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[ESTD. 1962]

Federation of Freight Forwarders' Associations in India

National Apex Body of CUSTOMS BROKERS' ASSOCIATIONS IN INDIA

FFFAI/LETTER/031/2021

07.04.2021

Shri Pawan Kumar Agarwal, IAS
Special Secretary Logistics
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Department of Commerce
Udyog Bhawan,
New Delhi - 110011

Respected Sir,

Sub: Include the name of Custom Brokers, Freight Forwarders and their employees in the list of priority vaccination

We are referring to the probable list issued by Government of India for providing vaccination on priority to Government Servant, Semi-Government Servant and essential services/superspeaders.

As per MHA order no.40-3/2020-DM-I (A), Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs dated 15.04.2020 Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders are part of essential services.

Further as per Government of Maharashtra, Department of Revenue and Forest, Disaster Management, relief and rehabilitation, Mantralaya, Mumbai Order NO: DMU/2020/CR 92/DIS M-1 Dt.5th April 2021 Sr. No 2(f) The condition stipulated for working are subjected to Vaccination.

Logistics is the backbone of economy and plays very important role to maintain supply chain to avoid paralyse the system, Custom Brokers and their staff are exposed to the perils of the pandemic, but to keep the critical supply chain operational, as frontline warriors were present physically in handling of cargo at Ports, Airports, CFs/ ICDs, Land Custom Station etc.n etc.

Custom Brokers have and continued to work with Customs and other stakeholders during the entire COVID 19 epidemic to ensure timely availability of Essential and Non-essential goods for consumption. The custom Brokers cleared all COVID material by Air that came from various locations in full charter on priority in the acute pandemic lockdown.

We therefore request you to kindly advice concerned authorities to include Custom Brokers, Freight Forwarders and their employees in the list of priority vaccination by exempting the current age bar as the second wave of Pandemic has almost started and many people are getting affected by Pandemic.

Your kind consideration for including Customs Brokers, Freight Forwarders and their employees in the priority list of vaccination shall be highly appreciated.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

For Federation of Freight Forwarders' Associations in India

Dushyant Mulani Honorary Secretary



