

RULES FOR PASSING FREE OF IMPORT DUTY BAGGAGE THROUGH CUSTOM HOUSE AT BOMBAY

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 :-Landing and passing of Baggage through the Custom House

1. Troopships
2. Steamers arriving at Ballard Pier
3. Other Steamers
4. Native Craft from Foreign Ports
5. Transshipment

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Comrs's No. 915 of 10th February, 1911, B.G.G. Pt. I of 1911, Comrs's No. Se. 1-20 of 14th November, 1914, B.G.G. Pt. I, p. 2819 of 19th November, 1914, Comrs's No. 1887 of 12th December, 1919, B.G.G. Pt. II of 1919, C.B.R. Notification No. 20-Customs, dated the 30th March, 1935, No. 22-Customs, dated the 2nd September, 1944, No. 25-Cus., dated 13th December, 1947 and No. 202-Cus., dated 3rd July, 1958. In exercise of the powers conferred by S.75 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, and in supersession of all previous rules, the Commissioner of Customs is pleased to make the following rules for passing free of import duty baggage in actual use and for the landing of passenger's baggage and passing the same through the Custom House at Bombay. All landing charges under the Baggage Rules shall be collected at annas two per package by the Preventive Department at the time the goods are cleared.

CHAPTER 1

Landing and passing of Baggage through the Custom House

1. Troopships :-

1. Returns in the appended Form A (See Form 37 in Part 5) will be supplied to the Commanding Officer on board, who should see that they are filled in as regards columns I and 2 and countersign them himself before the arrival of the transport in the harbour.

2.Immediately on the arrival of the transport she will be boarded by a Customs Officer, who will receive all the returns along with the list of all the officers on board.

3. The said Customs Officer will fill up columns 3 and 4 in each return and recover the amount of duty payable from the persons in whose name the goods are entered, and give a receipt.

4.If the said Customs Officer is furnished with a list of all the officers on board and with complete returns duly filled in as aforesaid all passenger's baggage on board may be landed free from Customs control.

5.The foregoing rules will not however preclude the Custom House authorities from examining or detaining any goods as to which any doubt may arise.

2. Steamers arriving at Ballard Pier :-

1. Duty will be collected and baggage passed upto 12 mid-night. After 12 mid-night no duty will be received and only hand baggage will be passed unless the steamer agents undertake to pay for the attendance of the necessary Customs staff at the rates prescribed for such work done on behalf of masters, agents or owners of goods. The baggage declaration forms (See Form 36 in Part 5), shall be numbered and arranged in serial order in two lots, one for special and the other for local passengers by the purser on board before arrival of the vessel and shall be handed over to the boarding officer at the earliest possible moment.

2. The baggage of the special passengers shall be passed into the examination hall by the east gates, at which police officers shall be posted to prevent the ingress of passengers. Passengers shall not be allowed into the hall through the barrier inside the building until the baggage has been sorted by the vessel's agents. The baggage shall be passed out to-the Railway Station after check by the Preventive Officers who will endorse on the baggage forms brought to them the number of packages so passed. Only hand-bags shall be allowed to pass out on examination before the Preventive Officer is in possession of the baggage forms.

3. The baggage of local passengers shall be passed out through the west exits, and shall be subject to a check at the Green Gate, through which it must pass.

4. Passengers' friends shall await them inside the station proper or on the wharf, north of the barrier, and not on the wharf enclosed by barriers or in the Customs room. Only passengers, Customs, Police, and Port Trust Officers, vessels' agents, recognised clearing agents and persons holding passes signed by the Docks Manager shall be allowed to pass on to the wharf.

5. Detained packages shall be sent by the bunder officer to the Custom House, with the covering baggage forms as soon as possible after the passing of all the baggage is finished in urgent cases, otherwise he shall send them and also those which are left unclaimed next morning at 10.30 a.m. to the Custom House and shall inform owners or agents calling for them thereafter that they can obtain and clear them from the Custom House on payment of duty and conveyance charges at the rate of eight annas for every package weighing up to 60 Ibs. and rupee one for every package weighing over 60 Ibs.

3. Other Steamers :-

(a) Passenger steamers departing from, and arriving at Ferry Wharf of Prince's Dock Wall. - Passengers having dutiable articles in their possession should declare the same in baggage form (See Form 37 in Part 5). Such baggage will then be allowed to be cleared on payment of duty at Ferry Wharf or the Dock. A receipt [See Form 38 in Part 5] for the duty paid will be given in the prescribed form.

Steamers other than those mentioned in (a) which have come from a foreign port either direct or via a Customs port. - A Customs Officer will board the steamer immediately after the vessel has anchored. It is optional for steamers coming under this class to land passengers and baggage either at (1) the Docks or (2) Ballard Pier, or, during the monsoon, Carnac Bunder (Since the opening of the mole in all seasons at Ballard Pier). But unless previous intimation has been sent by the Agents of the vessel, the Captain should inform the Customs Officer on the latter's arrival on board where it is proposed to land passengers. If discharged in the stream, the baggage will be landed, along with the passengers, under cover of boat-notes, at such place as may be fixed for the purpose by the Customs Officer. Duty will then be collected on all dutiable packages which should be declared by passengers in baggage form. [See Form 37 in Part 5].

Steamers other than those coming under clause (a) and which have

come from a Customs port.-All baggage may be landed free from Customs Control. In the event, however, of the baggage having been transhipped at a Customs port from a vessel from a foreign port, the baggage will be dealt with in the same way as baggage coming direct from foreign ports.

4. Native Craft from Foreign Ports :-

Passengers will be required to go with all their baggage to the Customs Officer in charge of the dutiable anchorage who will examine it and pass all free articles contained in cases that he has the means of opening. The Customs Officer will send all dutiable articles and all cases which he cannot open to the Custom House to be cleared by the owner on payment of duty.

5. Transhipment :-

1. In the case of baggage to be transhipped direct to another steamer along with the passenger to either a Customs or foreign port, transhipment will be allowed under the supervision of a Preventive Officer and under cover of a written transhipment order obtained from him on a boat-note form. Duty on the dutiable portion of such baggage, if for a Customs port, must be paid at the port of destination, and all such baggage shall be included in the list of transhipment goods for Customs ports put in by the Master of the on-carrying steamer when applying for port clearance.