

**Instruction No.113**

F. No. K. 43014(15)/2017-SEZ  
Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
Department of Commerce  
SEZ Division  
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Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi,  
Dated the 14th July, 2023

To,  
All Development Commissioners of SEZs

**Subject:** Reducing Compliance Burden regarding SOFTX Forms -reg

Sir,

I am directed to state that SOFTX is the mechanism of RBI which ensures collection of data on exports for statistical and monitoring purpose. To this end, reference is drawn to RBI Guidelines (copy enclosed) on reporting on foreign exchange transactions through FETERS system by using specific purpose codes based on the nature of transactions.

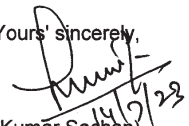
2. In case of SEZ units, the SOFTX Form is being submitted online through SEZ-Online portal by the services units and thereafter, based on the approval of the office of Development Commissioners (DC) further submitted to RBI.

3. Instances have come to the notice that SEZ units are submitting the physical copies of invoices and in some cases, even physical copies of SOFTX forms for verification to DC office despite the same is being filed online digitally. It is also noted that in case of units in STPI, the practice of submitting physical copies of SOFTX and invoices has been dispensed away.

4. Accordingly, as a measure of enhancing ease of doing business, it has been decided to dispense with the practice of submitting physical copies of SOFTX and invoices by SEZ units. As such, for the purpose of verification, any document including relevant invoices may be obtained electronically from the units with the approval of DC. In exceptional cases, where there is a need for more detailed verification, DC may permit seeking sample copies of relevant invoices in physical mode, on a case-to-case basis.

5. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours' sincerely,



(Sumit Kumar Sachan)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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Copy for information to:

Sh. Md. Moin Afaq, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade  
EG&TF Division, DGFT(HQ), Vanijya Bhawan.





**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA**  
**Foreign Exchange Department**  
**Central Office**  
**Mumbai - 400 001**

**RBI/2011-12/413**

**A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 84**

**February 29, 2012**

To

All Authorised Dealers in Foreign Exchange

Madam / Sir,

**Compilation of R>Returns: Reporting under FETERS**

Attention of Authorised Dealer (Category I) banks is invited to A.P.(DIR Series) Circular No.77 dated March 13, 2004 giving guidelines for compilation of R>Returns and reporting under the *Foreign Exchange Transactions – Electronic Reporting System (FETERS)*, and also the A.P.(DIR Series) Circular No. 30 dated February 25, 2008 on the move from the system of 'branch-wise' reporting to 'bank-wise' reporting under the FETERS.

2. Several subsequent developments have necessitated further modifications in FETERS. These include:

- a) The Working Group on Balance of Payments (BoP) Manual for India (Chairman: Shri Deepak Mohanty) constituted by the Reserve Bank reviewed, *inter alia*, the existing methodology for compilation of India's BoP with a view to making it consistent with the guidelines contained in the Sixth edition of *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6)* of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The Working Group made several recommendations for improving the present compilation procedure as well as presentation of India's BoP statistics conforming to international best practices.
- b) With the transition to core banking system (CBS), move to complete transaction reporting is warranted instead of relying on the unclassified receipts survey (URS) for purpose-wise distribution of the consolidated amount under non-export receipts below a threshold.



- c) Directorate General of Systems (Customs and Central Excise), Govt. of India now issues 6-digit port-code as per UNLOCODE scheme in place of 2-digit port-code earlier issued by RBI.

3. In view of the above, the following changes shall be effected in reporting of R>Returns from the next financial year (*i.e.*, transactions taking place from April 1, 2012):

- i) The purpose codes for classification and reporting of foreign exchange transactions in FETERS should be as per the revised classification. Accordingly, all AD category-I banks are advised to report all foreign exchange transactions as per the revised purpose code list with effect from first fortnight of April 2012 as per the attached guidelines.
- ii) AD banks may indicate purpose codes for all foreign exchange transactions (including receipts under non-export transactions below Rs. 5 lakhs) under FETERS. The present system of reporting of non-export transactions below Rs. 5 lakhs (a) on a consolidated basis in BoP file and (b) submission of purpose-wise distribution of a sample of such small receipt transactions (as part of R-return in the URS file under FETERS), will be discontinued for transactions beyond March 31, 2012.
- iii) The amount field in all FETERS files will be increased to 15-digit format.
- iv) 6-digit port code will be used uniformly for reporting under FETERS.

4. The revised Guidelines for Submission of Data under the FETERS are attached herewith.

5. The directions contained in this circular have been issued under Sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) and are without prejudice to permissions / approvals, if any, required under any other law.

Yours faithfully,

**(Rashmi Fauzdar)**  
Chief General Manager



**No.K-43014(16)/9/2021-SEZ**

Government of India/Bharat Sarkar  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry/ Vanijiya Aur Udyog Mantralaya  
Department of Commerce / Vanijya Vibhag  
(SEZ Section)

Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

To

All Development Commissioners of SEZs

**Subject: Clarification regarding powers in respect of non  
SEZ IT/ITES units operating in non processing area of an IT/ITES SEZs.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to G.S.R. 881 (E) dated 06th December, 2023 amending SEZ Rules, 2006 by way of inserting new Rule 11B, to enable allowing non-SEZ IT/ITES entities to operate in the non-processing area of an IT/ITES SEZs and to state that sub clause (10) of Rule 11B provides that “the businesses engaged in Information Technology or Information Technology Enable Services Special Economic Zone in a non-processing area shall be subject to provisions of all Central Acts and rules and orders made thereunder, as are applicable to any other entity operating in domestic tariff area.”

2. Accordingly, it is clarified that in respect of the non-SEZ IT/ITES units, powers under any Central Act or any other law with respect to such units in non-processing areas shall be exercised by the concerned officer or agency having such powers without the need for any approval from the jurisdictional Development Commissioner.
3. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully

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Under Secretary to the Government of India  
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Copy to :-

1. CBIC, Dept. of Revenue, New Delhi
2. DGER, Dept. of Revenue, New Delhi

