



Exemption Deadlines for Select Chapter 73 and Stainless Steel Flat Products Extended to 31 March 2026

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In order to preserve the interests of stakeholders and ensure steady market availability of critical steel products as domestic production capacities scale up in line with national self-reliance objectives, the Ministry of Steel has reviewed the concerns submitted by industry participants. Consequent to this review, the Ministry has approved extension of certain exemptions, which are detailed below for the information of all concerned.

Exemption for Certain Chapter 73 Steel Products

Based on representations received from industry, the Ministry had earlier granted exemption from mandatory QCO compliance for specified Chapter 73 steel products for imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.10.2025.

This exemption has now been extended to imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.03.2026.

Exemption of Input Adherence for Stainless Steel Flat Products

In view of the representations received from stainless steel importers regarding substantial advance payments already made to foreign manufacturers and the prevailing shortfall in domestic availability of 200 and 300 series stainless steel flat products as domestic capacities continue to ramp up, the Ministry had earlier exempted three Indian Standards applicable to stainless steel flat products—IS 6911, IS 5522 and IS 15997—for imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.12.2025.

This exemption has now been extended to imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.03.2026.

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