



FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

FIP/MOF/21 - 14

18th November 2021

To
Shri Tarun Bajaj, IAS
Secretary
Department of Revenue
Ministry of Finance
Govt of India

Sub: Upward Revision of Custom Duty Exemption Limit for Air Crew in Union Budget 2022

Sir,

The Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP) is India's foremost professional association of more than 5000 aviators representing the entire spectrum of the Indian civil aviation sector.

May we bring to your kind notice that the prevailing custom duty exemption limit for air crew returning to India from overseas flights is currently INR 1500/- and was last revised in 2012.

It may be pertinent to mention that although the customs duty exemption limit for passengers has been revised from time to time under the Baggage Rules, the duty exemption limit for aircrew has remained stagnant for almost a decade.

It would be kindly appreciated that crew members who are residents in India but fly on international sectors spend a substantial amount of time travelling and therefore, are frequently faced with the need to purchase essential items overseas for domestic personal consumption upon return to their Indian bases. Furthermore, factors such as salary cuts across the industry as a result of the Covid pandemic, compounded with inflation and INR depreciation, have adversely impacted flying crew making the case for a review of the customs duty exemption policy more relevant than ever before.

Keeping in view the above, it is most respectfully requested that the subject issue is given due consideration in the Union budget 2022 for which the entire flying community, which has worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to keep our nation's aerial logistics chains operational, would be most grateful.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Capt. Surinder Mehta
President – Federation of Indian Pilots

cc: Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.
cc: General Secretary, Maritime Union of India (For information only)

Gate No. 2, Air India Complex, Old Airport, Kalina, Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400 029.

Tel.: +91 22 2615 7282 / 2615 7835 / 2165 7325

E-Mail: office@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah 927