# Introducing Paperless trade in India

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# 1. Introduction

# Need for Paperless Trade

- Substantial progress on policy front.
- Focus required on streamlining and standardisation of procedures.
- Large number of agencies involved in clearances for international trade.
- Increase in exports to eTrade enabled countries.

# Challenges

- Multiple entry/exit points and complex management issues
- Cumbersome procedures
- Enormous documentation
- Need for extensive process re-engineering
- Different stages of automation

# Challenges

- Different priorities of organisations
- Lack of awareness on eTrade
- Non participation in community systems
- Adoption of standards

# 2. eGovernance Initiatives

### eGovernance Initiatives

• On 14 June 2000: Minimum agenda for e-Governance developed.

- GOI approves the National E-Governance Action Plan for implementation during the year 2003-2007
- Mission Mode Projects at the center, state and integrated service levels to create a citizen-centric and business-centric environment for governance included.

# 3. eTrade Initiatives

# Strategies

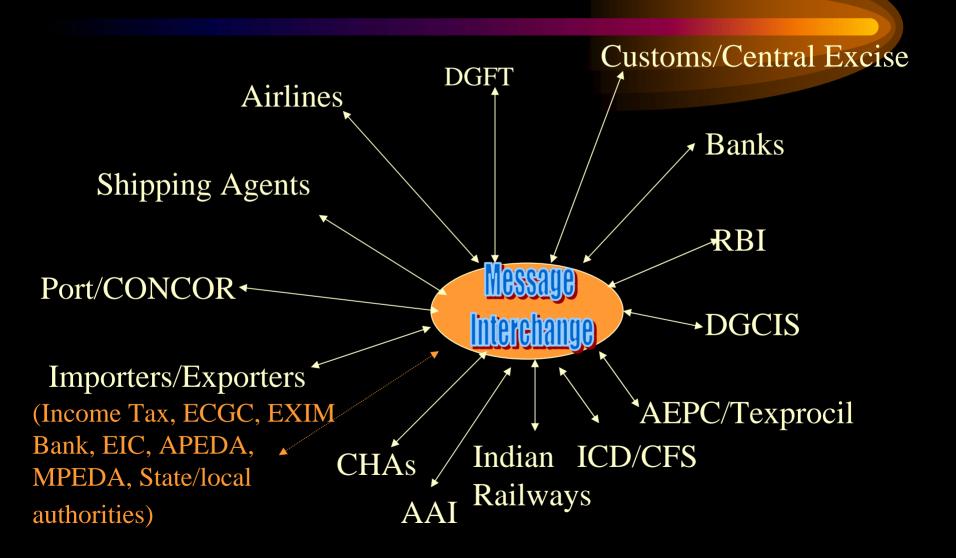
- Department of Commerce selected as the nodal agency
- Process Re-engineering
- National standards
- Education and awareness programs
- Pilot projects for private sector
- eTrade project
- Portal for single point interface with all community partners

# 4. eTrade - the project

# Objective of the project

- Efficient, transparent, secure electronic delivery of services by trade regulatory/facilitating agencies.
- Simplify procedures and reduce the transaction cost and time.
- Introduce international standards and practices

# The Indian eTrade Community



# Project Spread (I-Phase)

- 1. Customs (35 locations)
- 2. DGFT (35 locations)
- 3. Port Trusts (12 locations)
- 4. Airports (7 locations)
- 5. Container Corporation (38 locations)
- 6. Banks (106 locations)
- 7. **RBI**
- 8. Airlines
- 9. Apparel / Textile Export Promotion Councils (24)
- 10. Indian Railways (1)
- 11. Export Promotion Organisations
- 12. DG commercial Intelligence / Statistics
- 13. Inland Container Depots / Container Freight Stations (50)

# 5. eTrade - Organisation wise Implementation

# Customs

### **Scope**

- Three key areas for implementation
  - electronic filing;
  - processing of export and import clearances and
  - Customs duty payments
- Establishment of electronic interface with the community partners viz. Banks, Airlines, AAI, Sea Ports and DGFT.

# Customs

### <u>Status</u>

- ICES operational at 35 locations (Ports 11, Airports 8, ICD/ Land Customs 16).
- Automation covers 85% of India's international trade.
- ePayment started at 19 location.
- Risk Management System started for import at 13 locations.
- EC/EDI Gateway (ICEGATE) for e-filing of documents operational.
- Portal www.icegate.gov.in

# Directorate General of Foreign Trade Scope

- Electronic submission and processing of license and other applications in all the 35 offices of DGFT.
- Electronic interface building with the community partners viz. exporters, importers, export promotion organisations, Customs, Banks, Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) and Income Tax.

### **DGFT**

### **Status**

- DGFT network covers all 35 locations.
- 100% Schemes automated, 90% Licenses issued under web enabled environment.
- Banks integrated for internet-payment
- Digital signatures integrated
- Online interface with Customs
- Video conferencing launched for License Committee's interface with trade and industry.
- License processing time reduced to 6 Hrs. from 30 to 45 days.
- Portal http://dgft.gov.in

### Sea Ports

### **Scope**

- Cargo management system.
- Electronic submission and processing of documents with the community partners viz. Shipping line, Customs, Customs House Agent, Shipping Agent, Bank, CONCOR.
- Eleven Ports participating in first phase operations are Kolkata, Chennai, Cochin, Tuticorin, Mumbai, JNPT, Goa, New Mangalore, Vizag, Kandla and Paradip.

### Sea Ports

### **Status**:

- Automation at 11 major ports accounts for 75% of trade by sea route.
- EDI implemented for interface with customs, shipping lines, agents etc.
- Electronic payments introduced.
- Standard messages developed with community partners.
- Web based single point interface for all ports being developed.
- Portal www.indianportscommunitysystem.com

# CONCOR

### **Scope**

• Effective and efficient handling of container and related documents between CONCOR and its community partners viz. Customs, Ports, ICDs, Agents, Banks, Indian Railways, Exporters and Importers.

# CONCOR

### Status:

- Export Terminal Management System
- Linked with 'Freight Operations Information System' (FOIS) of Indian Railways.
- Web enabled container tracing and tracking system
- Web based community partner interface system implemented.
- Portal www.concorindia.com

# Airports

### **Scope**

- Cargo management system at all international airports.
- System to adopt tracing and tracking of cargo
- Electronic exchange with community partners viz. Customs, Airlines, Agents, Exporters, Importers and Banks.

# Airports

### <u>Status</u>

- Integrated Cargo Management System implemented
- Web enabled community partners interface system operational
- Integration of bar code for tracing & tracking of cargo
- Portal www.airports-ecom.gov.in

# Banks

### **Scope**

• To facilitate on-line payment and receipts by the banks.

### Banks

### <u>Status</u>

- Netbanking introduced at DGFT, CONCOR, Customs and Ports.
- Netbanking under integration at Airports.
- Real Time Settlement (RTGS) system implemented

# 6. UNeDocs Adoption

# UNeDocs in India

- Adoption of Aligned Documentation System based on UN Layout key in 1990
- SW in 1995 for pre-shipment export documents based on UN Layout key.
- The migration to United Nations Electronic Trade Documents.
- UNeDocs Workshop organised by UN/CEFACT and Indian Government from 3 4 Oct. 2006 at New Delhi.

# 7. Achievements

# Achievements

- Uniformity and simplification of procedures
- Re-engineered inter agency interfaces
- Standards integration
- Integration of eTrade community through a portal
- Significant reduction in transaction time of services like license application is disposed in 6 hrs. as compare to 45 days
- Reduction and early detection of frauds

# 8. Task Ahead

### Task Ahead

- Dispensation of manual systems completely.
- Smaller locations to be covered.
- Cross border paperless trading to be incorporated.

e.g.

- Electronic certificate of origin project
- Customs declaration

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### Custom - DGFT message exchange (earlier scenario)

Step No.	Process at Customs	Process at DGFT	User visits
1.		Licence application received	DGFT
2.		License issued	DGFT
<i>3</i> .	Registration of licence		Customs
4.	Release advice within Customs		Customs
5.		Extension of validity period of licence	DGFT
6.	Registration of release advice		Customs
7.	BE/SB assessment		Customs
8.	Updating of licence register		Customs
9.	Stamping licence		Customs
10.		Licence taken back for utilisation	DGFT

### Custom - DGFT message exchange (re-engineered scenario)

Step No.	Process at Customs	Process at DGFT	User visits
1.		Licence application received electronically	
2.		License file sent to Customs electronically	
<i>3.</i>	Release advice within Customs		
4.		Extension of validity period file sent to Customs electronically	
5.	BE/SB assessment		Customs
6.	Licence utilisation file, plus BE assessment details sent to DGFT electronically		
7.		Perform monitoring on computer screen	



# National Standards

- EDIFACT declared as national standard for EDI
  - Message development groups constituted for Customs, Ports, Airports, Banking and Private sector
- Establishment of Article Numbering & Bar Coding Institution
- UN/CEFACT recommendations like
  - SubCommittee on UN/LOCODE
  - UN Layout key for trade documents etc.

# National Standards

 Establishment of Article Numbering & Bar Coding Institution

SubCommittee on UN/LOCODE

• UN/CEFACT recommendations

