Plexconcil Circular dated 02.04.2020
Dear All Members,
Subject : Guidelines to Major ports on Exemptions/Remission on penalties etc. and issues relating to Force Majeure
We wish to inform you that the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India has released Guidelines to Major ports on Exemptions/Remission on penalties etc. and issues relating to Force Majeure.
Said guidelines states that the no penalties, demurrages, charges, fees, rental are levied by the major ports on any port users (traders, Shipping lines, concessionaires, licensees etc.) for any delay in berthing, loading /unloading operation or evacuation /arrival of cargo caused by the reasons attributable to lockdown measures from 22 nd March to 14 th April, 2020.
Therefore, each Major port shall exempt or remit demurrage, ground rent over and above the free period, penal anchorage/berth hire charges and any other performance related penalties that may be levied on port related activities including minimum performance guarantee, wherever applicable.
Further, the Coronavirus is considered as a case of natural calamity and Force Majeure may be invoked. Each major port needs to remain operational during the COVID-19 pandemic and continue cargo operations in all respects.
Kindly refer the complete guideline (attached herewith) for more information.
Best regards
Plexconcil Team