



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
चेन्नई-IV (निर्यात) सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त का कार्यालय  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS - CHENNAI-  
IV (EXPORT)  
सीमा शुल्क भवन, नं ६०, राजाजी सालै, चेन्नै, 600001  
CUSTOM HOUSE, NO. 60, RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI - 600001

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

Date: 11-06-2024

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**  
**16.05.2024 AT 16:00 HRS**

1. The Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) meeting was held on 16.05.2024 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:
  - i. **Smt D S Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner**
  - ii. **Shri R. Sri Balaji, Additional Commissioner**
  - iii. **Smt S. Sridevi, Assistant Commissioner**
  - iv. **Shri M. Yendukondalu, Assistant Commissioner**
  - v. **Shri Ravichandran HG, Assistant Commissioner**
  - vi. **Shri K. Vijay Kumar, Assistant Commissioner**
  - vii. **Shri M. Stanley, Assistant Commissioner**
  - viii. **Shri D. Diwakar, Assistant Commissioner**
  - ix. **Shri M. Madhavan, Assistant Commissioner**
  - x. **Shri M. V. Ravi Kumar, Assistant Commissioner**
  - xi. **Shri E. L. Ganesh Ram Kumar, Assistant Commissioner**
  - xii. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**
  - xiii. **Shri R. Kumar, Vice President, CCBA**
  - xiv. **Shri S. Siva Shankar, CCBA**
  - xv. **Smt. Selvanyagi, Jt. Director, FIEO**
  - xvi. **Shri Satva Padmanabhan, NACFS**
  - xvii. **Smt Priya Ravishankar, NACFS**
  - xviii. **Shri Kannan, NACFS**
  - xix. **Shri Thomas Antony, Secretary, CHENSAA**
  - xx. **Shri Zaffar, CHENSAA**
  - xxi. **Shri Y. Leeladharan, Chennai & Ennore Ports Steamer Agents Association**
  - xxii. **Shri M. Chelladurai, Authorised Officer, MEPZ**

3. **Smt D S Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner** greeted and invited member to raise the points for the meeting.
4. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**, thanked the Chairman and ADC Madam for the Public Notice (PN) issued last month. He noted that the PN. 18/2024 addressed the drawback queries discussed in the last PTFC meeting. The PN mandates that the declaration must be uploaded at the time of shipping bill submission to avoid queries.

**Following are the Fresh Points raised for this PTFC meeting**

**Agenda Point No. 1 - Bills of Entry/ Shipping Bills to be sent for query to the groups with the concurrence of AC/DC.**

5. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**, stated that Examination Officers are sending the bills directly to the group without consent of the respective CFS AC/DC, this was discussed in the earlier meetings and it was decided that any bills, if examination officers wanted to send it to group for any clarification etc., has to be with the approval of concerned CFS ACs, this has to be followed, so that bills which are really not required can be filtered at this stage. Further, he stated that one standing order has been issued by Mumbai Customs in this regard.

**5.1 Reply:** Smt D S Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner responded that the issue will be discussed and accordingly the necessary directions will be given to the shed officers.

**(Action: Docks-Admin)**

**Agenda Point No. 2 - Scanning of Over Dimension Cargo**

6. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**, submitted that there are containers of Over dimension in nature loaded into flat track Containers, when these containers selected for scanning - CSD officers are giving remark as 'NOT SCANNED DUE TO OVER DIMENSION' - if this remark has been given as per the Public Notice No. 48/2023 dated 09.12.2023, 100% examination has to be carried out. As far as over dimension cargoes are concerned, no direction as such is there in the said PN to carry out 100% examination, and it is a big task to do so. Therefore, it is requested and suggested that a relaxation to avoid 100% examination for these types of cargo has to be incorporated in the said Public Notice and till such time any such cases found the concern CFS AC/DC can permit to relax the examination according to the nature of consignment.

**6.1 Reply:** Smt D S Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner brought attention to the Public Notice No. 48/2023 dated 09.12.2023, which clearly mentions about this particular type of cargo and read point no. 5.2 for the benefit of members, which stipulates that *In case of Over Dimensional Containers (ODC) / Empty and Coastal containers and overweight containers, the numbers of such containers will be entered in the system and thereafter "NOT SCANNED DUE TO ODC/OVER WEIGHT/EMPTY/COASTAL CONTAINERS" stamp in bold*

*letters will be affixed on the EIR document. Such containers shall be examined 100% at the CFS/ICD in the presence of DC/AC (CFS).* She further made aware of the fact that selection of containers is done by NCTC and cannot be exempted for examination.

**6.2 The Chairman** highlighted that shed officers have not reported any issues with examining such consignments. Container selection is done at the IGM level by NCTC, based on various parameters. For risky consignments, field formations are supposed to conduct non-intrusive examinations using scanning methods. However, if scanning is not feasible, normal examinations are required. He emphasized that eliminating this process would contradict RMS instructions. When suggesting exemptions for certain cases, the responsibility to identify these cases lies with the officers. The Chairman agreed to review the difficulties faced by operators with over-dimension cargo during examinations and consider the request. He stated that the issue is kept open and will be examined further.

**Agenda Point No. 3 Acceptance of Electronic Certificates of Origin (e-CoO) issued by the Republic of Korea under the India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**

**7. Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA, brought attention to** Korean free trade documents are now being transmitted electronically to the ICEGATE system. Korea started the process of transmitting certificates through electronic means. When the bill of entry is filed, the information declared must match what is available in the electronic system. If the information does not match, the bill of entry no. will not be assigned, and the debit will not occur automatically in the system. Therefore, the transmission of certificates is genuine, and only soft copies are available having QR code. Accordingly, ICEGATE has issued an advisory, and the board has also issued a clarification. We have approached the Import Commissionerate (RMSFC) regarding this matter. They have now issued instructions to the RMSFC officers that Korean documents do not need additional sectioning and can be registered directly. Those bills can be registered directly at the time of OOC and the OOC officer can then make the necessary entries in the system and issue the OOC (Out of Charge). Currently, about eighty percent of this process has been adopted. However, the shed officers may be sensitized for bills marked for examination at the CFS (Container Freight Station) and instructions may be given to follow the same procedure.

**7.1 Reply:** The Chairman assured that matter will be examined and directed the ADC to get instructions issued by the Import Commissionerate and to take the necessary action regarding Korea bills.

**(Action: Docks Admin)**

**Agenda Point No. 4 Delay in approval of manual test memo in case of LED Lights**

8. **Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA**, highlighted issues with goods like LED lights that cannot be linked to the online test memo. Despite having a proper BIS certificate, the system sometimes requires a sample to be drawn and tested before releasing the Out of Charge (OOC). This testing is not conducted locally, necessitating a manual test memo and approval up to the ADC level, which is a lengthy process. From EO to ADC, through e-Office, it takes more than fifteen days for the testing itself, and if a container is selected for sampling, clearance takes over twenty days. The association requests immediate approval for these samples to expedite the process.

**8.1 Reply:** The Chairman assured that these kinds of bills will be given priority for approval. He directed all the AC (CFS) to coordinate and expedite the process with ADCs to monitor the process in their respective CFSs .

**Agenda Point No. 5 O-in-O issued even after submitting necessary documents**

9. **Smt. Selvanayagi, Jt. Director, FIEO**, highlighted issues with Orders-in-Original (O.I.O) and repeated show-cause notices being issued despite exporters submitting all necessary documents, including e-BRCs. She cited cases where closure letters were not received even after shortfall payments were made. She suggested arranging personal hearings for exporters to resolve these issues, as O.I.O cannot be revoked once issued. She noted that staff rotations in the concerned section might be causing new officers to overlook submissions. Additionally, she requested the contact details of exporters listed by the department with pending O.I.O so FIEO can communicate with its members promptly. However, reaching non-member exporters remains a challenge.

**9.1 Reply:** Smt. D S Sangeetha, Additional Commissioner replied that once O-in-O is issued, the next legal step is to go for appeal where exporter can settle the matter there.

**9.2 The Chairman** acknowledged confusion due to the high volume of cases, despite efforts to reduce errors and to follow the established resolution process. Verification in BRC and RoDTEP cases is challenging due to incomplete proof. Around 90% of cases are resolved with submitted documents, though some confusion remains. Contact information is often outdated and must be manually retrieved. FIEO noted that contact information must be updated annually in ICES, or the IEC code will be blocked. The Chairman said this issue would be examined and highlighted the lack of automation in data validation. Due to the involvement of multiple stakeholders, managing the data is complex. Exporters can appeal against the O-I. O issued to resolve them.

As no further points rose or left for discussion, the Additional Commissioner of Customs, with permission from the **Chairman**, concluded the PTFC meeting and greeted all the participants.

**DEKKAGOUNDER SUBRAMANI SANGEETHA  
ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER  
(APPRAISING MAIN)  
EXPORT COMMISSIONERATE**

**To:**

- 1. All the stakeholders**
- 2. EDI with request to upload in Chennai Customs Website.**