

## FBR will track, monitor movement of TIR cargo

The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) will track and monitor movement of TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers or International Road Transports) cargo throughout its journey across the territory of Pakistan. Under SRO 1066(1)/2017, the FBR has amended Customs Rules, 2001 here on Friday to issue International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR) Rules.

**Tracking and Monitoring of TIR Cargo:** The movement of TIR cargo throughout its journey across the territory of Pakistan may be subjected to tracking and monitoring by the FBR as per provisions of the Tracking and Monitoring of Cargo Rules, 2012. Prescribed time limits for movement of goods under TIR: The journey time of load under TIR Carnet through the territory of Pakistan, excluding the Customs clearance time, shall not exceed ten days.

The time limit may further be extended by an officer not below the rank of an assistant director or assistant collector of customs for a period not exceeding ten days after satisfying himself about genuineness of the extension and for reasons to be recorded. The TIR regime shall preclude transport of goods, which are prohibited under a statutory notification issued by the Ministry of Commerce or without fulfillment of conditions imposed in respect of items restricted for TIR under such notification.

The FBR said that the certification process for approval of vehicles and containers, to be used for international transportation, shall be carried out by the authority in case of vehicles and body in case of containers, duly endorsed by customs by adhering to the standards and specifications laid down in Annex-2, Annex-3 and Annex-7 to the Convention. The certificate of approval issued by the designated authority or body, in respect of vehicles and containers, as the case may be, shall conform to the specimen provided.

The validity and genuineness of TIR Carnet shall be automatically crosschecked by customs computerized system via the Real-Time Safe-TIR portal. The Customs TIR processing officer may also crosscheck the validity and genuineness of TIR Carnet through the bar code printed thereon, the FBR added.

**Specified routes for movement of transit goods:** The TIR Carnet holder shall adopt one of the designated routes notified by the authority, for TIR transport during its journey from a Customs office of entry (en route) or departure to a Customs office of exit (en route), or destination in Pakistan. The TIR Carnet holder shall adopt specific routes for transportation of import, export or transit load, as specified in respective bilateral or transit transport agreements or protocols with a country.

The TIR Carnet holder shall make electronic pre-declaration (EPD) via TIR-EPD prior to arrival at the Customs office of departure, entry and exit (en route), or destination, which shall contain the name and address of consignor and

consignee, container number, if applicable, description of goods, weight, quantity, eight digit Pakistan Customs Tariff code, value of consignment, marks and numbers. A unique customs reference number shall be allotted to the TIR-EPD by the customs computerized system. The Carnet holder shall present the road vehicle, the combination of vehicles or the load together with the documents listed in rule 694 at the customs office of departure, entry (en route), exit (en route) or destination, as the case may be.

The Customs TIR processing officer shall enter information regarding sealing and weighment into customs computerized system, which shall be transmitted to the IRU computerized database and ensure completion of customs processing at the office of departure, entry (en route), exit (en route) and destination, the FBR said.

Special vehicles such as buses, tank-vehicles, cranes, sweepers, and concrete laying machines etc, exported and, therefore, considered themselves as goods that travel under their own power from a Customs office of departure to a Customs office of destination may be regarded as the load in a transit operation and may be allowed by Customs to travel under the cover of a TIR Carnet.

Contravention of any provisions of these rules shall be deemed as a violation of sections 2(s) and 129 of the Customs Act, 1969, liable to penal action, after due process of law, under the provisions of section J56 (J) of the Act *ibid*. The TIR operation shall be suspended in case the load is seized for any breach or violation of these rules. The respective directorate of transit trade or Collectorate of Customs shall notify the association about the seizure made by customs as soon as possible.

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