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|   <p>भारतसरकार / Government of India वित्तमंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance राजस्वविभाग / Department of Revenue</p> |  |  <p>कर्मयोगी भारत — लोकहितं मम करणीयम् —</p> <p>दूरभाष / Telephone: 22560406 ईमेल/Email: pcommr7acc-cuschn@gov.in</p> |
| <p>प्रधान आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय (विमानमाल)</p> <p>OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (AIR CARGO) नवीन सीमाशुल्क भवन, विमान माल परिसर, मीनमबाक्कम, चेन्नई, 600 016 NEW CUSTOM HOUSE, CHENNAI-VII COMMISSIONERATE, AIR CARGO COMPLEX, MEENAMBAKKAM, CHENNAI 600 016</p> | | |

F No: CUS/AG/PN/7/2026-A/M

दिनांक/ Date: 01-06-2026

चेतावनी सूचना /ALERT NOTICE No. 02/2026

Subject: CMD Alert Notice No. 03/2026 – Import & Export of Certain Non-Scheduled but Internationally Monitored Chemicals - Reg

Attention of the Importers, Exporters, Customs Brokers, Custodians, Trade Associations and all other stakeholders is invited to CMD Alert Notice No. 03/2026 dated 07.05.2026 issued by the Chemical Management Division (CMD), Office of the Narcotics Commissioner, Gwalior pertaining to the import and export of six chemicals, namely Acetone, Ethyl Ether, Hydrochloric Acid, Piperidine, Sulphuric Acid and Toluene, which are not presently scheduled under the NDPS Act, 1985, but are identified under the United Nations Convention, 1988 and regulated in several countries.

2. Reference is invited to the Public Notice dated 18.08.2023 issued by the Central Bureau of Narcotics, wherein it was highlighted that certain chemicals, namely Acetone, Ethyl Ether, Hydrochloric Acid, Piperidine, Sulphuric Acid and Toluene, though identified under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, are not presently regulated under the NDPS Act, 1985 and the Regulation of Controlled Substances (RCS) Order, 2013 in India.

3. The Public Notice emphasized that, as these chemicals are internationally monitored and subject to control in several jurisdictions, trade in such substances necessitates transparency and compliance with the INCB's Pre-Export Notification (PEN) system. In order to facilitate legitimate trade and enable the Central Bureau of Narcotics, as Competent National Authority, to discharge its international obligations, traders were advised to adopt a voluntary compliance mechanism, including obtaining a No Objection/communication from CBN and furnishing details such as company credentials, transaction documents and end-use declaration on a case-to-case basis.

4. However, it has come to notice that despite the above advisory, most of the traders are not obtaining No Objection or prior communication from CBN before undertaking

import and export of these chemicals. At the same time, these substances are regulated or controlled in many other countries, and their international trade is subject to scrutiny under established monitoring frameworks. In several instances, trade is being carried out without adequate verification of end-use credentials and regulatory requirements in the importing or exporting country, thereby increasing the vulnerability of such transactions to diversion or misuse. This has led to references and queries from foreign Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs) and also the Central Bureau of Narcotics is often not in possession of necessary information to respond effectively under international communication mechanisms such as the INCB PEN system.

5. The global fight against narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances has highlighted the misuse of non-controlled industrial chemicals as substitutes in illicit drug manufacture. These chemicals, widely available and without domestic controls, are susceptible to diversion without oversight. The six chemicals mentioned are internationally sensitive and widely used, necessitating careful monitoring. Given evolving trafficking patterns, regulatory landscape, and compliance gaps, enhanced vigilance and proactive risk assessment of consignments involving these chemicals are crucial. Strengthened scrutiny, voluntary compliance, and coordinated action by enforcement agencies will prevent diversion and ensure smooth legitimate trade.

6. Accordingly, all stakeholders are advised to exercise due caution. Traders are strongly encouraged to adhere to the voluntary compliance mechanism outlined in the Public Notice dated 18.08.2023, including obtaining No Objection/communication from the Central Bureau of Narcotics prior to undertaking import or export, and ensuring proper verification of end-use, consignee credentials, and regulatory status in the destination/source country so as to ensure transparency, facilitate compliance with international obligations, and prevent diversion for illicit purposes..

7. All the officers are advised to maintain heightened vigilance and thoroughly scrutinize the documentation associated with consignments involving these chemicals, with particular focus on end-use declaration, destination country controls, and valuation patterns, to prevent their misuse in illicit drug manufacture.

8. Difficulties, if any, may be brought to the notice of this office.

Y SRINIVASA RAO
ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
AIR CARGO COMMISSIONERATE

Encl: 1. CMD Alert Notice No. 03/2026 dated 07.05.2026

To

1. All Additional / Joint /Deputy/Asst. Commissioners, Chennai VII.
2. Appraisers/Superintendents in all Sections, Chennai – VII.

3. All Stake Holders

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Chennai Custom Zone – For kind information.
2. CHS for placing in the Notice Board.
3. EDI for publishing in the website