



भारत सरकार / Govt of India  
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance  
राजस्व विभाग / Dept of Revenue

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मुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS**  
चेन्नै सीमा शुल्क क्षेत्र  
**CHENNAI CUSTOMS ZONE**  
सीमा शुल्क भवन, नं.60, राजाजी सालै, चेन्नै 600 001.  
**CUSTOM HOUSE, NO.60, RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI 600 001.**

07-03-2023

फा.सं./F.No.S2/109/2015-Prev.Tech

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The 94<sup>th</sup> Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) meeting was held on 23.02.2023 (Thursday) at 12.00 Noon through Video Conference. Shri Mandalika Srinivas, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Chennai Zone, chaired the meeting.

2. The following officials from Customs Department, PGAs and other Stakeholders attended the meeting:

S/Shri/Smt

1. M.Sreedhar Reddy, Principal Commissioner (Preventive)
2. M.Mathew Jolly, Principal Commissioner (ACC/Airport)
3. Srinivasa Naik, Commissioner of Customs (Audit)
4. K.S.V.V.Prasad, Commissioner (Import / Export)
5. B.Senthil Velavan, Addl. Commissioner (Prev.)
6. S.Kesava Narayana Reddy, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
7. Manasa Gangotri Kata, Addl. Commissioner (Export)
8. R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO)
9. C.Thiyagarajan, Addl. Commissioner (ACC)
10. V.Pandiraja, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
11. R.Sri Balaji, Addl. Commissioner (Export)
12. Chan Basha, Addl. Commissioner (ACC)
13. Dr.S.Periyannan Addl. Commissioner (Prev.)
14. RA Mahendiravarmaa, Joint Commissioner (ACC)
15. B.Loknatha Reddy, Joint Commissioner (Import)

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16. R.Dhasarathan, Joint Director, CRCL
17. Dr.K.Balaji, DC (EDI)
18. Anand Kumar Savalam, DC (Docks)
19. Magimai Arockiaraj , DC (ACC)
20. K.Ramesh, DC(CCO)
21. Bibash Sharan, AC(CCO)
22. K.Narendran, Asst. Drug Controller, Seaport
23. P.Indira, Asst. Drug Controller, Airport
24. Vimal B, Sr. Deputy Traffic Manager, Chennai Port Authority
25. Nalini, Deputy Manager (Traffic), Kamarajar Port Ltd.
26. K.Thamizh Selvan, DGM, CONCOR
27. R.Rajkumar, Associate GM, Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd.
28. Ameer, Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd.
29. Milind, Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd.
30. Kiran Raja, Immigration Officer, Bureau Of Immigration
31. M.S.Shakul, DGM, DP World
32. Jaisankar.E, Manager, PSA
33. G.Bhavani, Scientist, Bureau of Indian Standards
34. Dr.D.Biswas, RO-SR, Animal Quarantine & Certificate Services
35. Mohan S.M, Regional Plant Quarantine Station (RPQS)
36. T.S.Sudheesh, Sr. Manager (Cargo), AAICLAS
37. R.Rajakumari, Manager, CWC-TVT
38. R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA
39. R.Kumar, Vice President, CCBA
40. Divakaran P Nair, Vice President, CCBA
41. S.Nataraja, Secretary, CCBA
42. Y.Leeladharan, Chairman, Chennai & Ennore Ports Steamer Agents Association
43. Thomas Antony, Secretary, CHENSAA

3. Members of the following organizations did not participate in the Video Conference.

1. Textile Committee
2. NACFS
3. WCCB (SR)
4. Central Leather Research Institute
5. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
6. Fertiliser Control
7. Wireless Adviser
8. FSSAI

4. The Chairman of CCFC - Shri Mandalika Srinivas, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, welcomed all and asked Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) to make a small presentation on the latest Notifications, Circulars, Public Notices and Instructions issued. Accordingly Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) made a brief presentation.

6. With the permission of the Chairman, pending points, raised in the previous meeting were taken up for discussion first.

**Point No.MAA200:- Providing Copy of Lab Test Report**

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7. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that a copy of the Lab Test Report may be provided to Importer / CB since the Test Report is valid for a period of six months for same goods and the details are to be uploaded in the System in respect of subsequent consignments to avoid multiple drawal of samples for a period of six months.

7.1 Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) stated that the issue had already been taken up with Directorate of Systems by the General Commissionerate for enabling a provision in the ICES to download the Test Report. When the issue was earlier raised in this forum, CRCL was asked to mail Test Reports to Docks Admin mail id. which in turn was shared among Importers/CBs, but later on, the practice was dis-continued by CRCL citing shortage of staff. Addl. Commissioner (CCO) further stated that till such time modifications are carried out in ICES, CRCL may be asked to continue the practice of mailing the Test Report to the Docks Admin mail id.

7.2 Shri R.Dhasarathan, Joint Director, CRCL, stated that they were uploading all the Test Reports in the Central Sampling Cell Module of Docks Admin, but the AMC of the Vendor who developed the software for the Module has not been renewed by the Export Commissionerate and hence it has not served the purpose of viewing of Test Report. He further stated that alternatively, a provision has to be enabled in ICES to enable the CBs/Importers to view the Test Reports. Since, there were delays in exploring the above two possibilities, as a stop-gap arrangement, they were asked by Docks Admin to mail the copy of Test Reports to the dedicated mail id of Docks Admin, but, due to staff shortage in Lab, the mailing of Test Reports to Docks Admin was dis-continued later on. To a query from Chairman as to whether CRCL can provide the Test Reports immediately on request by Importers / CBs, the Joint Director replied in affirmative.

7.3 The Chairman stated that an Internal Meeting may be convened jointly by the Principal Commissioner (General) & Commissioner (Export) with Systems Manager & JD,CRCL for resolving the issue at the earliest and the outcome of that meeting may be informed to the CCO. The Chairman further stated that this point may be carried forward to the next meeting.

**[Action: Principal Commissioner (General) / Commissioner (Export) / Systems Manager / JD (CRCL) ]**

**Point No.MAA204:- Transfer of assets of Container Scanning System**

8. M/s. Kamarajar Port Ltd. raised the issue that requisite AERB approvals such as change of Institution from Kamarajar Port Ltd. to Chennai Customs, Creation of Radiological Safety Officer (RSO) and Change of License & deployment of manpower to operate the Scanner, may please be expedited.

8.1 Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) stated that Export Commissionerate had already taken up with Bhaba Atomic Research Centre for conducting Radiological Safety Officer (RSO) Certification Course for the Customs Officers. He further stated that once the officers are trained as RSO, the change of Institution & change of License to operate the Scanner will be taken up. The Addl. Commissioner (CCO) further informed that as regards deployment of Manpower to operate the Scanner, a tender has been floated by the Export Commissionerate and the same is under process.

8.2 As Shri Karuppiah, Chief Manager (Traffic) who sponsored this point in the last meeting,

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could not join this meeting, the Chairman asked the representative of M/s. Kamarajar Port Ltd., Ms. Nalini, Deputy Manager (Traffic) to mail their response.

**[Action: Commissioner (Export)]**

9. With the permission of the Chairman, fresh points raised were taken up for discussion

**Point No.MAA206:- Delay in Updation of 'Allowed For Shipment' Entries**

10. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that for Shipping Bills filed at INMAA1, when Export Containers are moved to Kattupalli/Ennore Port under TSA, Officers at Port are giving 'Allowed For Shipment' on the hard copy of S/B, but they are not updating the 'Allowed For Shipment' entry in the system simultaneously. This creates problem in closing of EGM and results in delay in receipt of export incentives. He suggested that this Transshipment Process may be automated once stuffing completed at INMAA1.

10.1 The Chairman asked CCBA to give a detailed representation and stated that if found feasible, the same will be taken up with Directorate of Systems

10.2 Shri R.Rajkumar, Associate GM, Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd. stated that this point had already been raised by him in the CCFC Meeting held on 24.11.2022 and the issue was pro-actively taken up by Customs and it is observed that 'Allowed For Shipment' for export containers moving under Transshipment from Chennai CFSs to Kattupalli Port is being given instantaneously without any delay.

**(Point Closed)**

**Point No.MAA207:- Tracking of BE pushed back to PAG by FAG**

11. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that FAG Officers even after receipt of replies to queries (maximum 3 queries can be raised), decide to send the B/E back to PAG due to various reasons and, they have an option to push the B/E back to PAG. However, the CBs/Importers are not aware about the Bill having been pushed to PAG and assume that B/E is still pending with FAG unattended with status showing as 'APR'. CBs will come to know about the correct status only when they approach local PAG. This results in delay and incurring of demurrage. Therefore, suggested that whenever Bills are pushed by the FAG Officers to PAG, a communication from ICEGATE may be sent to the registered mail ID of the CBs/Importers or a mechanism may be devised for tracking of B/E in the ICEGATE.

11.1 The Chairman stated that any Bill which is pending for more than 3 days is being monitored and appropriate action is being initiated both at FAG level and Port of Import. The Chairman further stated that an 'Anonymised Escalation Mechanism' Module is ready and once the specific details of the import consignment are entered, automatically it will reach the concerned FAG Location for taking immediate action. The Chairman asked CCBA to sensitize its Members that whenever any query is raised, it is replied appropriately with supporting documents and technical write-up so that subsequent queries can be avoided. The Chairman further asked CCBA to come up with specific instances where multiple queries have been raised despite furnishing complete information in response to the first query, for initiating suitable action after in-depth study and also for putting in place a mechanism to examine all the Bills which have been pushed back to PAG from FAG. The Chairman stressed the need for coherent action on the part of Customs, Importers & CBs for speedy clearance of consignments.

**(Point Closed)**

**Point No.MAA208:- Infrastructure at CWC, Thiruvottiyur (TVT)**

12. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA stated that at present, INMAA1(Chennai) self-sealed export containers are moved through CWC-TVT and if any containers are selected for Customs Examination, there is no proper facility to unload the Cargo for Examination. This creates difficulties for the Exporters/CBs. Therefore, it is suggested that proper infrastructure to handle the examination of self-sealed export containers may be created at CWC-TVT.

12.1 Ms.R.Rajakumari, Manager, CWC-TVT stated that after the devastation caused due to cyclone Mandous, the examination shed was newly constructed and given a facelift with proper infrastructure like Ramp & Forklift facility for unloading the cargo for customs examination.

12.2 The Chairman asked CCBA to get feedback from its Members and if the problem still persists, the same can be referred back to this forum. The Chairman further asked President, CCBA, to have a meeting with Manager, CWC-TVT for resolving the issues mutually.

**(Point Closed)**

**Other Unlisted Issues discussed with the permission of the Chair**

13. Dr.D.Biswas, Regional Officer, Animal Quarantine & Certification Services (AQCS), Southern Region, stated that animal feed additives / premix / supplements are covered under Chapter 23 and coming under the purview of AQCS whereas, if they are filed under other Chapters like 29, they will not come under AQCS purview and will go untested. He further stated that one or two instances were noticed in the recent past where L-Lysine Mono HCL 99% feed grade has been filed under Chapter 29. Dr. Biswas stated that this is being brought to the notice of Chairman, CCFC, since the above items if filed under Chapter 23, sample can be viewed, tested and NOC can be issued but if they are filed under Chapter 29, then it will not come under their purview since Chapter 29 is not mapped to AQCS.

13.1 The Chairman observed that if Customs detect mis-declaration and refer it to AQCS, then it has to be tested by AQCS. Dr. Biswas also agreed that if a reference is made to AQCS by Customs, then they will test the sample and issue NOC

**(Point Closed)**

14. Appreciating the role of AQCS, the Chairman asked Dr.Biswas, RO-SR, AQCS to make a presentation in the next CCFC Meeting on the functioning of AQCS, its jurisdiction, items covered under AQCS, statutory requirements, documents & write-up required, if any, compliances to be reported, relevant guidelines & circulars and minimum time required for issue of NOC, etc. which was agreed to by Dr.Biswas.

15. The Chairman informed that PGAs, Ports & Terminals may express their willingness to make a small Presentation and on the basis of requests received, each will be allotted a slot at each CCFC Meeting, to make Presentation. The Chairman further informed that to start with, AQCS shall make a Presentation in the next CCFC Meeting.

**(Action: AQCS)**

16. As the last month of the financial year is approaching, the Chairman emphasized the need for augmenting revenue by reducing the time taken at every stage of clearance and asked the CBs

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to convince the Importers to make advance payment of duty so that the entire process can be expedited. The Chairman asked Principal Commissioners and Commissioners to ensure that only barest minimum of consignments are left pending for payment of duty on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

17. In his remarks, the Chairman observed that Designated Members are not always attending the Meeting and stated that Designated Members alone can attend this Meeting and if any Agency feels that on account of change of role or transfer, if any of their Member has to be replaced, a communication to this effect shall reach the Office of the Chief Commissioner well in advance. The Chairman further stated that if any Designated Member could not attend the Meeting due to valid reasons, after prior intimation to the Office of the Chief Commissioner, a substitute may be asked to attend the meeting and such a person should come well prepared so that the points relevant to them are deliberated in minimum possible time in a focused and meaningful manner.

18. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

This issues with the approval of the Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Chennai Zone.

Signed by Rajasekhar R

(आर. राजसेखर)

Date: 07-03-2023 11:16:45

(R. RAJASEKHAR)

अपर आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क (मु.आ.का.)

ADDL. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (CCO)

Copy submitted to

The Joint Secretary (Customs)  
CBIC, North Block, New Delhi.

Copy to:

The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner (EDI), Custom House, Chennai

(With a request to upload the minutes of the meeting in the Chennai Custom House website)