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मुख्य आयुक्त सीमाशुल्ककार्यालय  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS**  
चेन्नईसीमाशुल्क क्षेत्र  
**CHENNAI CUSTOMS ZONE**  
सीमाशुल्कभवन, नं.60, राजाजीसालै, चेन्नई600 001.  
**CUSTOM HOUSE, NO.60, RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI 600 001.**

फा.सं./F.No.S2/109/2015-Prev.Tech

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

The 102<sup>nd</sup> Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) meeting was held on 31.10.2023 (Tuesday) at 12.00 Noon through Video Conference. Dr Ram Niwas, 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. Ganta Ravindranath, Principal Commissioner (General)
3. M.Mathew Jolly, Principal Commissioner (Air Cargo)
4. R.Srinivasa Naik, Principal Commissioner (Airport)
5. K.S.V.V.Prasad, Commissioner of Customs (Import)
6. K.Veerabhadra Reddy, Commissioner of Customs (Audit)
7. A.Manimaran, Commissioner of Customs (Export)
8. R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO)
9. D.Lakshmikantha, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
10. V.Pandiraja, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
11. Leo John Ilango, Addl. Commissioner (Prev.)
12. D.S.Sangeetha, Addl. Commissioner (Export)
13. Dr.S.Periyannan Addl. Commissioner (Prev.)
14. B.Loknatha Reddy, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
15. Tej Kumar, M.S., Joint Commissioner (General)
16. RA Mahendiravarmaa, Joint Commissioner (ACC)
17. B.Vimal, Sr. Deputy Traffic Manager, Chennai Port Authority
18. V.G.Sravan Kumar, Chief Manager (Traffic), Kamarajar Port Ltd.
19. R.Rajkumar, Associate GM, Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd.
20. Dhinesh, BIS
21. T.G.Prasad, Sr. Manager, DP World

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22. M.S.Shakul, Sr. Manager, DP World
23. Venkatraman.S, Sr.Executive, PSA
24. Dr.Subhash Kumar, JD, Regional Plant Quarantine Station (RPQS)
25. Dr.D.Biswas, RO-SR, Animal Quarantine & Certification Services
26. Dr.Kirupasankar, RDD, WCCB(SR)
27. K.Poornima, AD, Textiles Committee
28. AO, FSSAI
29. Bureau of Immigration
30. Nazeer AS Basha, JGM, AAICLAS
31. S.Padmanabhan, Secretary, NACFS-National Chapter
32. R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA
33. R.Kumar, Vice President, CCBA
34. Divakaran P Nair, Vice President, CCBA
35. S.Nataraja, Secretary, CCBA
36. Y.Leeladharan, Chairman, Chennai & Ennore Ports Steamer Agents Association
37. Thomas Antony, Secretary, CHENSAA

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

1. Joint Director, CRCL
2. CONCOR
3. Central Warehousing Corporation
4. Port Health Officer
5. Central Leather Research Institute
6. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
7. Fertiliser Control
8. Wireless Adviser

4. Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) welcomed all including S/Shri A.Manimaran, Commissioner (Exports) and K.Veerabhadra Reddy, Commissioner (Audit) who have joined Chennai Customs Zone recently and invited Chairman, CCFC, to deliver the opening remarks.

4.1 The Chairman of CCFC – Dr Ram Niwas, Chief Commissioner of Customs, warmly welcomed the members and asked Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) to continue the proceedings.

4.2 Shri R.Rajasekhar, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) made a brief presentation on the Circulars and Public Notices issued during the last one month.

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

**Point No.MAA228:- Reduction of RMS Facilitated Bills**

6 . Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that in recent days, RMS facilitated Bills % has been reduced and system gives 100% examination order in the name of RMS instruction. As a result, status holders like AEO Tier 1, 2 & 3 are suffering a lot in clearing the consignment. Further, all DPD containers are forced to move to “O” Yard inside the Port for Customs Examination. As a temporary measure, issues are managed by posting additional Officers. However, due to shortage of yard space, containers are piling up outside the Gate. Therefore, it is requested to take it up with DG System to increase the percentage of RMS Bills atleast for the AEO clients.

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6.1 Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA stated that past one week, the situation is back to normal and hence, no further action is needed on this point.

**(Point Closed)**

**Point No.MAA229:- Erratic Functioning of ICEGATE**

7. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that ICEGATE is functioning erratically since last one month, particularly in the evening hours with server completely down, resulting in huge delay in filing of B/E and S/B. As far as imports are concerned, late fee is the major issue apart from delay and as far as exports are concerned, timely vessel planning/connecting becomes a major issue. This has to be taken up with appropriate authority for permanent solution as this is resulting in increase of dwell time in clearance. Therefore, it is requested that till the issues are completely resolved, late fee waiver has to be considered directly by the concerned AC/DC.

7.1 To a Query from Chairman as to how long the issue is prevailing, the President, CCBA stated that for over a month they are facing this problem particularly between 5.00 PM and 8.00 PM. He further stated that while submitting the details, suddenly the page disappears and 'proxy error' message gets displayed.

7.2 The Principal Commissioner (General) stated that slow or poor net connectivity at Importer / Exporter side due to low bandwidth may also be the reason for this problem and asked the President, CCBA to get this ruled out and if still the problem persists, he asked CCBA to take it up directly with ICEGATE since this a real time issue.

7.3 The President, CCBA, stated that they are members of FFFAI and this issue had been escalated to ADG, ICEGATE so many times through their National Forum but till now no response. As the issue is not clear, the Principal Commissioner (General) asked the President, CCBA to meet him immediately for explaining the issue in detail so that the same can be taken up with DG Systems.

**(Point Closed)**

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

8. Shri R.N.Sekar, President, CCBA, stated that recent days, every time after issuance of NOC by the Animal Quarantine authorities, trade have to approach Customs AC/DC for manual release as the NOC is not getting transmitted to ICEGATE. He requested that this may be taken up with Animal Quarantine authorities for seamless integration thereby avoiding delay in clearance.

8.1 Dr. Dibankar Biswas, Regional Officer, Animal Quarantine and Certification Services (AQCS) stated that the Animal Quarantine Portal was started one and a half months back and initially there were some issues which have been sorted out. He further stated that during the initial phase of rolling out of AQ Portal, whatever the NOC/NOCLG they are issuing, was not getting integrated with the ICEGATE and the Importers used to approach Animal Quarantine for a signed PDF copy of NOC and on the basis

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of the same, Customs cleared the consignment. He further stated that during the last fortnight, none approached them for a signed PDF copy of NOC as it must be getting reflected in the ICEGATE and asked the President, CCBA, to inform if it is not so. The RO, AQCS, further stated that if there are any issues, the importers can approach them and their Technical Team will resolve the same immediately on case to case basis. The RO, AQCS, asked the President, CCBA to come out with specific instances so that the same can be resolved.

8.2 The President, CCBA, stated that after issuance of NOC by AQ, the same is not getting reflected in the ICEGATE and the importers are forced to take a Print Out of NOC and submit the same to Customs for clearance of consignments.

8.3 The Chairman stated that since there is divergence of views between CCBA and Animal Quarantine, asked the Principal Commissioner (General) to convene a Meeting with CCBA and Animal Quarantine for resolving the issue at the earliest.

**(Point Closed)**

9. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

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

(आर. राजसेखर)  
**(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)

