

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF COMMERCIAL TAXES
EZHILAGAM, CHENNAI-600 005
PRESENT: DR. T.V. SOMANATHAN, I.A.S.,
COMMISSIONER OF STATE TAX**

Circular No.38 (2018)/2019-TNGST
(RC No.151/2018/A1/Taxation)

Dated:05.04.2019

Sub:	E-way bill in case of storing of goods in godown of transporter – regarding.
Ref:	Circular No.61/35/2018-GST dated 04.09.2018 issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, New Delhi.

Various representations have been received on the matter pertaining to the textile sector and problems being faced by weavers & artisans regarding storage of their goods in the warehouse of the transporter. It has been stated that textile traders use transporters' godown for storage of their goods due to their weak financial conditions. The transporters providing such warehousing facility will have to get themselves registered under GST and maintain detailed records in cases where the transporter takes delivery of the goods and temporarily stores them in his warehouse for further transportation of the goods till the consignee/recipient taxpayer's premises. The transport industry is facing difficulties due to the same and a request has been made to treat these godowns as transit godowns.

2. In view of the difficulties being faced by the transporters and the consignee/recipient taxpayer and to ensure uniformity in the procedure across the sectors and the country, the Commissioner of State Tax in exercise of his powers conferred under section 168 of the Tamilnadu Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereafter referred to as the TNGST Act) hereby clarifies the issues in the succeeding paragraphs.

3. As per rule 138 of the Tamilnadu Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the TNGST Rules) e-way bill is a document which is required for the movement of goods from the supplier's place of business to the recipient taxpayer's place of business. Therefore, the goods in movement including when they are stored in the transporter's godown (even if the godown is located in the recipient taxpayer's city/town) prior to delivery shall always be accompanied by a valid e-way bill.

4. Further, section 2(85) of the TNGST Act defines the "place of business" to include "a place from where the business is ordinarily carried out, and **includes a warehouse, a godown or any other place where a taxable person stores his goods**, supplies or receives goods or services or both". An additional place of business is the place of business from where taxpayer carries out business related activities within the State, in addition to the principal place of business.

5. Thus, in case the consignee/ recipient taxpayer stores his goods in the godown of the transporter, then the transporter's godown has to be declared as an additional place of business by the recipient taxpayer. In such cases, mere declaration by the recipient taxpayer to this effect with the concurrence of the transporter in the said declaration will suffice. Where the transporter's godown has been declared as the additional place of business by the recipient taxpayer, the transportation under the e-way bill shall be deemed to be concluded once the goods have reached the transporter's godown (recipient taxpayer's additional place of business). Hence, e-way bill validity in such cases will not be required to be extended.

6. Further, whenever the goods are transported from the transporters' godown, which, has been declared as the additional place of business of the recipient taxpayer, to any other premises of the recipient taxpayer then, the relevant provisions of the e-way bill rules shall apply. Hence, whenever the goods move from the transporter's godown (i.e, recipient taxpayer's additional place of business) to the recipient taxpayer's any

other place of business; a valid e-way bill shall be required, as per the extant State-specific e-way bill rules.

7. Further, the obligation of the transporter to maintain accounts and records as specified in section 35 of the TNGST Act read with rule 58 of the TNGST Rules shall continue as a warehouse- keeper. Furthermore, the recipient taxpayer shall also maintain accounts and records as required under rules 56 and 57 of the TNGST Rules. Furthermore, as per rule 56 (7) of the TNGST Rules, books of accounts in relation to goods stored at the transporter's godown (i.e., the recipient taxpayer's additional place of business) by the recipient taxpayer may be maintained by him at his principal place of business. It may be noted that the facility of declaring additional place of business by the recipient taxpayer is in no way putting any additional compliance requirement on the transporters.

8. This pari materia circular is issued with reference to the circular issued by the Government of India on the recommendation of the GST Council in the reference cited.

Sd/-T.V.Somanathan
Commissioner of State Tax

To

All the Joint Commissioners (ST) Territorial and Enforcement in the State.

Copy to: (1) Principal Secretary to CT& Regn. Department.

(2) All Additional Commissioners of State Tax in the Commissionerate.

(3) Joint Commissioner (CS) for hosting in Departmental site.

(4) All Deputy Commissioners (ST) in the State.

(5) All Assistant Commissioners (ST) in the State.