



सत्यमेव जयते

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE/DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
केन्द्रीय उत्पाद एवं सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड
CENTRAL BOARD OF EXCISE & CUSTOMS
नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI - 110 001

URGENT
Most Important
D.O.F.No. IV(24)/9/2008-Systems
4th December 2008

My dear Chief Commissioner,

Subject: Implementation of the Local Area Networking (LAN) Project as part of CBEC's IT Consolidation Project

As you are aware, implementation of CBEC's IT Consolidation Project is underway across the country. This initiative, comprising of a number of projects such as implementation of national data centres, setting up of Wide Area and Local Area Networks and roll out of applications such as ACES, ICES, mail messaging and Data Warehouse, forms the cornerstone of the strategy for improving the performance of the Department. The Directorate of Systems has written to all Chief Commissioners and Commissioners, seeking their cooperation in this regard and presentations are also available on the departmental websites www.cbec.gov.in and www.icegate.gov.in.

2. The LAN Project in particular is crucially dependant on the support and facilitation provided by the officers in charge of the 1210 building across the country, where the project is being implemented by M/s HP Sales India Pvt Ltd through its associated vendors. The project involves time bound discharge of contractual obligations to enable the Department to adhere to the timelines committed to the Government. It is slated for completion during 2008-09 and financial sanctions have also been provisioned accordingly.

3. The progress of the LAN project has been under continuous review and it is observed that much greater participation of the Commissioners is required to enable successful project execution. In particular, delays have been observed in responding to the information sought by the Directorate. Some Commissionerates have entirely failed to respond and this may impact on the coverage and schedule of LAN implementation in these formations.

4. Despite the fact that detailed site surveys have been carried out in most of the offices and nodal officers have been kept duly informed regarding requirements of the project, difficulties have been observed during implementation. An illustrative list is enclosed (Annexure 1) which highlights the need for much closer coordination within each Commissionerate.

5. The implementation of DG sets in particular requires urgent action. M/s HP have already written to all formations seeking facilitation of a final confirmation by

12.10.2008 (as per format at Annexure 2), failing which implementation of the DG set at the concerned buildings would be deferred. Since the need for backup power would be critical for IT related activities, **all Commissioners should convene meetings with the concerned officers and ensure that the requisite confirmation is provided by 12.12.2008.**

6. The Directorate of Systems would shortly be confirming details of the equipment to be installed at each building and the funds required to be provisioned by each Commissionerate in case of equipment being billed locally. Instructions regarding training of officers and site acceptance processes are also being finalized. These should be carefully studied and timely clarifications sought from the vendor or the Directorate of Systems wherever required.

7. I would like to impress on all officers that on no account should project implementation be delayed due of lack of awareness of the project or the personal preferences of the officers in charge of buildings regarding place of installation of the equipment etc. Implementation time schedules should be agreed upon with the vendor expeditiously, and should normally not be changed thereafter. Any delay in project implementation due to lack of cooperation by local officers would be viewed seriously.

Chief Commissioners may review the issues with their officers and send a report to me latest by 15.12.2008.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



(V Sridhar)

Encl : As Above

All Chief Commissioners of Customs / Excise / Customs & Excise.

Copy to All Commissioners of Customs / Excise / Customs & Excise / Service Tax.