



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग

MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

चेन्नै-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/3/2022A/M

Date: 25-08-2025

**MINUTES OF THE PTFC MEETING HELD ON 12.08.2025 at 11:30 AM**

The Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) meeting was held on 12.08.2025 at 11:30 AM through video conference. The meeting was chaired by Shri A. Manimaran, Commissioner of Customs, Chennai-IV (Export) Commissionerate.

2. The following officers of Export Commissionerate and members of the trade attended the meeting:

- i. Shri Kishor S, Additional Commissioner
- ii. Shri Chavan Mahesh Dagdosaheb, Joint Commissioner
- iii. Shri Devanathan R, Deputy Commissioner
- iv. Shri Rajesh Kumar, Deputy Commissioner
- v. Shri Raja Mohammed, Assistant Commissioner
- vi. Smt. Jayalakshmi Veerasamy, Assistant Commissioner
- vii. Shri R Sunder, Assistant Commissioner
- viii. Shri S. Sriramamurthy, Assistant Commissioner
- ix. Shri Saravanmoorthy J, Assistant Commissioner
- x. Shri S. Pasumpon, Assistant Commissioner
- xi. Shri R. N. Sekar, President, CCBA
- xii. Shri Natarajan, Secretary, CCBA
- xiii. Shri Y Leeladharan, Chairman, CHENSAA
- xiv. Shri R. Kumar, Treasurer, CCBA
- xv. Shri S. Sivashankar, CCBA
- xvi. Shri Sattva Padmanabhan, NACFS
- xvii. Smt. Selvanayagi, Joint Director, FIEO
- xviii. Shri Satya, NACFS
- xix. Member of DGTS
- xx. Shri Mohan SM, Deputy Director, (PP) RPQS, Chennai
- xxi. Smt. Priya Ravishankar, Women Wing, NACFS
- xxii. Shri. Babu Jacob S
- xxiii. Smt. Shobana Kumar, AGM & RH, APEDA
- xxiv. Member of APEDA, Regional Office, Chennai

3. Shri Kishor S, Additional Commissioner, extended a warm welcome to all the stakeholders and members who have gathered for the 5<sup>th</sup> PTFC meeting of the current financial year 2025-2026 and commenced the meeting and with the permission of Shri A. Manimaran, Commissioner of Customs, he invited Shri R.N. Sekar, President of CCBA, to present the agenda points.

## **Discussion on the point raised during the previous PTFC meeting:**

### **4 Agenda- 1:**

#### **Discussion regarding practical challenges and delays in uploading digital photographs of container stuffing and sealing.**

4.1 Shri Kishor S, Additional Commissioner, noted that Docks Admin had sent a letter dated 10.08.2025, addressed to the Principal Additional Director General, Directorate of Systems and Data Management, requesting the enabling of post-filing upload of supporting documents in Shipping Bills without officer approval.

4.2 In the meantime, the Commissioner of Customs issued Facility Circular No. 14/2025 dated 25.07.2025, amending Facility Circular No. 09/2025 to dispense with the mandatory uploading of digital photographs of stuffing and sealing of containers, making it optional.

## **Discussion on the fresh points raised during this PTFC meeting**

### **5. Agenda - 1: Onion Exports**

Goods falling under HS Code: 0703 are not getting RMS facilitated, all Shipping Bills filed under this HS Code are allotted to Export Assessment, therefore it is requested that this has to be taken up with NCTC or appropriate forum to get the Shipping bills are facilitated. In the meantime, it is noticed that such bills at the time of assessment, In the instruction text column more than 20% of the cargo are instructed to examine before LEO. This instruction text are not visible to trade and only examining officer can able to view at the time of LEO. It is requested that Officers has to be sensitised to not to give such instructions in the instructions text, as most of the cargo are self sealed. Sample of Shipping bills are attached.

5.1 Shri R.N. Sekar began by thanking the Commissioner of Customs for issuing the circular that discontinued the requirement to upload digital photographs for self-sealed containers. He then raised concerns regarding onion exports, stating that all shipping bills, regardless of whether they are filed by regular or first-time exporters are currently being routed for appraiser-level assessment. He requested that this matter may be taken up with the NCTC to explore facilitation measures for onion exporters. He highlighted that most onion consignments are exported in self-sealed containers; however, assessment-related instructions are often entered under the "instruction test" column, which is not visible to traders. As a result, exporters only become aware of these instructions at the LEO stage, causing confusion and delays in the export process.

5.2 The Commissioner of Customs acknowledged the concerns raised and noted that, following the removal of export duty on onions, such instructions should ideally no longer be triggered. While the majority of these cases have already been addressed, a few instances still persist. He assured that the matter would be escalated to the NCTC for further resolution. He clarified that although self-sealing facilitates the export process, it does not automatically exempt consignments from examination, as this is determined by risk profiles and RMS alerts. Officers have been instructed not to enter examination-related instructions in inappropriate fields. The Deputy Commissioner reviewed recent cases and observed that some instructions had been issued by oversight; necessary corrective measures will be implemented going forward. The Commissioner also invited members of the trade to bring forward any similar concerns for timely resolution.

### **6. Agenda - 2: Draw back shipping Bills**

**Currently any query raised by drawback department such queries are not transmitted to Exporter/CB registered Mail, Therefore it is requested that this has to be taken up with appropriate authority to enable the provision to receive the query details by the respective Exporter and Customs Brokers mail id to reply instantly to avoid delay in getting drawback incentives.**

6.1 Shri R.N. Sekar raised the issue regarding the lack of communication of queries raised by the Drawback section. He pointed out that, on several occasions, the Drawback section seeks clarifications or additional documents, but these queries are not visible by default to exporters or customs brokers. Typically, such queries are discovered only through manual checking of the system, often after delays are noticed in the processing of drawback claims. He suggested the introduction of a system similar to that used in imports, wherein any query raised is automatically communicated to the registered email ID of the importer or customs broker. Such a system would help exporters and customs brokers respond promptly and avoid unnecessary delays.

6.2 The Commissioner of Customs sought clarification from Shri R. N. Sekar on whether queries raised during the assessment stage particularly under the Export Examination section are currently visible to exporters or customs brokers.

6.3 Shri R.N. Sekar confirmed that queries raised during the assessment process by assessment officers are indeed visible and accessible to both exporters and customs brokers.

6.4 The Commissioner of Customs observed that the issue arises after the LEO is granted or once the shipment is out of charge. While queries are generally not raised post-LEO, he noted that the Drawback section does have the provision to raise such queries even after LEO. He stated that the matter needs to be taken up with ICEGATE. He assured that it will also be raised with DG Systems to explore the feasibility of implementing a system whereby such queries are automatically communicated to the registered email IDs of exporters or customs brokers. This will help ensure timely responses and prevent delays in the processing of drawback claims.

### **7. Agenda - 3: Registration of AD code and IFSC Code**

**It is noticed that there is delay in approval AD codes/IFSC code, therefore it is requested that such request may be approved on the same day without any delay as per CBIC Board Circular/Instruction No.25/2023 -Customs, dated 28.07.2023.**

7.1 Shri R.N. Sekar raised a concern regarding delays in the approval process for AD code and IFSC code registration for exporters. He noted that, in the case of imports, such details are automatically integrated into the system and do not require separate submission. However, for exports, any new exporter must register their AD code online through the ICEGATE portal and obtain customs approval before filing shipping bills. Similarly, if there is a change in the IFSC code, the updated information must also be submitted and approved by the designated officer. To address this, he requested that the concerned officers check applications frequently and approve them promptly once they appear in the system. In cases where deficiencies exist, queries should be raised immediately so exporters can respond without delay. He further noted that, in many instances, physical intervention is still required even after online submission, which further slows down the process.

7.2 The Commissioner of Customs informed that exporters registering their AD code

and IFSC code on the ICEGATE portal require subsequent approval in the ICES system by the EDI section. He acknowledged that this approval is not automatic, and exporters currently need to approach the EDI section manually for processing. He further informed that this issue has already been taken up with the Commissioner of the General Commissionerate, and instructions have been requested to ensure that officers process these approvals promptly. The Commissioner assured that the matter would be escalated and taken up with DG Systems. He also encouraged trade representatives to escalate the issue from their side to support a timely and system-wide resolution.

#### **8. Agenda - 4:**

**Clarification on the recent DGFT notifications no. 10/2025-26 and 11/2025-26 with respect to claim under RoDTEP.**

8.1 Shri Mutthaiah, Assistant Manager, attended the meeting on behalf of the Regional Head, Smt. Sobhana Kumar. He shared a query raised by one of the exporters, a registered member of APEDA and a regular exporter of non-Basmati rice, who was unable to claim RoDTEP benefits for the shipping bills filed on 3rd and 9th May 2025. This issue arose due to recent changes and system limitations. The exporter had submitted the relevant application and was seeking an update on its processing status.

8.2 The Commissioner of Customs referred to a clarification sought by APEDA regarding DGFT Notifications No. 10/2025-26 and 11/2025-26, which pertain to eligibility for RoDTEP benefits. He noted that the issue was case-specific and advised that such matters should be submitted separately for individual redressal. Customs had already issued Public Notice No. 48/2025 to address the matter, and APEDA was requested to refer to this notice for further clarity.

8.3 Shri Chavan Mahesh Dagdosaheb, Joint Commissioner, explained that the Customs Tariff Schedule had been amended by the Finance Act, 2025, resulting in a realignment of the RoDTEP schedule. In response, DGFT issued Notification No. 10/2025 on 26th May 2025, extending RoDTEP benefits retrospectively. Exporters who shipped goods between 1st May and 26th May 2025 but were unable to declare RoDTEP benefits at the time of export due to system constraints are now eligible to seek amendments to their shipping bills. These amendments involve changing the RoDTEP declaration field from 'N' to 'Y'. Eligible exporters should verify their entitlement under the revised RoDTEP schedule (Appendix 4R) and approach the Customs office to initiate the amendment process.

8.4 The Commissioner of Customs advised APEDA to disseminate this information among all its member exporters to ensure greater awareness and facilitate timely amendments wherever applicable.

8.5 Shri Mutthaiah acknowledged the clarification and agreed to inform all concerned exporters accordingly.

9.1 Shri R. N. Sekar requested the Commissioner of Customs to consider organizing a dedicated outreach or training session on SCOMET for senior customs brokers. He noted that SCOMET regulations are highly technical and not easily understood, and that such a session would help brokers ensure compliance and avoid issues related to the handling of sensitive export cargo.

9.2 The Commissioner of Customs acknowledged the request and informed that a recent outreach program on SCOMET had already been conducted in collaboration with

key ministries, and that some members from the association had participated. He welcomed the idea of a targeted session for customs brokers and suggested that the association first identify specific challenges they face so the session can be more useful. He also advised referring to the SCOMET section on the CBIC portal, which contains updated clarifications, issued by DGFT and can be shared with members for better awareness.

10. As there were no further points raised for discussion, the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair person.

**Additional Commissioner of Customs  
Appraising Main  
Export Commissionerate  
Chennai Customs.**

**To**

1. **All the Stakeholders.**
2. **EDI with request to upload in Chennai Customs website.**