



भारतसरकार
 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 वित्तमंत्रालय, राजस्वविभाग
 MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
 चेन्नै-IV (निर्यात) सीमाशुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय
 OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS - CHENNAI-
 IV (EXPORT)
 सीमाशुल्क भवन, नं. ६०, राजाजी सालै चेन्नै ६००००१,
 CUSTOM HOUSE, NO. 60, RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI - 600001

F. No. CUS/AG/MTG/TFC/3/2022-A/M

Date: 29-04-2024

MINUTES OF THE PTFC MEETING HELD ON
10.04.2024 AT 16:00HRS

1. The Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) meeting was held on 10.04.2024 at 16:00 Hrs through video conference. Shri. A. Manimaran, Commissioner of Customs, Export Commissionerate chaired the meeting.
2. The following officers of Export Commissionerate and members of the trade attended the meeting:
 - a. **Smt DS Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner**
 - b. **Shri R. Sri Balaji, Additional Commissioner**
 - c. **Shri N. Mohan, Deputy Commissioner**
 - d. **Smt S. Sridevi, Assistant Commissioner**
 - e. **Shri P. V. Sudhakaran, Assistant Commissioner**
 - f. **Shri Prasath S, Assistant Commissioner**
 - g. **Shri M. Yendukondalu, Assistant Commissioner**
 - h. **Shri Ravichandran HG, Assistant Commissioner**
 - i. **Shri K. Vijaya Kumar, Assistant Commissioner**
 - j. **Shri M. Stanley, Assistant Commissioner**
 - k. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**
 - l. **Shri R. Kumar, Vice President, CCBA**
 - m. **Shri Natarajan, CCBA**
 - n. **Shri S. Siva Shankar, CCBA**
 - o. **Shri Satva Padmanabhan, NACFS**
 - p. **Smt Priya Ravishankar, NACFS**
 - q. **Shri Thomas Antony, Secretary CHENSAA**
 - r. **Smt Shobana Kumari, APEDA**
 - s. **Shri Zaffar, CHENSAA**
3. **Smt DS Sangeetha, the Additional Commissioner**, welcomed stakeholders to the first PTFC meeting of the financial year. She noted engaging discussions and satisfactory performance in the previous year, observing that fewer points were raised recently, suggesting improved processes. She expressed optimism for the new year's benefits and hoped for a fruitful year. She confirmed resolution of issues with examination report for first check bills of entry with drawl of sample and invited Mr. Sekar to raise any further

points for discussion.

Following are the fresh points raised by CCBA.

Agenda Point 1: Selection of all containers of a BE/BL for scanning

4. *“Recently it has been noticed that a BL/BE which has multiple containers whether two, five or even ten containers all are selected for scanning by the RMD/NCTC and forced to scan all the containers, this makes huge delay in clearance and cost involved badly. Therefore, it is requested that this must be taken up with RMD/NCTC to see that only selected containers are selected for scanning from the total containers like in the past.”*

4.1 **Shri R.N. Sekar, President, CCBA** raised concerns about the recent change in selection of containers for scanning. He noted that previously, only selected containers were scanned from Bills of Lading containing multiple containers, but recently all containers listed are being scanned even for AEO-Tier 1, 2, 3 and DPD clients, causing significant issues. Mr. Sekar requested that the concerned authority (NCTC/RMD) to review this change and revert to the previous selective scanning method to alleviate trade disruptions. He urged the chairman to address this matter with the respondents to restore the previous selection of containers for scanning.

4.2 **The Chairman** inquired whether it is a continuous phenomenon or if it is occurring with specific importers.

4.3 **Shri R.N. Sekar, President of CCBA**, replied that the issue of all DPD containers being consistently selected for scanning has been ongoing for months. He explained that instead of selecting specific containers, entire line numbers are chosen, resulting in all containers under those line numbers being marked for scanning. He referred to a list of sample Bills of Entry submitted through mail for reference to illustrate the problem.

4.4 **The Chairman** assured that this matter will be escalated to NCTC as soon as possible.

Agenda Point 2: Drawback Queries for items under export, purchased from EOU/SEZ or otherwise.

5. *Several queries are being raised by the officers of drawback section to ‘clarify whether item under export is purchased from EOU/SEZ or otherwise’. CBS/Exporters are asked to approach section along with declaration. Therefore, it is requested and suggested that for the said query a reply in the system itself has to be accepted in connection with the clarification whether purchased from EOU/SEZ and submission of any declaration to the drawback section has to be discontinued to avoid manual intervention.*

5.1 **Shri R.N. Sekar, President of CCBA** stated that the Drawback department frequently raises queries about whether imported items are purchased from a SEZ or EOU. Members of CCBA must address these queries by physically visiting the section and presenting the required

declaration or document for verification before drawback is sanctioned. Mr. Sekar expressed uncertainty about the necessity of these queries and suggested that reliance on system-generated replies should suffice, eliminating the need for physical document submissions.

5.2 Shri P.V. Sudhakaran, Assistant Commissioner (Drawback) explained that queries regarding purchases from EOU or SEZ arise when there is no evidence provided with the shipping bill. He suggested that exporters could upload a letter in e-sanchit stating that the purchase is not from EOU at the time of filing the shipping bill itself. Alternatively, mentioning this information in the shipping bill description would suffice. He further stated that most of the exporters are already addressing this requirement in the description, leading to no issues with those cases.

5.3 Shri R. Sri Balaji, Additional Commissioner added that it will be better while registration itself if they enter the EOU/SEZ status in shipping bill.

5.4 The Chairman enquired if electronic reply is sufficient or do they need to submit physical documents and if there is separate column in shipping bill to provide saying not procured from EOU/SEZ.

5.5 Shri P. V. Sudhakaran, Assistant Commissioner (Drawback) replied that including a declaration in the shipping bill confirming "not procured from EOU or SEZ" will suffice to clear the case. He referred to Notification No. 77/2023 dated 20.10.2023, which specifies that drawback cannot be given if goods are procured from SEZ/EOU.

5.6 The Chairman suggested issuing a Public Notice detailing instructions to follow in such situations, which would benefit the trade overall.

(Action: Drawback)

6. As no points were raised and left for discussion, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

R Sri Balaji
ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER
EXPORT COMMISSIONERATE
CHENNAI CUSTOMS

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