

FAQs on IDPMS (Import Data Processing & Monitoring System)

1. What is IDPMS?

IDPMS stands for Import Data Processing and Monitoring System, an online platform created by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to digitally track and monitor import transactions across customs and banking channels.

2. Why was IDPMS introduced?

It replaced paper-based, manual processes prone to errors and delays. Introduced under [RBI Circular -RBI/2016-17/78 A.P. \(DIR Series\) Circular No. 05 dated October 06, 2016](#), aimed to enhance data standardization, regulatory compliance, and real-time transparency in import payments.

3. What is the purpose of IDPMS?

- **Centralized Tracking and Transparency:** Acts as a single database for all import transaction data, from initial Bill of Entry (BoE) to final payment.
- **Real Time Payment Monitoring:** Tracks the entire import payment lifecycle to ensure foreign exchange is used correctly.
- **Data Standardization:** Standardizes import data across different banks and customs.
- **Compliance:** Helps RBI and Customs monitor transactions, ensuring they are legitimate and timely, reducing manual errors and delays.

4. Who uses IDPMS?

- **Authorized Dealer banks** report payment data
- **Customs authorities** interface via the EDI system.
- **Importers** track and reconcile their transactions.
- **RBI and regulators** monitor compliance and forex flows.

5. How do importers register or get on boarded?

Registration is facilitated for **Importers with an IEC code** through respective Authorized Dealer (AD) Category-I banks.

6. What is the settlement process in IDPMS?

The IDPMS settlement process (Import Data Processing & Monitoring System) involves Customs uploading Bill of Entry (BoE) data, the importer's bank entering payment details (Outward Remittance Messages - ORMs) into the system, and the system automatically matching them to ensure the importer's payment aligns with the imported goods, with final reconciliation and closure by the bank upon verifying evidence, ensuring FEMA/RBI compliance.

Step-by-Step Settlement Process:

- **Data Upload by Customs:** When imported goods arrive, Customs files the Bill of Entry (BoE) and uploads its details (value, quantity, BoE number, AD Code of the importer's bank) into IDPMS.
- **Importer's Bank Action (ORM):** The importer instructs their Authorized Dealer (AD) bank to make payment. The bank then enters the payment details as an Outward Remittance Message (ORM) into IDPMS. Based on the AD code declared by the importer, the banks download the Bill of Entry (BoE) issued by EDI ports from "BOE Master" in IDPMS.
- **Matching & Reconciliation:** AD Bank matches the BoE data (goods cleared) with the ORM (payment made) for both advance Import payment and Import Bill payments.
- **Monitoring & Alerts:** The system flags any mismatches (different amounts, missing data) for review to prevent FEMA violations.
- **Evidence Submission:** Importers must submit the original BoE (or other evidence of import) to their AD bank within a stipulated time (e.g., 6 months for payment). Multiple ORMs can be settled against single BoE and also multiple BoE can be settled against one ORM.
- **Transaction Closure:** Once the payment is complete and evidence verified, the AD bank updates IDPMS to close the transaction, marking the BoE as settled.

7. Can it integrate with other systems?

Yes—IDPMS integrates with the **Customs EDI (ICEGATE)** and other Bank/ERP systems to automate data exchange.

8. What are the main benefits of IDPMS?

- **Standardization:** Uniform data reporting across Customs and banking systems.
- **Real-time tracking:** Improved monitoring of import lifecycle from initiation to closure.
- **Compliance enforcement:** Regulatory compliance with FEMA and RBI norms.
- **Operational efficiency:** Reduces paperwork and manual intervention, accelerating imports.
- **Automation,** cutting paperwork and human errors.
- **Alerts** for delays or mismatches.
- **Centralized historical data** for audits and reference.

9. Are there any relaxations provided by regulator/s?

For import entries valued at ₹10 lakh or below, RBI now allows reconciliations via importer's self-declaration, enabling **quarterly batch reconciliations** and reduced AD bank charges—without penalties for delays. [rbi.org.in]

10. How do users resolve errors?

- **Fatal errors** require correction and resubmission of documentation by importers.
- **Non-fatal issues** are addressed by AD banks coordinating with RBI or customs support.

11. What common issues occur?

- Missing or delayed Bill of Entry submissions.
- **Mismatched payment amounts** vs. customs value.
- Incomplete banking data or missing references.
- Missing or outdated shipment details resulting in alerts, such discrepancies can lead to **bank holds**, compliance reviews, or even **penalties**.

12. What happens if there's a mismatch / delay / non-compliance?

For the flagged transaction, AD banks follow up with importers for clarification or document submission. Unresolved issues may lead to compliance scrutiny, penalties under FEMA, or prolonged import processing.

13. How to avoid problems?

- Regularly reconcile import data with your AD bank
- Submit Bills of Entry promptly
- Maintain proper documentation for FEMA compliance

14. Where can Importer get help?

Indian Bank – Issues related to settlement of Outward Remittances against Bill of Entries to be raised at Home Branch to respective FxCPC and if not addressed to be escalated to the higher authorities as detailed below:

Level 1	Fx Centralised Processing Centre, Chennai	Fxchennai.imports@indianbank.co.in
	Fx Centralised Processing Centre, Mumbai	Eidpms.fxcpcmum@indianbank.bank.in
Level 2	Corporate Office, International Banking Department	idpms@indianbank.bank.in