherto, the QAR was conducted by the Zonal units as per the provisions of 'Manual for Quality Assurance Review, 2016'. The provisions of the Manual were consonant with the provisions of Central Excise and Service Tax Audit Manual, 2015 (CESTAM).

However, in view of implementation of GST, the old QAR system of review of performance of Audit Commissionerate by the Zonal units needed to be restructured in accordance with the provisions of the CGST Act, 2017 and the GST Audit Manual, 2019.



Thus, the Directorate General of Audit has come up with an exhaustive manual in the form of 'Manual for Quality Assurance Review (QAR) and Audit Performance Index (API), 2021' by incorporating provisions of CGST Act, 2017.



***Launching of  
Manual for Quality  
Assurance Review  
and Audit  
Performance Index,  
2021 by Shri M. Ajit  
Kumar, Chairman,  
CBIC.***

The manual lays down methodology for conducting QAR of the audit performance of the CGST Audit Commissionerate by the officers of Zonal units of the DG Audit in accordance with the provisions of GST Audit Manual, 2019, which are consonant with the provisions of CGST laws.

The Manual also provides for evaluation of Quantitative performance, viz. detection, recoveries of audit etc. of the field formations through Audit Performance Index (API) and lays down method of adjudging them by way of their All India Ranking.



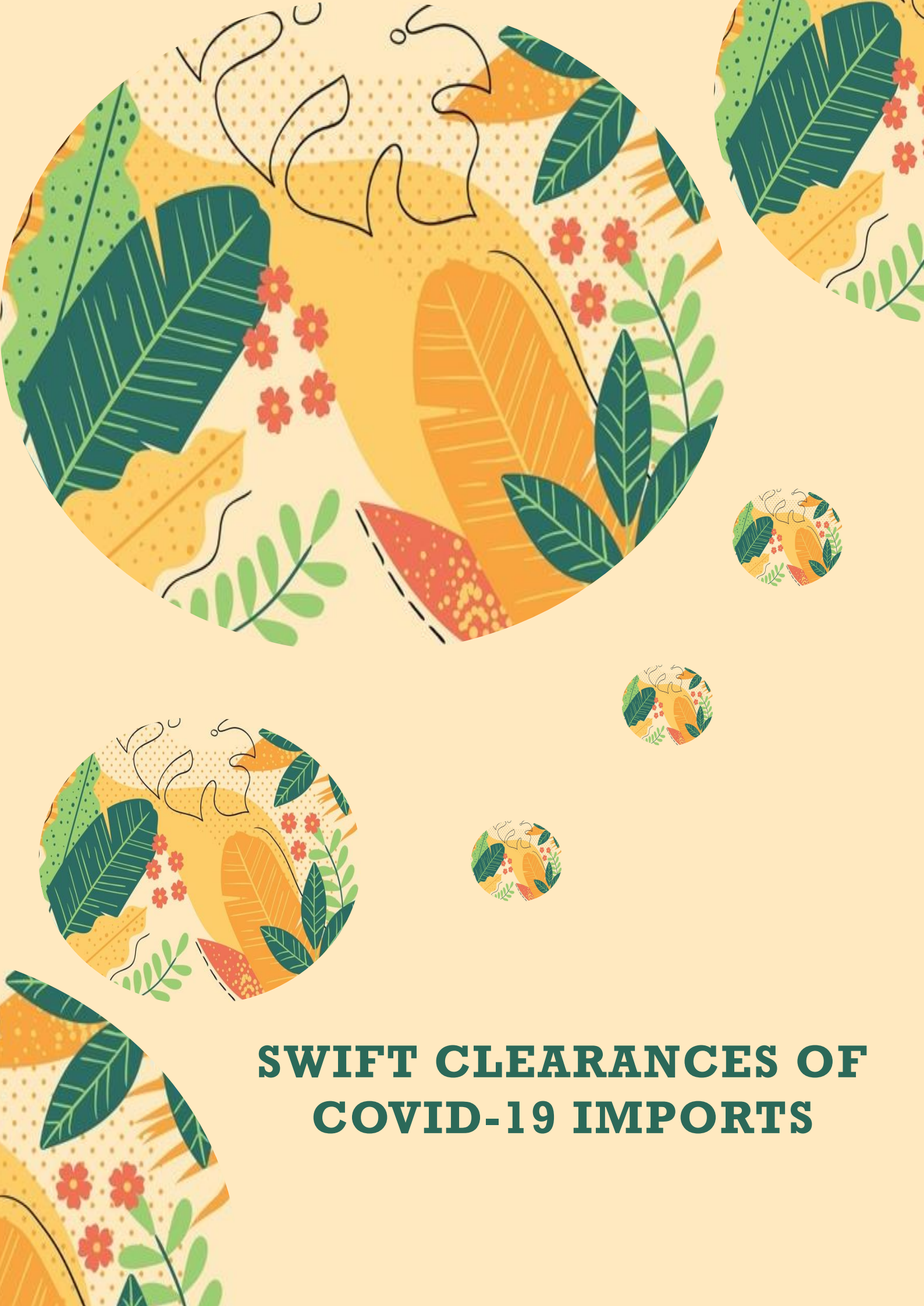
# Swachh Bharat Mission



The Directorate General of Audit installed a RO water cooler having 380 Liters storage capacity at the EDMC Primary Pratibha School, Chander Vihar-1, East Delhi







# **SWIFT CLEARANCES OF COVID-19 IMPORTS**



# Indian Customs working tirelessly in the Fight Against COVID-19



Hyderabad Customs



Kolkata Customs



Bengaluru Customs



Chennai Customs



In the continued mission of fighting the pandemic and serving the nation, Indian Customs facilitated expeditious Import clearances of COVID-19 related items.





# VACCINATION DRIVE





BENGALURU

AGRA

MEERUT



VADODARA

GURUGRAM

MANGALORE



MYSURU

KOLKATA

LUCKNOW



CHENNAI

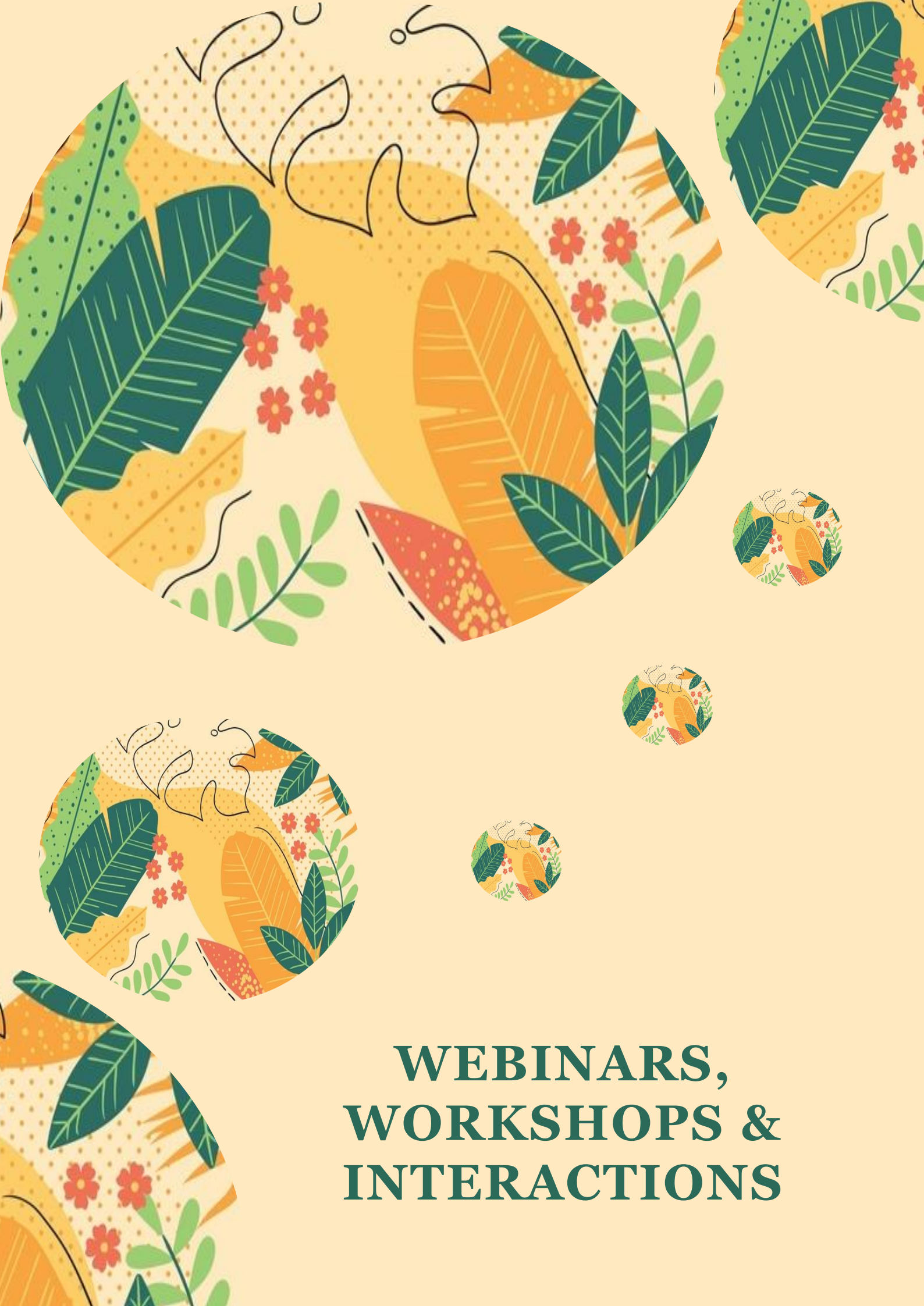
HYDERABAD



DELHI

DGHRD





# **WEBINARS, WORKSHOPS & INTERACTIONS**



# WEBINARS

## Initiatives during Covid-19 pandemic

- DGTPS, CBIC in association with CII, India, and FICCI
- DGTS DZU and KZU in association with CII

## Latest changes on GSTN portal

- DGTPS Ahmedabad and Mumbai in coordination with FICCI, India and NACIN Vadodara

## Covid-19 in children: challenges, precautions and preparedness for the third wave

- Karnataka Zonal Response Team, CBIC

## Webinar on GST trade facilitation measures

- CGST Delhi South Commissionerate

## Webinar on Drawback & Brand Rate Fixation

- Directorate General of Taxpayer Services (DGTS) Mumbai and Ahmedabad Zonal Unit



# INTERACTIONS & WORKSHOPS

## **Discussion with trade bodies and Customs House Agents**

Shri O.P. Dadhich, Member Investigation, CBIC on his visit to Customs Amritsar had an interactive session with trade bodies and Customs House Agents

## **First Grievance Redressal Committee meeting**

CGST Customs Hyderabad conducted the First Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) meeting for the Year 2021-22

## **Virtual workshop on GST Amnesty scheme**

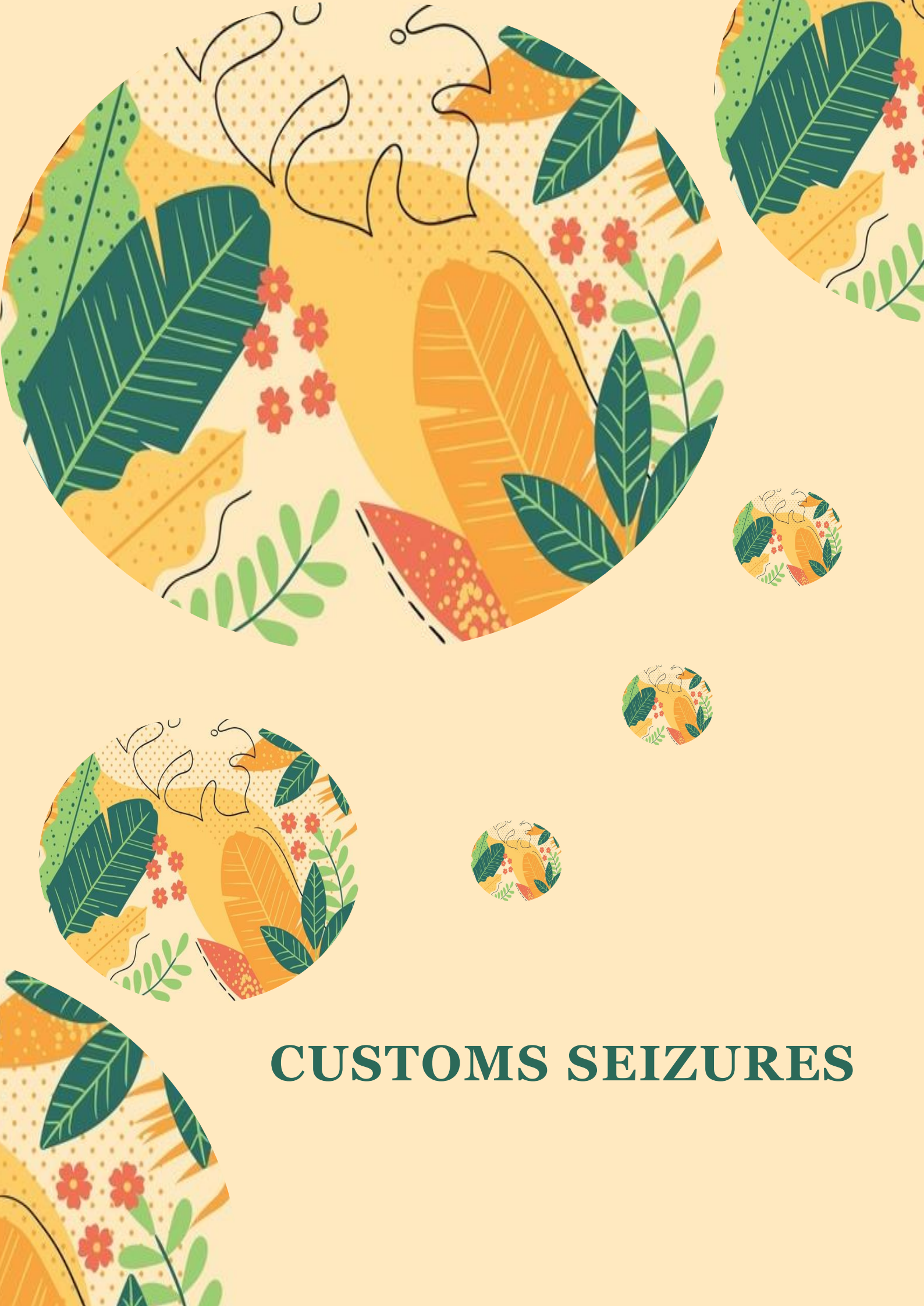
CGST Bangalore zone jointly with CTD Karnataka and FKCCI

## **GST Outreach program**

Principal Chief Commissioner, Visakhapatnam Zone hosted a virtual GST outreach program







# CUSTOMS SEIZURES

## JODHPUR CUSTOMS

On 17<sup>th</sup> June, Jodhpur Customs officers examined the baggage of a passenger arriving from Dubai and seized approximately 351 grams of gold-plated rhodium with an estimated value of INR 17.23 Lakhs. The rhodium was concealed in wire and other forms in trolley bags and other items.



## SHILLONG CUSTOMS

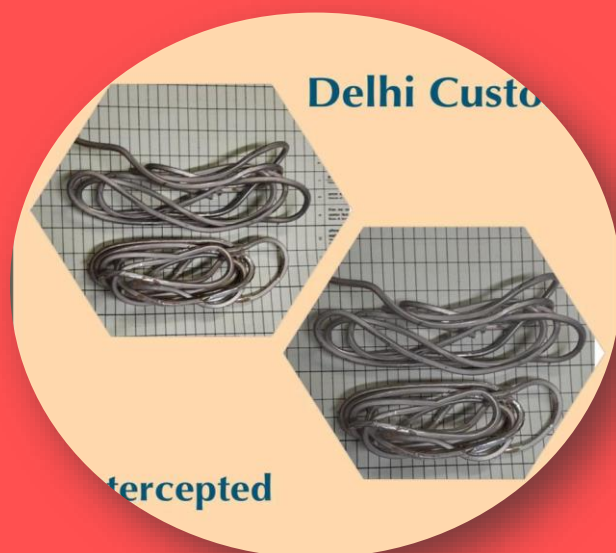
In a joint operation of Customs Officers of Mizoram and 8 Assam Rifles on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 410 grams of Heroin was seized, at Balukai valley on the bank of river Tiau. The estimated worth of the seized Heroin was INR 1.64 Cr.





# DELHI CUSTOMS

The Delhi Airport Customs arrested an Indian passenger on 1<sup>st</sup> June for smuggling 2 metal rods of gold weighing 1428 grams. The passenger arrived from Riyadh via Dubai by Emirates flight EK 510 and carried the gold concealed inside the check-in bag. The estimated value of the gold is INR 64.75 Lakhs.



The Delhi Airport Customs arrested two Afghan nationals under the NDPS Act on 4<sup>th</sup> June. They arrived by Emirates flight EK 516 from Dubai carrying 19.48 kg of black viscous liquid substance appearing to be Heroin which was concealed inside shampoo and hair color bottles. The estimated worth of Heroin is INR 136 Crore.



On 3<sup>rd</sup> June, SIIB, ACC Export Commissionerate, seized 367 iPhones of various models having market value of INR 3.19 Crore. These goods were mis-declared as household goods from Riyadh. On a similar note, on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 222 iPhones of various models, 173 used laptops, 4391 bottles of food supplements, 10 Sony PS-5 & cosmetics were seized. The estimated market value of all the goods was approximately INR 2.50 Crore.



# DELHI CUSTOMS



Delhi Customs arrested a British national who arrived from Kabul by Ariana flight FG311 on 7<sup>th</sup> June. The passenger was arrested for smuggling 751 grams of gold jewelry in the check-in baggage. The estimated value of the seized gold was INR 29.88 Lakhs.

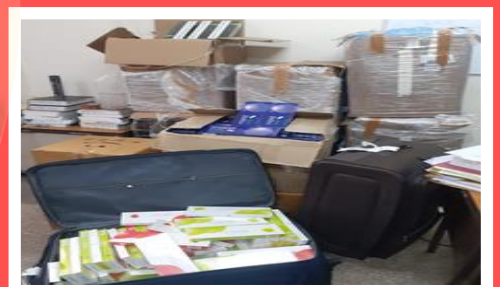
The Delhi Airport Customs arrested a Tanzanian national who arrived from Durba via Doha for smuggling 4.05 kilograms of brown sugar substance suspected to be Heroin.

On 13<sup>th</sup> June a Passenger travelling by Qatar Airways flight QR 1368, was arrested carrying Heroin of estimated value of INR 28 Crore, concealed inside cavities made in handbag and trolley bags.



The ACC Export Commissionerate seized 10 unregistered parcels destined to Hong Kong containing peacock feathers weighing approximately 8 kilograms at Foreign Post Office, New Delhi.

Customs (Preventive) intercepted 5 passengers arriving from Sharjah on 16<sup>th</sup> June. A total of 2.24 lakhs sticks of foreign-origin cigarettes valued at around INR 45 lakhs were recovered and seized.



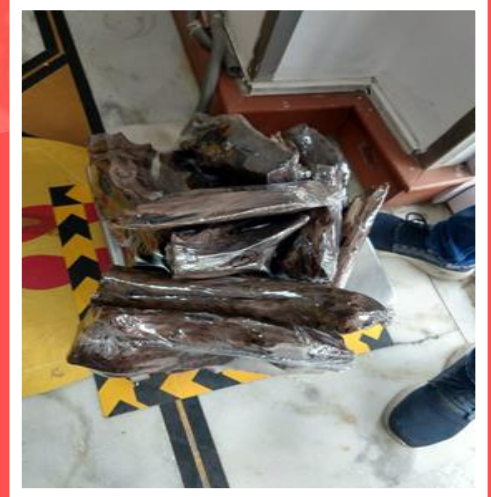


# DELHI CUSTOMS

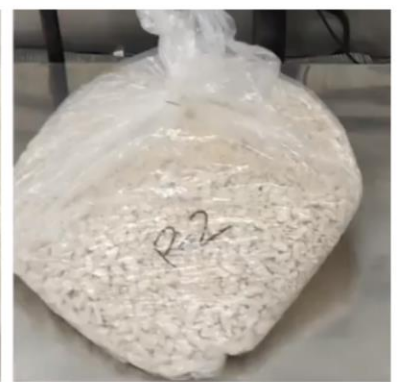


Delhi Customs arrested an Indian passenger who arrived from Dubai by Emirates flight EK 516 on 23<sup>rd</sup> June for smuggling 1399 grams of gold. The gold was concealed in a mixer grinder and was estimated to be worth INR 62.68 Lakhs.

On 25<sup>th</sup> June, in multiple operations, 141 kilograms of Sandalwood (*Santalum album*) was prevented from being illegally exported and seized. Much sought after abroad, export of blocks/billets of Sandalwood is prohibited.



Delhi Airport Customs arrested two South African passengers who arrived from Johannesburg via Doha by Qatar Airways by flight QR578 on 26<sup>th</sup> June for smuggling 18 kilograms of white powder substance suspected to be Heroin which was concealed inside trolley bags. The estimated value of Heroin is INR 126 Crore.



# VARANASI & LUCKNOW CUSTOMS



Customs at LBSI Airport Varanasi seized gold weighing at 239.650 grams on 7<sup>th</sup> June. The passenger arrived from Sharjah in Air India flight IX 184 and concealed the gold in the form of paste in his undergarments. The estimated worth of the seized gold is INR 11.98 Lakhs.

Customs at CCSI Airport Lucknow seized 100 Gold wire cut pieces having net weight of 706 grams and valued at INR 35.65 Lakhs from a passenger coming from Dubai in Air India flight IX-0194 on 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Gold wires covered with M-seal and aluminum foil was concealed in the artificial jewelry set.



Similarly, on 13<sup>th</sup> June, Customs seized Gold bars weighing 2.3 kilograms and valued at INR 117.66 Lakhs from a passenger coming from Riyadh in Indigo flight 6E-5424. Four Gold bars wrapped in black colored cello tape & carbon paper and concealed in a transformer.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Lucknow Customs seized gold weighing at 814.500 grams and valued at INR 40.15 Lakhs from a passenger coming from Dubai in Air India Express flight IX 194. The gold in form of element was concealed in an iron box.



Customs (Preventive) Division, Varanasi with the help of GRP officers of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction seized four pieces of foreign-origin gold and gold jewelry total weighing 6064.7 grams and valued at INR 2.6 Crore from two passengers travelling from Hijli to New Delhi in train no 02825.

Customs LBSI Airport Varanasi seized foreign-origin gold weighing 465.9 grams valued at INR 22.83 Lakh from a passenger arriving from Sharjah in Air India Express flight IX 184. The two circular shape gold disk were concealed as part of grease gun and incense burner.



## CHENNAI CUSTOMS



The Chennai Air Customs seized 140 gram of gold on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The passenger arrived from Doha and concealed the three gold bars inside his socks. The estimated worth of the gold bars is INR 7.14 Lakh.

On 4<sup>th</sup> June, the Chennai Air Customs seized 9.87 kilogram of Heroin worth INR 70 Crore seized from two African lady passengers who arrived from Johannesburg via Doha by Qatar Airways flight QR 528. The Heroin was concealed in their stroller bags. Both have been arrested under NDPS Act.

In a similar incident, on 10<sup>th</sup> June, the Customs officials seized and arrested a passenger carrying 1.25 kilograms of gold valued at INR 63.20 Lakhs. The passenger arrived by flight FZ 8517 from Dubai. It was concealed in the form of gold paste packets, stitched inside waist belt and ankle portion of jeans.

Chennai Air Customs seized 105 MDMA tablets worth INR 5.25 Lakhs under NDPS Act 1985, from two postal parcels which arrived from Netherlands & France at Foreign Post Office Chennai on 30<sup>th</sup> June.



## COCHIN CUSTOMS

On 7<sup>th</sup> June, Calicut AIU seized approximately 511 grams of a gold compound from a passenger who arrived in Air India Express flight IX 354 from Sharjah. On 9<sup>th</sup> June, Calicut AIU again seized approximately 1.7 kilograms of a gold compound from three passengers who arrived in Air India Express flight IX 354 from Sharjah. The Gold compound was concealed as capsules inside the body of the passengers.

On 1<sup>st</sup> June, the Customs Preventive Team in a joint operation with DRI seized 3.3 kilograms of gold plates from three passengers. They arrived from Jeddah via Sharjah by Air Arabia flight G9 454. The gold plates were concealed inside battery cases of emergency lights.



On 12<sup>th</sup> June, AIU Kannur intercepted a passenger who arrived on Air India Express flight IX 350 from Muscat and recovered 1867 grams of 24 carat gold in the form of cut plates concealed inside the battery of an emergency lamp.



## GOA CUSTOMS



Customs seized 11 gold bars collectively weighing 1.276 kilograms at Dabolim Airport on 4<sup>th</sup> June. The gold bars were concealed in the check-in baggage of a passenger arriving from Sharjah.

## HYDERABAD DRI/CUSTOMS

Hyderabad DRI booked two cases for smuggling of 11.95 kilograms of Heroin against two passengers on 6<sup>th</sup> June. The passengers arrived from Doha and the powdered Heroin was concealed in the inner compartment of specially designed suitcases. The estimated worth of Heroin was INR 78 Crores.

Hyderabad Customs booked a case for smuggling of gold against a passenger on 7<sup>th</sup> June. The passenger arrived from Kuwait by Indigo flight 6E 8268. The passenger was smuggling 202 grams of 21 carat gold jewelry concealed by silver coating. The estimated value of the gold was INR 8 Lakhs.



On 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Hyderabad Customs booked a case for smuggling of iPhones against two passengers arrived by Air Arabia flight G9 458 from Sharjah. About 80 iPhones valued at INR 1 Crore were seized.



# SPECIAL DAYS



5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021

# World Environment Day

As a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav activities, World Environment Day was celebrated at various CGST offices in the country.

NACIN, CGST Bhubaneshwar Zone and CGST Bhopal Zone committed to a greener and cleaner environment undertook a plantation drive where saplings are planted.





# 7<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

## 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2021



As a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav activities, 7<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day was celebrated across all the CGST offices in the country.

The Zonal offices that conducted online Yoga and physical yoga at their office premises are as follows:

- CGST Gautam Buddha Nagar (Meerut)
- Customs Jodhpur
- Delhi Customs
- Kolkata
- CGST Ghaziabad and Meerut Audit Commissionerate
- Chennai Customs
- NACIN Vishakhapatnam
- Thiruvananthapuram Zone:
- NACIN Jaipur & Chandigarh
- Mumbai Customs Zone
- CGST Bhopal Zone
- CGST Thane Zone
- NACIN Faridabad
- CGST Rajkot
- Customs Amritsar
- CGST Rohtak
- Delhi Customs (Preventive)



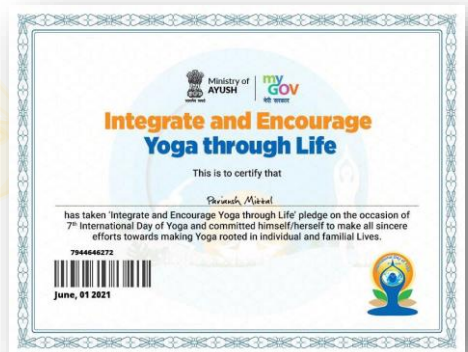
Yoga  
through

webinar

Bhubaneshwar Zone organized a yoga session through a webinar.

Customs Ludhiana took a pledge to integrate & encourage Yoga through life

Hyderabad CGST Customs organized a Webinar on “Psychological issues arising during/after recovery from COVID-19” with a panel of eminent Psychiatrists.



FEW CAPTURED MOMENTS OF THE DAY

# INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE & ILLICIT TRAFFICKING 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021



Delhi Customs (Preventive) and CGST Commissionerate, Dehradun ran an awareness campaign against drug abuse and illicit trafficking and spread the message to embrace life and say no to drugs.

Vishakhapatnam Customs organized an online workshop on Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking. Provisions of the NDPS Act 1985 were explained to the officers.

Customs Amritsar organized an online talk on drug abuse awareness at Spring Dale Senior School, Amritsar. Students from Class 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> participated actively.





# KEY APPOINTMENTS



# CBIC CHAIRMAN WELCOMES NEWLY APPOINTED CBDT CHAIRMAN



The newly appointed CBDT Chairman, Shri Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra and the Members of the CBDT were welcomed by the Shri M Ajit Kumar, Chairman and the Members of the CBIC. CBIC wished them the best in their new role and assignments.

J.B. Mohapatra, a 1985-batch Indian Revenue Service officer, has been given the additional charge as CBDT Chairman.





**LOUD APPLAUSE!**



# WORDS OF APPRECIATION

**Nirmala Sitharaman** @nsitharaman

Hyderabad Customs expeditiously cleared the 3rd and the largest shipment of 56.6 MT of Sputnik Vaccines.

**Hyderabad Customs** @HyderabadCusto1 · Jun 1  
Hyderabad Customs expeditiously cleared the 3rd and the largest Vaccine shipment of 56.6 MT of Sputnik Vaccines imported from Russia which arrived on 01.06.2021 at RGIA, Hyderabad. @cbic\_india @FinMinIndia @dgtpschenai #Unite2FightCorona



9:56 AM · Jun 1, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

930 Retweets 44 Quote Tweets 7,284 Likes


**Anurag Thakur** @ianuragthakur

✓ 15 minutes

This heads off to Bihar; great to see our team relentlessly ensuring no lag in clearances day after day.

**Delhi Customs** @Delhicustoms · 20h  
ICD TKD Import, Delhi Customs swiftly cleared 20MT empty Cryogenic container meant for transportation of Liquid Medical Oxygen.

#Unite2FightCorona




**Aditya sharma** @iama... · 09 Jun  
Application for GST Registration filed on 10/05/2021. ARN number of such Application is AA080521007084P. Still the GST is pending from Department. @Infosys\_GSTN @GST\_Council @nsitharaman @FinMinIndia @cbic\_india

**CGST Jaipur Zone** @C... · 10 Jun  
Dear Sir, the said ARN has been assigned to the State GST, therefore, the grievance has been forwarded to the State GST authorities. For follow up, you may contact them at comm-ctd@rajasthan.gov.in

**Aditya sharma** @iamaadisharmas  
Replying to @CGSTJAIPURZONE @Infosys\_GSTN and 4 others  
Thank you so much for the help and providing with the solution. Thankyou so so much @CGSTJAIPURZONE

11:37 AM · 10 Jun 21 · Twitter Web App

**Chennai Customs** @C... · 07 Jun  
Despite pandemic & lockdown, Chennai Customs registered revenue collection of Rs. 13740 Cr. during April & May, 2021. We reiterate our commitment to facilitating trade and ease of doing business. @nsitharamanoffc @Anurag\_Office @FinMinIndia @cbic\_india



3,636 views

**Sudharsan** @Sudharsanrang  
Replying to @ChennaiCustoms @nsitharamanoffc and 3 others  
It was a great support during this pandemic to trade by Chennai customs. It was easy for trade to reach out to officials through mobile/WhatsApp and issues are addressed and solutions are given on priority basis. My sincere thanks to all officials of Chennai customs.

6:14 PM · 07 Jun 21 · Twitter for iPhone

**Bengaluru Customs** @blrcustoms  
Dt: 14.06.2021: Officers @ Blore Air Cargo Complex cleared huge Qty of "Molsiv TM PSA O2 HP Adsorbent" a critical input for O2 generator; besides O2-Concentrators & parts, Ventilator accessories, Face Masks Oximeters, Humidifiers, Parts of O2 concentrate, Air Compressor @cbic\_india



Nirmala Sitharaman and 7 others  
3:25 PM · 15 Jun 21 · Twitter Web App

4 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 36 Likes

**VOBLR** @sandeeprr... · 5d  
Replying to @blrcustoms @cbic\_india and 8 others  
Phenomenal job by the customs officers 🇮🇳





Directorate General of Taxpayer Services  
Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs  
Department of Revenue  
Ministry of Finance