
	<p>कार्यालय: प्रधान आयुक्त सीमाशुल्क, मुन्द्रा, सीमाशुल्क भवन, मुन्द्रा बंदरगाह, कच्छ, गुजरात- 370421 OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS: CUSTOM HOUSE, MUNDRA PORT, KUTCH, GUJARAT- 370421. PHONE : 02838-271426/271163 FAX :02838-271425 E-mail id- adj-mundra@gov.in</p>	
A. File No.	: GEN/ADJ/ADC/274/2026-Adjn-O/o Pr. Commr-Cus-Mundra	
B. SCN No.	: 199/2025-26/ADC/ZDC/MCH	
C. Passed by	: Dipak Zala, Additional Commissioner of Customs, Customs House, AP&SEZ, Mundra.	
D. Noticee(s)Party/Importer:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS7496J) 2. M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS5783J) 3. Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas Director of M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited. 4. Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate Director of M/s.s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited. 5. Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal Director of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited. 6. Shri Prashant Pranhakar Director of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited 7. Shri Sandeep Shukla, 8. Shri Datta Sonawane) 	
E. DIN	: 20260271MO00000FC79	

(Show Cause Notice under Section 124 of the Customs Act, 1962)

WHEREAS IT APPEARS THAT: -

Specific intelligence gathered by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (hereinafter referred to as 'DRI') indicated that two firms **(i)** M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS7496J) having address as (i) 102 VYOM arcade, Subhash Road, Vishnu Prasad Society, Navpada, Paranjape Nagar, Vile Parle, Mumbai- 400057 (ii) Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global City, vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303 and **(ii)** M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS5783J) having address 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, Shitladevi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053 indulged in illegal import of goods at highly inflated prices in order to route money out of India. The said Firms have imported a consignment of paintings (medium: oil on canvas) under nine warehousing Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024 **(RUD No.-01)** at Mundra Port.

2. Acting on the intelligence, officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), RU, Gandhidham, intercepted a consignment containing goods declared as "PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE: 91*121CM" which was imported by two firms (i) M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited and (ii) M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited from United Arab Emirates to Mundra for the purpose of re-export to third country. The subject import consignment arrived at Mundra Port under Warehousing Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024 was put on hold by DRI for examination thereof.

3 The details of the import consignment are as follows:

Table-I

Sr. No.	BE No	BE Date	Name of the Importer	Item Wise Value
1.	7555183	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4194360
	7555183	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4194360
	7555183	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4194360
2.	7555185	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	5629725
	7555185	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	5629725
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285

3.			Limited	
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285
	7555187	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	2604285
4.	7553023	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	4482292.5
	7553023	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	4482292.5
	7553023	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	4482292.5
5.	7553668	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5157859.5
	7553668	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5157859.5
	7553668	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5157859.5
6.	7554850	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4288905
	7554850	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4288905
	7554850	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4288905
7.	7554852	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4600903.5
	7554852	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4600903.5
	7554852	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4600903.5
8.	7554855	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4080476.25
	7554855	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4080476.25
	7554855	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4080476.25
	7554855	31.12.2024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	4080476.25
9.	7550874	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5539477.5
	7550874	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5539477.5
	7550874	31.12.2024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	5539477.5
			TOTAL Value	12,79,98,459/-

4. The goods covered under the above-mentioned Warehousing Bills of Entry were examined by the officers of DRI on 25.02.2025. Pursuant to examination, a panchnama along with annexure-A (contained the details of photograph of the painting and artist name) dated 25.02.2025 (**RUD No. 2**) was drawn at the CFS of M/s Allcargo Terminals Ltd., Mundra in respect of the same.

4.1 Whereas, the details of the cargo found during the examination on 25.02.2025 as below:

Table-II

Bill of Entry No. & date	Name of the Importer	Bill of lading No. as per BE	Description of the Goods as per Bills of Entry	Quantity as per BE (Nos.)	Container and Seal No.
7553023 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 001	PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM	03	BSIU26 30829 (Seal NO. MS2004336)
7553668 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 003	PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM	03	
7550874 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 002	PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM	03	
7555183 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 006	PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM	03	
7555185 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 009	PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM	02	

7554 187 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import E xport Pri vate Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 008	PAINTING ME DIUM: OIL O N CANVAS SI ZE :91*121C M	06
7554 850 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import E xport Pri vate Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 005	PAINTING ME DIUM: OIL O N CANVAS SI ZE :91*121C M	03
7554 852 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import E xport Pri vate Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 004	PAINTING ME DIUM: OIL O N CANVAS SI ZE :91*121C M	03
7554 855 date d 31. 12.2 024	Shwaan Import E xport Pri vate Limited	TAJJ EAM UN1 007	PAINTING ME DIUM: OIL O N CANVAS SI ZE :91*121C M	04

5. Whereas, in order to find out exact description and value of the imported goods, a Govt. approved Valuer/Chartered Engineer inspected the imported goods on 25.02.2025. The Govt. approved Valuer/Chartered Engineer has submitted his report vide letter dated 05.05.2025 (**RUD No. 3**). Brief details of the report are as under: -

Table-III

Sr. No.	Container No.	BL No. and date/BE No. & date	Description of goods and HS code declared in the IGM & Bill of Lading	Goods found during examination	Declared value of the goods (in Rs.)	Total assessable value as per valuation report dated 05.05.2025 (in Rs.)
1	BSIU2630829	Bills of Entry No. 7553023,	Painting medium: oil on	Painting	12,79,98,459/-	7,11,000/-

	7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024	canvas size :91*121cm, hsn code 97019900		
Total				12,79,98,459/- 7,11,000/-

6. In view of the foregoing, it is observed that the importer declared the value of the subject goods as ₹12,79,98,459/- (Rupees Twelve Crore Seventy-Nine Lakh Ninety-Eight Thousand Four Hundred and Fifty-Nine Only), whereas the assessable value of the said goods, as determined by the Chartered Engineer and Government-approved Valuer, is ₹ 7,11,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eleven Thousand Only). Accordingly, it appears that the imported goods, comprising a total of 30 paintings in the said consignments, have been grossly mis-declared in respect to their value.

7. **Searches Conducted-**

During the course of examination, a total of 30 paintings were found inside the container. In connection with the investigation, search operations were carried out by DRI officers at the following three premises associated with the importing entities.

Table-IV

Sr. No.	Name of Importer	Address	Date
1	M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	102 VYOM arcade, Subhash Road, Vishnu Prasad Society, Navpada, Paranjpa Nagar, Vile Parle, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400057	20.02.2025 visit report (RUD No.4)
2		Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global City, vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303	20.02.2025 visit report (RUD No.05)
3	M/s Shwaan Import Export Private	1 st Floor, 103 B-wing, D N nagar Shitladevi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, D N Nagar, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400053	Panchnama Dated 21.02.2025 (RUD No.06)

Limited		
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- a. At the address mentioned in Sr. No. 1, the premises were found to exist; however, M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited is not the occupant. The premises are owned by Shri Sudhir Agrawal and Smt. Sharda Agarwal and were rented to M/s Randhawa Container Line (represented by Shri Sanjay Balkrishna Mahadik, Mob: 8655263769). The said company vacated the premises in December 2024.
- b. At the address mentioned in Sr. No. 2, the premises were found closed and locked. It is a shop, displaying signboards of “Mrunaksh Import and Export Private Limited” and “Vrutek Impex Private Limited.”
- c. At the address mentioned in Sr. No. 3, the premises were found to exist. Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal and Shri Prashant Pranhakar Shinde are the Directors of the said company. During the search, certain documents were resumed, which included some Bills of Entry declaring goods as “Knitted fabric (of artificial fibres) (**RUD-07**).

8. Statement of related persons-

During the investigation, the statements of the following persons have been recorded under the Customs Act, 1962:

8.1 Statement of Shri Chandan Tulsidas Bhimani, authorized person of M/s. Fairdeal Services, was recorded on 07.03.2025 (**RUD No.-08**), wherein he interalia, stated that-

(i) He was a partner in the M/s. Anadhi Shipping Pvt. Ltd., which is engaged in the business of clearing and forwarding work related to Customs at Mundra Port, and another partner in the firm is his cousin brother Shri Vijay Gori. They are clearing the import Export consignment under the license of Custom Broker M/s. Fairdeal Services, Jamnagar Gujarat. Shri Prashant Patel is the F- card holder of M/s. Fairdeal Services, Jamnagar, Gujarat.

(ii) On being asked he stated that on 11 December 2024, he met Mr. Datta Sonawani at Gandhidham and later at his office, where he arrived in a white Jaguar F-Pace SUV. He requested import-export clearance and bonded warehousing services, claiming regular imports through Nhava Sheva Port of polymer seeds and scrap (around 200 containers monthly) and proposed a bulb shipment, which they denied due to missing documents. Subsequently, he suggested handling an energy drink shipment, showed an old shipping bill, and stated the product was Beast Brand associated with Budweiser. After checking customs data, valuation issues were noted, and since the required NOC from Budweiser was not provided, they denied this shipment as well. Later, Mr. Datta submitted documents for paintings imported from Dubai for re-export to Malaysia.

The Bill of Entry was self-filed, and he requested assistance at Mundra. He eventually cleared the shipment himself but sought bonded warehousing, for which they issued a Bonded Space Certificate on 20 January 2025 after verifying the invoice, packing list, and BoE copy. After this, Mr. Datta became unreachable.

(iii) Further he stated that on 23 January 2025, he received calls from Mr. Pintu Sukla and Mr. Salim, introducing Salim as the main customer. They requested assistance for two Bills of Entry (Nos. 7555183 and 7555185 dated 31.12.2024) and provided an authorization letter, asking him to attend seal cutting at All Cargo CFS, which he did on good faith. However, no importer representative approached the Docks section for report, so he also did not. Later, they requested de-stuffing but failed to provide a Delivery Order. Subsequently, Mr. Salim informed him about a DRI summons and shifted responsibility to Mr. Pintu Sukla, though earlier he claimed to be the main person. he holds original KYCs and consignment bonds for both firms (copies submitted; originals available on request). Bills of Entry were self-filed by the importer; he did not handle valuation or payments. Shipments without compliance (bulbs, energy drinks) were denied, and the Bonded Space Certificate was issued only after document verification. He was not aware of any payments made to overseas suppliers.

8.2 During investigation various summons were issued to the following persons by DRI Gandhidham. However, following persons did not turn up for statement. The details and Summons issued to following persons are given as under;

Table-V

Sr.no.	Name	Date of summons	Sent through
1	Authorized representative of M/s. Shwaan import export limited.	25.03.2025, 19.05.2025, 04.06.2025	by post and by email
2	Authorized representative of M/s. Shriyesh import export private limited.	25.03.2025, 19.05.2025, 04.06.2025	by post and by email
3	Shri Datta Sonawane (9326222013)	26.03.2025, 20.05.2025, 24.06.2025, 10.07.2025, 22.07.2025	by post and by email
4	Shri Sandeep Shukla (9022044464)	26.03.2025, 20.05.2025, 24.06.2025, 09.07.2025	by post and by email
	Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas Director of M/s. Shriyesh import export	25.06.2025, 08.07.2025,	by post and by

5	private limited.	21.07.2025, 08.09.2025	email
6	Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal Director of m/s. Shwaan import export limited.	26.06.2025, 08.07.2025, 21.07.2025, 08.09.2025	by post and by email
7	Shri Prashant Pranhakar Director of m/s. Shwaan import export limited	26.06.2025, 09.07.2025, 22.07.2025, 09.09.2025	by post and by email
8	Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate Director of m/s. Shriyesh import export private limited.	25.06.2025, 10.07.2025, 09.09.2025	by post and by email

9 . In continuation of the process to serve summons and record the statements of the individuals, this office issued two letters dated 01.07.2025 to the DRI, Nhava Sheva-1, Mumbai Zonal unit and DRI, Pune Regional Unit, seeking assistance in delivering the summons pertaining to the investigation of mis-declaration in the import of paintings at Mundra Port. The said letter further requested that the summons be served at the following address to the individuals involved in the matter:

Table-VI

Sr. No.	Name of the Person	Address
1	Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas Director of M/s. Shriyesh import export private limited.	S/o Sajerao Dolas, Siddharth Nagar, Nagar, Road Near Baudh Vihar, Ramwadi, Pune City, Maharashtra-411014.
2	Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal Director of m/s. Shwaan import export limited.	A-104, Floraencia Apartment, Hotel Ambience Road, Opp. PCMC School, Kaspatewasti Wakad Pune City, Pune Maharashtra-411057
3	Shri Prashant Pranhakar Director of m/s. Shwaan import export limited	Nilayam, R/H/SO, Nagar, Pune Road, Vinayak Nagar, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra-414001
4	Shri Datta Sonawane (9326222013)	Pimpalwandi, Chalakwadi N V, Junnar, Pune, Maharashtra-412412.

Table-VII

Sr. No.	Name of the Person	Address
1	Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate Director of m/s. Shriyesh import export private limited.	Khandoba Prasad Chawl, Room No.1, Ganpatipada Old Belapur Road, Opp. Excel Company Kalwa, Thane, Maharashtra-400605.
2	Shri Sandeep Shukla	20, Bharat Gas, Kharghar, Raigarh,

(9022044464)

Maharashtra-410210.

10. In this regard Table-VI, DRI Pune submitted a visit report dated 07.07.2025, **(RUD No.09)** stating that upon reaching the specified premises, it was found that Shri Arun Dolas and Shri Prashant Shinde had relocated. Enquiries were made with residents regarding all four individuals; however, they could not be traced as they were reported to have moved elsewhere. The addresses of their parents were obtained from residents. Consequently, the summons were served to the parents of Shri Prashant Shinde, Shri Datta Sonaware, and Shri Rajendra Palghadmal, and directly to Shri Arun Dolas.

10.1 In this regard, as per Table-VII, DRI MZU sent an email dated 09.07.2025 **(RUD No.10)** stating that their officers visited Ganapatipada to deliver the summons at the address mentioned at Sr. No. 1. However, no premises named 'Khandoba Prasad Chawl' was found, and further enquiries with local residents regarding Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate yielded no information. Additionally, the address mentioned at Sr. No. 2 in the same table could not be located, as no such place could be identified in Kharghar.

10.2 Further, this office issued two letters dated 08.11.2025, along with a questionnaire, to DRI MZU and DRI Pune Regional Unit, requesting them to record statements in connection with the investigation related to the import of paintings at Mundra Port.

10.3 In this regard, DRI Pune, via letter dated 15.12.2025 accompanied by a visit report, stated that their officers had earlier visited the addresses mentioned in Table-VI on 05.07.2025 and 06.07.2025. Subsequently, the Pune Regional Unit again conducted visits on 11.12.2025 and 12.12.2025 at the same addresses; however, the individuals were not found residing at the given locations, as detailed in the visit report dated 15.12.2025.

11. Expert/Professional Opinion

The container No. BSIU2630829 was re-examined by officer of DRI, Gandhidham in presence of Dr. Jayaram Poduval, Professor and Dean of Parul Institute of Fine Arts, Parul University, Vadodara, CFS staff and authorized representative of the Importer.

The re-examination was conducted to verify the authenticity and assess the value of the paintings by Dr. Jayaram Poduval, a qualified academic professional in the field of Art. Dr. Jayaram Poduval observed that the paintings were of poor quality, not created by any notable Indian artists, and likely not sourced from professional exhibitions. He estimated none were worth more than Rs. 20,000 and agreed to submit a detailed written report of his expert finding for the ongoing investigation. He has submitted his report vide mail dated 15.06.2025 **(RUD No. 11)**. Brief details of the report are as under: -

1. *Whether the artworks are original creations?*

The consignment had 30 paintings all hand painted by individual artists. All the works were original creations by different artists. The consignment had more than two paintings of four or five artists.

2. *Identification of the medium technique:-*

All the paintings in the consignment are canvas paintings some using Oil colour and others using Acrylic paint as a medium.

3. *School or style:-*

There was no specific style followed in the consignment as the paintings displayed had few abstract and landscape paintings.

4. *Attribution to any known artist or genre:-*

None of the painting belonged to any known or professionally acclaimed artists of India. The paintings are unprofessional and substandard in quality.

5. *Estimated fair market value of each artwork within the context of the Indian art market:-*

Considering the observation number 4, none of the works can be valued at more than Rs.20000.

6. *Observations that may assist in determining the commercial and artistic value of the goods*

It was also observed that the paintings did not have the traces of framing or structure for stretching the canvas. This leads us to determine that the paintings were not acquired from any art show/exhibition and thus may not have gone through any professional and legal transaction

12. Seizure:

During the course of investigation, it was observed that the importer does not appear to be engaged in any genuine business activity. It is emerged that the firms appears to involved in transferring money out of India by importing low-quality 'PAINTING', at highly inflated prices from United Arab Emirates. The modus operandi appears involved in this case is the import of grossly overvalued goods in collusion with foreign suppliers, with apparent intent to illegally route money out of India through trade-based money laundering using inflated import invoicing.

Thus, it appears that the goods imported by M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited and M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited under Warehousing Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024, filed at Mundra Customs House, were mis-declared in the documents submitted to Customs. Accordingly, as there existed a

reasonable belief that the said goods were liable to confiscation under the provisions of Section 111 (m) of the Customs Act, 1962, the goods were placed under seizure under Section 110 of the said Act, vide Seizure Memo dated 17.06.2025.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 110(2) of the Customs Act, 1962, where goods are seized under sub-section (1) and no notice under clause (a) of Section 124 is issued within six months from the date of seizure, the goods are required to be returned to the person from whose possession they were seized; however, the proviso to the said section empowers the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner of Customs to extend this period by a further six months, provided reasons are recorded in writing and the concerned person is informed before the expiry of the initial period—accordingly, in the present case, the competent authority granted extension up to 19.02.2026 and the same was duly communicated to the importer M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited and M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited, vide letter dated 11.08.2025.

13. Mis-declaration and confiscation of the import goods

According to the expert's report, all 30 imported paintings were original hand-painted works. The collection displayed no uniform style, comprising a mix of abstract and landscape compositions. None of the artworks were attributed to any recognized or professionally acclaimed Indian artists, and the overall quality was assessed as unprofessional and substandard. Based on these observations, the estimated fair market value of each painting does not exceed ₹20,000. Furthermore, the absence of framing or canvas stretching suggests that these artworks were not sourced from any art show or exhibition and likely did not undergo any professional or legal transaction.

The declared value of the consignment of 30 paintings was ₹12,79,98,459 (Twelve Crore Seventy-Nine Lakh Ninety-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Rupees Only), whereas the assessable value determined by the Chartered Engineer and Government-approved Valuer was ₹7,11,000 (Seven Lakh Eleven Thousand Rupees Only). The expert report also confirmed that the paintings were grossly overvalued in the Indian market, where their worth does not exceed ₹20,000 per piece, thereby establishing that the imported goods were materially different from the declared description and value.

Based on the valuation report and expert opinion from Dr. Jayaram Poduval, Professor and Dean of Parul Institute of Fine Arts, Parul University, Vadodara, the consignment was found to be grossly misdeclared in terms of description and valuation. Consequently, the goods are liable to confiscation under Section 111 of the Customs Act, 1962, and were placed under seizure vide Seizure Memo dated 17.06.2025 due to misdeclaration and overvaluation. **(RUD No.12)**

13.1 From the above, it is evident that the value of the subject goods was grossly mis-declared. Accordingly, the value declared by the importer

in the corresponding Warehouse Bills of Entry and invoices did not appear to be the true transaction value under the provisions of Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 read with the provisions of the Customs Valuation (determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 2007 and thus the same appear liable to be rejected in terms of Rule 12 of CVR, 2007. The value is required to be re-determined by sequentially proceeding in terms of Rules 4 to 9 of CVR, 2007. The relevant Rules of CVR, 2007 are reproduced hereunder: -

13.2 Determination of the method of valuation. -

(1) Subject to rule 12, the value of imported goods shall be the transaction value adjusted in accordance with provisions of rule 10;

(2) Value of imported goods under sub-rule (1) shall be accepted:

Provided that -

(a) there are no restrictions as to the disposition or use of the goods by the buyer other than restrictions which -

(i) are imposed or required by law or by the public authorities in India;
or

(ii) limit the geographical area in which the goods may be resold; or

i. do not substantially affect the value of the goods;

(b) the sale or price is not subject to some condition or consideration for which a value cannot be determined in respect of the goods being valued;

(c) no part of the proceeds of any subsequent resale, disposal or use of the goods by the buyer will accrue directly or indirectly to the seller, unless an appropriate adjustment can be made in accordance with the provisions of rule 10 of these rules; and

(d) the buyer and seller are not related, or where the buyer and seller are related, that transaction value is acceptable for customs purposes under the provisions of sub-rule (3) below.

(3) (a) Where the buyer and seller are related, the transaction value shall be accepted provided that the examination of the circumstances of the sale of the imported goods indicate that the relationship did not influence the price.

(b) In a sale between related persons, the transaction value shall be accepted, whenever the importer demonstrates that the declared value of the goods being valued, closely approximates to one of the following values ascertained at or about the same time.

(i) the transaction value of identical goods, or of similar goods, in sales to unrelated buyers in India;

(ii) the deductive value for identical goods or similar goods;

(iii) the computed value for identical goods or similar goods:

Provided that in applying the values used for comparison, due account shall be taken of demonstrated difference in commercial levels, quantity levels, adjustments in accordance with the provisions of rule 10 and cost incurred by the seller in sales in which he and the buyer are not related;

(c) substitute values shall not be established under the provisions of clause (b) of this sub-rule.

(4) if the value cannot be determined under the provisions of sub-rule (1), the value shall be determined by proceeding sequentially through rule 4 to 9.

4. Transaction value of identical goods. -

(1)(a) Subject to the provisions of rule 3, the value of imported goods shall be the transaction value of identical goods sold for export to India and imported at or about the same time as the goods being valued;

Provided that such transaction value shall not be the value of the goods provisionally assessed under section 18 of the Customs Act, 1962.

(b) In applying this rule, the transaction value of identical goods in a sale at the same commercial level and in substantially the same quantity as the goods being valued shall be used to determine the value of imported goods.

(c) Where no sale referred to in clause (b) of sub-rule (1), is found, the transaction value of identical goods sold at a different commercial level or in different quantities or both, adjusted to take account of the difference attributable to commercial level or to the quantity or both, shall be used, provided that such adjustments shall be made on the basis of demonstrated evidence which clearly establishes the reasonableness and accuracy of the adjustments, whether such adjustment leads to an increase or decrease in the value.

(2) Where the costs and charges referred to in sub-rule (2) of rule 10 of these rules are included in the transaction value of identical goods, an adjustment shall be made, if there are significant differences in such costs and charges between the goods being valued and the identical goods in question arising from differences in distances and means of transport.

(3) In applying this rule, if more than one transaction value of identical goods is found, the lowest such value shall be used to determine the value of imported goods.

Rule 5 (Transaction value of similar goods).-

(1) Subject to the provisions of rule 3, the value of imported goods shall be the transaction value of similar goods sold for export to India and imported at or about the same time as the goods being valued:

Provided that such transaction value shall not be the value of the goods provisionally assessed under section 18 of the Customs Act, 1962.

(2) The provisions of clauses (b) and (c) of sub-rule (1), sub-rule (2) and sub-rule (3), of rule 4 shall, mutatis mutandis, also apply in respect of similar goods.

Further, as per Rule 6 of the CVR, 2007, if the value cannot be determined under Rule 3, 4 & 5, then the value shall be determined under Rule 7 of CVR, 2007.

Rule 7 of the CVR, 2007, stipulates that:-

(1) Subject to the provisions of rule 3, if the goods being valued or identical or similar imported goods are sold in India, in the condition as imported at or about the time at which the declaration for determination of value is presented, the value of imported goods shall be based on the unit price at which the imported goods or identical or similar imported goods are sold in the greatest aggregate quantity to persons who are not related to the sellers

in India, subject to the following deductions : -

(i) either the commission usually paid or agreed to be paid or the additions usually made for profits and general expenses in connection with sales in India of imported goods of the same class or kind;

(ii) the usual costs of transport and insurance and associated costs incurred within India;

(iii) the customs duties and other taxes payable in India by reason of importation or sale of the goods.

(2) If neither the imported goods nor identical nor similar imported goods are sold at or about the same time of importation of the goods being valued, the value of imported goods shall, subject otherwise to the provisions of sub-rule (1), be based on the unit price at which the imported goods or identical or similar imported goods are sold in India, at the earliest date after importation but before the expiry of ninety days after such importation.

(3) (a) If neither the imported goods nor identical nor similar imported goods are sold in India in the condition as imported, then, the value shall be based on the unit price at which the imported goods, after further processing, are sold in the greatest aggregate quantity to persons who are not related to the seller in India.

(b) In such determination, due allowance shall be made for the value added by processing and the deductions provided for in items (i) to (iii) of sub-rule (1).

Rule 8 of the CVR, 2007, stipulates that:-

Subject to the provisions of rule 3, the value of imported goods shall be based on a computed value, which shall consist of the sum of:-

(a) the cost or value of materials and fabrication or other processing employed in producing the imported goods;

(b) an amount for profit and general expenses equal to that usually reflected in sales of goods of the same class or kind as the goods being valued which are made by producers in the country of exportation for export to India;

(c) the cost or value of all other expenses under sub-rule (2) of rule 10.

Rule 9 of the CVR, 2007, stipulates that:-

(1) Subject to the provisions of rule 3, where the value of imported goods cannot be determined under the provisions of any of the preceding rules, the value shall be determined using reasonable means consistent with the principles and general provisions of these rules and on the basis of data available in India;

Provided that the value so determined shall not exceed the price at which such or like goods are ordinarily sold or offered for sale for delivery at the time and place of importation in the course of international trade, when the seller or buyer has no interest in the business of other and price is the sole consideration for the sale or offer for sale.

(2) No value shall be determined under the provisions of' this rule on the basis of -

(i) the selling price in India of the goods produced in India;

(ii) a system which provides for the acceptance for customs purposes of the highest of the two alternative values;

(iii) the price of the goods on the domestic market of the country of exportation; (iv) the cost of production other than computed values which have been determined for identical or similar goods in accordance with the provisions of rule 8;

(v) the price of the goods for the export to a country other than India;

(vi) minimum customs values; or

(vii) arbitrary or fictitious values.

13.3 As such the declared value appears to be not acceptable as transaction value and merits rejection in terms of Section 14 of Customs Act, 1962 read with Rule 12 of Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 2007. The value is required to be re-determined by sequentially proceeding in terms of Rules 4 to 9 of Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 2007.

13.4 Efforts were made to find out the correct assessable value of the imported goods. It was observed that the imported goods were found in different variety, description, specification, and quality, so, it was not possible to find and compare the same with other goods having identical/similar description, brand, make, model, quantity etc. As the import data extracted with respect to contemporaneous imports was general in nature and contemporaneous data for imports of identical/similar goods was not available/found, therefore, the value could not be determined under Rules 4 and 5 of CVR, 2007.

13.5 As per Rule 6 *ibid*, if the value cannot be determined under Rules 3, 4 and 5 same shall be determined under the provisions of Rule 7 or when same cannot be determined under that rule then under Rule 8.

13.6 As the imported goods were found to be non-standard, the sale price of identical or similar goods was not available in the domestic market as the goods are miscellaneous in nature and found in different variety, description, specification, model, brand, make, sizes, and quality, therefore, determination of transaction value under Rule 7 of CVR, 2007 was not possible.

13.7 As substantial data related to the cost or value of materials and fabrication or other processing employed in producing the imported goods required to compute the value under Rule 8 is also not available. Therefore, valuation of the impugned goods could not be ascertained under Rule 8 of CVR, 2007.

Hence the value is to be determined in terms of **Rule 9 of CVR, 2007** of said rules.

13.8 The Chartered Engineer in its report provided as under-

Sr. No.	Container No.	BL No. and date/BE	Description of goods	Goods found	Declared value of the goods (in	Total assessabl

		No. & date	and HS code declared in the IGM & Bill of Lading	during examination	Rs.)	value as per valuation report dated 05.05.202 (in Rs.)
1	BSIU2630829	Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024	Painting medium: oil on canvas size :91*121cm, hsn code 97019900	Painting	12,79,98,459/-	7,11,000/
Total					12,79,98,459/-	7,11,000,

In view of the above, it is observed that the importer declared the value of the subject goods as ₹12,79,98,459/- (Rupees Twelve Crore Seventy-Nine Lakh Ninety-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Only), whereas the assessable value of the goods, as determined by the Chartered Engineer and Government-approved Valuer, is ₹7,11,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eleven Thousand Only). Accordingly, it appears that the imported goods, comprising a total of 30 paintings in the said consignment, have been grossly mis-declared with respect to their value.

13.9. As mentioned above, the transaction value declared by the importer in the subject case are liable to be rejected under Rule 12 of Customs Valuation Rules 2007 as there has been observed significant mis-declaration of goods in parameters such as description, nature, use of the product etc. and re-determined under Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962.

In absence of credible data of import of similar goods and other constraints the value of these goods cannot be determined in terms of Rule 4,5,6,7and 8 of Customs Valuation Rules 2007. Hence the value is to be determined in terms of Rule 9 of said rules. Therefore, the value as provided by the Chartered Engineer may be considered as the basis for arriving at appropriate assessable value of the subject goods. In this way, the total appropriate value of the subject goods is required to be

considered as **Rs.7,11,000/- (Seven Lakh eleven thousand Rupees Only)**.

13.10 Therefore, from the above, it appears that total 30 Paintings of declared goods as "PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM" having declared Value of Rs. 12,79,98,459/- (*Twelve Crore Seventy-Nine lakh Ninety-Eight thousand Four hundred Fifty-Nine Rupees Only*) were grossly mis-declared in terms of description, classification, and value thereof. The importer has declared an exaggerated value of the goods, which indicates a malafide intention to route illicit funds through the import/export channel. In view of the foregoing, the goods appear to be liable for confiscation under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, and are specifically liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the said Act.

14. FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATION

Whereas, as per the investigation conducted by the DRI, it appears that M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited and M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited imported 30 paintings under nine warehousing Bills of Entry all dated 31.12.2024 at Mundra Port with grossly inflated values. The importers declared the total value as ₹12,79,98,459/- (Rupees Twelve Crore Seventy-Nine Lakh Ninety-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Only), whereas the actual assessable value as determined by the Government-approved Chartered Engineer is merely ₹7,11,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eleven Thousand Only). Expert evaluation by Dr. Jayaram Poduval, Professor and Dean of Parul Institute of Fine Arts, Parul University, Vadodara, confirmed that none of the paintings belong to any known or professionally acclaimed artists, are of unprofessional and substandard quality, lack traces of framing or canvas stretching structures indicating they were not acquired from professional art exhibitions, and have a fair market value not exceeding ₹20,000 per piece in the Indian art market. This represents a staggering over-valuation of approximately 180 times the actual worth, clearly demonstrating a malafide intention to route illicit funds out of India through trade-based money laundering using inflated import invoicing.

14.2 Throughout the investigation, the importers and their directors have demonstrated a complete pattern of non-cooperation and evasive behavior. Multiple summons issued between March 2025 and September 2025 to the authorized representatives of both firms and to directors Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas, Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate, Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal, Shri Prashant Pranhakar, as well as intermediaries Shri Datta Sonawane and Shri Sandeep Shukla, went unanswered despite being sent by post and email. Physical verification of registered addresses revealed that the firms do not conduct genuine business operations at the declared locations—one premise was found to be occupied by a different entity that had vacated in December 2024, another was locked with signboards of entirely different companies, and attempts by DRI Pune and DRI Mumbai Zonal Unit to locate the directors at their residential addresses failed as individuals had relocated without trace. This systematic avoidance and the use of non-existent or abandoned business

addresses strongly indicates that these are shell entities created specifically for the purpose of facilitating illegal financial transactions.

14.3 Whereas, the imported goods are liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962, as they have been grossly mis-declared in terms of description, classification, and value. The declared transaction value merits rejection under Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 read with Rule 12 of the Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 2007. Sequential application of valuation rules reveals that the value cannot be determined under Rules 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of CVR 2007 due to the absence of comparable contemporaneous imports, lack of domestic market data for such non-standard miscellaneous goods, and unavailability of production cost data. Therefore, the value must be determined under Rule 9 of CVR 2007 using reasonable means, for which the Chartered Engineer's valuation of ₹7,11,000/- represents the most credible basis. The goods were accordingly placed under seizure vide Seizure Memo dated 17.06.2025. The modus operandi clearly involves the import of grossly overvalued goods in collusion with foreign suppliers with the apparent intent to illegally route money out of India, constituting trade-based money laundering through inflated import invoicing, thereby warranting confiscation proceedings against the goods and penal action against the noticees under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

15. Role and culpability on the importer/person/firm involved: -

15.1. Role and culpability of M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited.

M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited, holding IEC No.: ABKCS7496J and having registered address (i) 102 VYOM arcade, Subhash Road, Vishnu Prasad Society, Navpada, Paranjape Nagar, Vile Parle, Mumbai- 400057 (ii) Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global City, Vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303 appears to be involved in a sophisticated trade-based money laundering scheme designed to illegally route funds out of India. The modus operandi involved: (i) importing low-value, poor-quality paintings from the UAE; (ii) declaring these paintings at grossly inflated values than their actual worth; (iii) using the warehousing facility to avoid immediate duty payment while creating documentation showing high-value imports; (iv) ostensibly planning re-export to third countries, thereby completing the paper trail for moving money abroad; and (v) operating through shell entities with non-existent business premises to avoid detection and accountability.

Under Section 112(a) of the Customs Act, 1962, any importer or person who, in relation to any goods, commits or omits to do any act which renders such goods liable to confiscation under Section 111, or who abets such an act or omission, is liable to a penalty. Furthermore, as per Section 112(b) of the Act, any person who acquires possession of, or is in any way concerned with carrying, removing, depositing, harboring, keeping,

concealing, selling, purchasing, or otherwise dealing with goods that he knows or has reason to believe are liable to confiscation under Section 111, is also liable to penalty. In the present case, M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited. mis-declared the value of the imported goods. This deliberate misdeclaration renders the imported goods liable to confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962.

Further, it appears that M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited submitted incorrect documents/details before Customs authorities at the time of import and warehousing of the same. They have also forwarded incorrect documents for filing of import documents for these consignments with false declarations. Thus, M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited has knowingly and intentionally made/signed/used and/or caused to be made/signed/used the import documents and other related documents which were false or incorrect in material particular such as description, value etc., with mala-fide intention, and it appears that M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited is also liable to penalty under Section **114AA** of the Customs Act, 1962.

Various summons have been issued by post to their directors at the registered address of the firm, however, summons had returned undelivered with remarks "कोई जानकारी नहीं". As per Para 2.15 of the hand book of procedure notified by the DGFT in terms of Para 1.03 of Foreign Trade Policy read with Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, every IEC holder shall be responsible for updating their profile details. Apparently, the importer herein has deliberately not updated their addresses in their part of their IEC in violation of the said procedure of hand Book of procedures. The importer has thereby also violated the provisions of Section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962. Hence they have rendered themselves liable to penalty under Section 117 of the Customs Act, 1962 for this contravention.

15.2. Role and culpability of M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited.:

M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited, holding IEC No.: ABKCS5783J and having its registered office at 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, Shitladevi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053 appears to be involved in serious violations of the Customs Act. Based on investigations and the interrogation of associated individual, it has emerged that the firm was engaged in gross mis-declaration of imported goods. Specifically, the company is suspected of transferring money out of India by importing low-quality paintings while falsely declaring them as high-value "PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM" from United Arab Emirates at highly inflated prices.

Under Section 112(a) of the Customs Act, 1962, any importer or person who, in relation to any goods, commits or omits to do any act which renders such goods liable to confiscation under Section 111, or who abets such an act or omission, is liable to a penalty. Furthermore, as per Section

112(b) of the Act, any person who acquires possession of, or is in any way concerned with carrying, removing, depositing, harboring, keeping, concealing, selling, purchasing, or otherwise dealing with goods that he knows or has reason to believe are liable to confiscation under Section 111, is also liable to penalty. In the present case, M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited. mis-declared the value thereof of the imported goods. This deliberate misdeclaration renders the imported goods liable to confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962 .

As per the valuation report submitted by the Chartered Engineer and the Expert report issued by Dr. Jayaram Poduval, Professor and Dean of Parul Institute of Fine Arts, Parul University, Vadodara, the imported consignment was found to be grossly mis-declared and is, therefore, liable for confiscation under the provisions of Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962. The investigation further revealed that the importer, M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited, had knowingly and deliberately imported the mis-declared goods in collusion with the overseas suppliers/consignors. Accordingly, M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited was actively involved in the purchase, sale, and handling of goods that are liable to confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962.

Further, it appears that M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited submitted incorrect documents/details before Customs authorities at the time of import and warehousing of the same. They have also forwarded incorrect documents for filing of import documents for these consignments with false declarations. Thus, M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited has knowingly and intentionally made/signed/used and/or caused to be made/signed/used the import documents and other related documents which were false or incorrect in material particular such as description, value etc., with mala-fide intention, and it appears that M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited is also liable to penalty under Section **114AA** of the Customs Act, 1962.

Various summons have been issued by post to their directors at the registered address of the firm, however, summons had returned undelivered with remarks "कोई जानकारी नहीं". As per Para 2.15 of the hand book of procedure notified by the DGFT in terms of Para 1.03 of Foreign Trade Policy read with Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, every IEC holder shall be responsible for updating their profile details. Apparently, the importer herein has deliberately not updated their addresses in their part of their IEC in violation of the said procedure of hand Book of procedures. The importer has thereby also violated the provisions of Section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962. Hence they have rendered themselves liable to penalty under **Sec 117** for this contravention.

15.3 ROLE AND CULPABILITY OF SHRI ARUN SAJE RAO DOLAS AND SHRI RUPESH VIJAY NIWATE DIRECTORS OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited: -

During the course of investigation, it was revealed that Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas and Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate were directors of M/s. Shriyesh import export private limited. Multiple summons were issued to both individuals, however, the same were returned undelivered. Furthermore, despite the summons being sent through their officially declared email IDs, no response was received. This indicates a deliberate attempt on their part to evade the investigation by not responding to the summons and failing to appear for the recording of their statements.

It is evident that Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas and Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate have willfully defied the investigation process. As Directors of M/s Shriyesh import export private limited, they permitted the use of the company's name and Importer Exporter Code (IEC) for the importation of goods whose declared value was grossly exaggerated, suggesting an attempt to channel illicit funds through trade mis-invoicing.

Being Directors Of the importer company, they cannot Shed the responsibility entrusted to him for import by his company, it appears that they were actively involved in the entire fraud.

The acts of commission and omission on the part of Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas and Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate have rendered the imported goods with a declared value of Rs. 4,55,38,889/- (Rupees Four Crore Fifty Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Nine only), liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962. Consequently, thereby rendered themselves, separately, liable for penalty under Section **112(a), 112(b) and 117** of the Customs Act, 1962.

Further, it appears that Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas and Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate have submitted incorrect documents related to M/s Shriyesh import export private limited to the Customs authorities. As directors, they are responsible for filing Customs documents on behalf of M/s Shriyesh import export private limited for the importer. The submitted documents were found to contain incorrect material particular as description, value etc. It appears that they have knowingly and intentionally made, signed, used, or caused to be made, signed, or used import and related documents that were false or incorrect in material particulars such as description and value, with mala fide intention. Consequently, Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas and Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate are also separately liable to penalties under Section **114AA** of the Customs Act, 1962.

15.4 ROLE AND CULPABILITY OF SHRI PRASHANT PRANHAKAR AND RAJENDRA SUDHAKAR PALGHADMAL DIRECTORS OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. SHWAAN IMPORT EXPORT PRIVATE LIMITED: -

During the course of investigation, it was revealed that Shri Prashant Pranhakar and Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal were directors of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited multiple summons were issued to both individuals, however, the same were returned undelivered. Furthermore, despite the summons being sent through their officially declared email IDs, no response was received. This indicates a deliberate attempt on their part to evade the investigation by

not responding to the summons and failing to appear for the recording of their statements.

It is evident that Shri Prashant Pranhakar and Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal have willfully defied the investigation process. As Directors of M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited, they permitted the use of the company's name and Importer Exporter Code (IEC) for the importation of goods whose declared value was grossly exaggerated, suggesting an attempt to channel illicit funds through trade mis-invoicing.

Being Directors Of the importer company, they cannot Shed the responsibility entrusted to him for import by his company, it appears that they were actively involved in the entire fraud.

The acts of commission and omission on the part of Shri Prashant Pranhakar and Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal have rendered the imported goods comprising 30 pieces of Paintings declared as "PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM" with a declared value of Rs. 8,24,59,570/- (Rupees Eight Crore twenty four Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Seventy only), liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962. Consequently, thereby rendered themselves, separately, liable for penalty under Section 112(a), 112(b) and 117 of the Customs Act, 1962.

Further, it appears that Shri Prashant Pranhakar and Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal have submitted incorrect documents related to M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited to the Customs authorities. As directors, they are responsible for filing Customs documents on behalf of M / s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited for the importer. The submitted documents were found to contain incorrect material particular as description, value etc.It appears that they have knowingly and intentionally made, signed, used, or caused to be made, signed, or used import and related documents that were false or incorrect in material particulars such as description and value, with mala fide intention. Consequently, Shri Prashant Pranhakar and Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal are also separately liable to penalties under Section 114AA of the Customs Act, 1962.

15.5. ROLE AND CULPABILITY OF SHRI SANDEEP SHUKLA, DATTA SONAWANE:-

Shri Sandeep Shukla (contact number: 9022044464), alternatively referred to as Mr. Pintu Sukla in the recorded statement of Shri Chandan Tulsidas Bhimani under Section 108 of the Customs Act, 1962, on 07.03.2025, served as a significant intermediary in the facilitation of customs clearance and logistical handling for the imported consignment of 30 oil-on-canvas paintings at Mundra Port, which were grossly overvalued at ₹12,79,98,459/- against an assessed value of ₹7,11,000/-. On 23 January 2025, he initiated contact with the customs broker alongside Mr. Salim, whom he introduced as the principal customer, and furnished an authorisation letter to enable attendance at seal cutting procedures at All Cargo CFS for two Bills of Entry (Nos. 7555183 and 7555185 dated

31.12.2024); he further pursued de-stuffing of containers, albeit unsuccessful due to the lack of a Delivery Order, thereby indicating his operational involvement in coordinating activities on behalf of the importing entities, M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited and M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited, within a scheme ostensibly designed for trade-based money laundering via inflated import invoicing. His culpability is compounded by deliberate non-cooperation with the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) investigation, as evidenced by his failure to respond to multiple summons issued between 26.03.2025 and 09.07.2025 via registered post and electronic mail, coupled with unsuccessful attempts by the DRI Mumbai Zonal Unit to locate him at his reported address in 20, Bharat Gas, Kharghar, Raigarh, Maharashtra-410210, where no such premises could be identified, thus demonstrating evasive conduct and mens rea in abetting the mis-declaration of value rendering goods liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962. Through his acts of commission and omission, Shri Sandeep Shukla has rendered himself liable for penalties under Sections 112(a), 112(b) and 117 of the Customs Act, 1962.

15.5.2 Shri Datta Sonawane functioned as initiator in the orchestration of the impugned import of 30 oil-on-canvas paintings at Mundra Port, over-invoiced at ₹12,79,98,459/- against an assessed value of ₹7,11,000/-, as detailed in the statement of Shri Chandan Tulsidas Bhimani under Section 108 of the Customs Act, 1962, on 07.03.2025, wherein he first approached the customs broker on 11 December 2024 in Gandhidham, claiming oversight of substantial monthly imports (approximately 200 containers) of polymer seeds and scrap via Nhava Sheva Port, and soliciting clearance and bonded warehousing services for successive proposals including bulbs (rejected for incomplete documentation), energy drinks under the "Beast" brand linked to Budweiser (declined due to valuation issues and absent No Objection Certificate), and ultimately the paintings from the United Arab Emirates destined for re-export to Malaysia, for which he self-filed Bills of Entry but secured a Bonded Space Certificate on 20 January 2025 post-document verification before becoming untraceable. His culpability is proven by systematic evasion during the DRI investigation, non-response to multiple summons issued from 26.03.2025 to 22.07.2025 via post and email, and failed location efforts by the DRI Pune Regional Unit at his address in Pimpalwandi, Chalakwadi N V, Junnar, Pune, Maharashtra-412412, including service upon his parents, confirming relocation without trace, thereby establishing clear intent and active complicity in the mis-declaration under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962 and liable for penalties under Sections 112(a), 112(b) and 117 of the Customs Act, 1962.

16. Now therefore, M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited, 102 VYOM arcade, Subhash Road, Vishnu Prasad Society, Navpada, Paranjape Nagar, Vile Parle, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400057, are hereby called upon to Show Cause in writing to the Additional Commissioner of Customs, Customs House, Mundra having office situated at office of the Pr. Commissioner of Customs, 5B, Port User Building, Adani Ports & SEZ, Mundra, Kutch, Gujarat - 370421 within 30 (thirty)

days from the date of receipt of the notice, as to why.

- i. The declared value of goods covered under Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668 and 7550874 all dated 31.12.2024 having declared Rs. 4,55,38,88/- should not be rejected and re-determined as Rs 2,02,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Two Thousand only) under Rule 9 of the Customs Valuation (Determination of the method of valuation) Rules 2007 .
- ii. The goods declared as “PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM” having declared value of Rs. 4,55,38,889/- (Rupees Four Crore Fifty Five Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Nine Only) covered under Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668 and 7550874 all dated 31.12.2024, should not be held liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962.
- iii. Penalty should not be imposed on the importer M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited under Section 112 (a), Section 112(b) and Section 114AA of the Customs Act, 1962.

16.2 M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS5783J)

having address 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, D N Nagar Shitla devi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, D N Nagar, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400053 are hereby called upon to Show Cause in writing to the Additional/Joint Commissioner of Customs, Customs House, Mundra having office situated at office of the Pr. Commissioner of Customs, 5B, Port User Building, Adani Ports & SEZ, Mundra, Kutch, Gujarat – 370421 within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the notice, as to why. -

- i. The declared value of goods covered under Bills of Entry No. 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024 having declared Rs. 12,79,98,459/- shouldn't be rejected and re-determined as Rs.5,09,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Nine Thousand only) under Rule 9 of the Customs Valuation (Determination of the method of valuation) Rules 2007.
- ii. The goods declared as “PAINTING MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS SIZE :91*121CM” having declared value of Rs. 8,24,59,571/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Twenty four Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Seventy One Only) covered under Bills of Entry No. 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2024, should not be held liable for confiscation under Section 111(m) of the Customs Act, 1962.

iii. Penalty should not be imposed on the importer M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited under Section 112 (a), Section 112(b) and Section 114AA of the Customs Act, 1962.

17. Now, therefore, the following persons/companies/firms/concerns as appearing in Column 2 of the following Table, may be individually and separately be called upon to Show Cause in writing to the Additional/Joint Commissioner of Customs, Customs House, Mundra having office situated at office of the Pr. Commissioner of Customs, 5B, Port User Building, Adani Ports & SEZ, Mundra, Kutch, Gujarat – 370421 within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the notice, as to why., the Penalty should not be imposed on each of them individually under below mentioned penal provisions, separately, of the Customs Act,1962 (as appearing at Column 3 to 6 of the Table):-

Table-VIII

S. No.	Name (M/s/Sh/Ms)	Penal provisions under Customs Act, 1962			
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	SHRI PRASHANT PRANHAKAR DIRECTOR OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. SHWAAN IMPORT EXPORT PRIVATE LIMITED	112(a)	112(b)	114AA	117
2	RAJENDRA SUDHAKAR PALGHADMAL DIRECTOR OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. SHWAAN IMPORT EXPORT PRIVATE LIMITED	112(a)	112(b)	114AA	117
3	SHRI ARUN SAJE RAO DOLAS DIRECTOR OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. SHRIYESH IMPORT EXPORT PRIVATE LIMITED	112(a)	112(b)	114AA	117
4	SHRI RUPESH VIJAY NIWATE DIRECTOR OF IMPORTER FIRM M/S. SHRIYESH IMPORT EXPORT PRIVATE LIMITED	112(a)	112(b)	114AA	117
5	SHRI DATTA SONAWANE	112(a)	112(b)	-	117
6	SHRI SANDEEP SHUKLA	112(a)	112(b)	-	117

18. Noticees are required to submit a written reply to the Adjudicating Authority within 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice. In their written reply, the noticees may also indicate as to whether they would like to be heard in person. In case, no reply is received within the time limit stipulated above or any further time which may be granted and/or if

nobody appears for personal hearing when the case is posted for the same, the case will be decided ex-parte on the basis of evidence on record and without any further reference to the noticee.

19. All the relied upon documents as enlisted in '**Annexure-R**' to this notice are enclosed.

20. This Show Cause Notice is issued without prejudice to any other actions that may be taken against the persons involved in the subject case, under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 or any other Allied Acts for the time being in force. The department reserves its right to issue addendum/ corrigendum to show cause notice or to make any additions, deletions amendments or supplements to this notice, if any, at a later stage. The department also reserves its right to issue separate Notice/s for other Noticees, offences etc. related to the above case, if warranted.

Dipak Zala,

Additional Commissioner of
Customs,

Custom House, Mundra.

By Speed Post/Regd. Post/E-mail/Hand Delivery

List of Noticee:

1. M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS7496J) address as **(IEC Address)** 102 VYOM arcade, Subhash Road, Vishnu Prasad Society, Navpada, Paranjpaee Nagar, Vile Parle, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400057, **(GST address)** Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global City, vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303. (Email- info@shriyeshimportexport.com)

2. M/s Shwaan Import Export Private Limited (IEC: ABKCS5783J) address 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, D N Nagar Shitla devi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, D N Nagar, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400053. (Email- info@shwaanimportexport.com).

3. Shri Arun Sajerao Dolas Director of M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited. Office Address- Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global City, vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303. (Email- info@shriyeshimportexport.com)

4. Shri Rupesh Vijay Niwate Director of M/s. Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited. Office Address- Ground Floor, BLDG No. 12 Shop No. 23, Rustomjee Evershine Avenue G, Naringi Road, Yazoo Park, Global

City, vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra, 401303. (Email-info@shriyeshimportexport.com)

5. Shri Rajendra Sudhakar Palghadmal Director of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited. Address- 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, D N Nagar Shitla devi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, D N Nagar, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400053. (Email-info@shwaanimportexport.com)

6. Shri Prashant Pranhakar Director of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited Address- 1st Floor, 103 B-wing, D N Nagar Shitla devi CHS LTD. Link Road, D N Nagar Metro Station, D N Nagar, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra, 400053. (Email-info@shwaanimportexport.com)

7. Shri Sandeep Shukla, Address- 20, Bharat Gas, Kharghar, Raigarh, Maharashtra-410210.

8. Shri Datta Sonawane Address- Pimpalwandi, Chalakwadi N V, Junnar, Pune, Maharashtra-412412. (**Email-** dattasonawane5515@gmail.com)

Copy to:

1. The Additional Director General, DRI, Gandhidham (Kutch).
2. The DC/AC, EDI, Mundra Customs.
3. Guard File.

Relied upon documents

Annexure-R

RUD. No.	Description of Documents	Page No.
1	Bills of Entry No. 7553023, 7553668, 7550874, 7555183, 7555185, 7555187, 7554850, 7554852 and 7554855 all dated 31.12.2025	1 to 128
2	Panchnama was drawn at the CFS of M/s Allcargo Terminals Ltd., Mundra along with annexure-A (contained the details of photograph of the painting and artist name) dated 25.02.2025.	1 to 4
3	Govt. approved Valuer/Chartered Engineer report dated 05.05.2025.	1 to 16
4	Visit report dated 20.02.2025 at the premise (IEC Address) of M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	1 to 2
5	Visit report dated 20.02.2025 at the premise (GST Address) of M/s Shriyesh Import Export Private Limited	1 to 56
6	Panchnama Dated 21.02.2025 drwan at the premise of M/s. Shwaan Import Export Private Limited	1 to 12
7	During the search at the premises of M/s Shwaan Import Export	1 to

	Private Limited, certain documents were resumed, which included some Bills of Entry declaring goods as "Knitted fabric (of artificial fibres)	42
8	Statement of Shri Chandan Tulsidas Bhimani, authorized person of M/s. Fairdeal Services, was recorded on 07.03.2025	1 to 2
9	DRI Pune submitted a visit report dated 07.07.2025,	1 to 7
10	DRI MZU sent an email dated 09.07.2025	1 to 4
11	Expert/Professional Opinion his report vide mail dated 15.06.2025 (RUD No. 11)	1 to 2
12	Seizure Memo dated 17.06.2025 due to misdeclaration and overvaluation.	1
13	Extension letter dated 11.08.2025, issued to importers under section 110(2) of the Customs Act, 1962	1