



**मुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL 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.**

07-04-2026

फा.सं./F.No.S2/109/2015-Prev.Tech

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The 128th Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) meeting was held on 01.04.2026 (Wednesday) at 04.00 PM through Virtual Mode. Shri Madan Mohan Singh, 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. A.Manimaran, Commissioner (Export)
2. Dr.A.V.T.Bharathidhasan, Commissioner (Audit)
3. D.Lakshmikantha, Commissioner (In-situ) [Export]
4. Tej Kumar, Addl. Commissioner (Export)
5. Rajesh Vithalrao Shelke, Addl. Commissioner (CCO)
6. N.Madhusudhana Reddy, Addl. Commissioner (Import)
7. Y.Srinivasa Rao, Addl. Commissioner (ACC)
8. Saraswathi.S, Addl. Commissioner (Preventive)
9. Dr. Mahesh Chavan, Joint Commissioner (Import)
10. Dr. Venugopalan Nair, Deputy Commissioner (CCO)
11. Shyam Sundar Reddy, Deputy Commissioner (Prev.)
12. D.Dwarakanadha Reddy, AD, DGTS, CZU
13. S.Kripanandaswamy, Traffic Manager, Chennai Port Authority
14. G. Sendhil Kumaran, Sr. DTM, Chennai Port Authority
15. Om Pragesh, Chief Manager (Traffic), Kamarajar Port Ltd.
16. M.S.Shakul, DGM, CCTL - DP World
17. T.Prasad, DGM, CCTL - DP World
18. Dr. P.Manavalan, Deputy Drugs Controller (India), CDSCO
19. Nitin M Jadhav, Asst. Drugs Controller (Import), CDSCO
20. Aswini Muthu, Drugs Inspector, CDSCO
21. Dr.P.Thamodaran, Joint Commissioner, AQCS
22. S.M.Mohan, Deputy Director, RPQS, Chennai

23. Bureau of Immigration (BOI), Chennai Seaport
24. S.Nataraja, President, CCBA
25. Divakaran Nair, Vice President, CCBA
26. R.N.Sekar, Secretary, CCBA
27. R.Kumar, Treasurer, CCBA
28. Chennai & Ennore Ports Steamer Agents Association (CHENSAA)
29. S.Padmanabhan, Secretary, NACFS-National Chapter
30. Manager, CONCOR-ICD, Tondiarpet (ICD/TNPM)

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

- a. Adani Kattupalli Port Ltd.
- b. FSSAI
- c. AAICLAS
- d. CWC, DPE, Thiruvottiyur
- e. BIS
- f. Textile Committee
- g. WCCB
- h. CRCL
- i. CITPL
- j. FIEO

4. Shri Rajesh V Shelke, Additional Commissioner (CCO) welcomed all and invited the Chairman to deliver the opening remarks. The Chairman warmly welcomed the Members and asked ADC (CCO) to continue the proceedings. The ADC (CCO) stated that the weekly CCFC meeting is being conducted as mandated by the board and the agenda for this Meeting shall revolve around the prevailing global situation due to the ongoing Gulf crises.

4.1 With the permission of the Chairman, the following fresh points were taken up for discussion.

Point No. MAA 279:- CONTAINERS DISCHARGED AT OTHER INDIAN PORTS (NHAVA SHEVA, MUNDRA, ETC.)

5. Shri R.N.Sekar, Secretary, Chennai Customs Brokers Association (CCBA), stated that Export containers shipped from Chennai have been discharged at other Indian ports. Trade is unable to get timely confirmation on container status from the said ports, resulting in delay in LEO cancellation, Shipping Bill closure, and returning export incentives.

5.1 On being asked to share his views, Shri A.Manimaran, Commissioner (Export) stated that in the last CCFC Meeting, when CCBA informed that they are unable to reach out to the respective Customs formation at Port of Landing, they were advised to mail the requests to Export Commissionerate which will be forwarded to the Customs formations at the Port of Landing. The Commissioner (Export) further stated that generally they have to approach the Customs formations at the Port of Landing for finding out the status of the containers as Board's Circular No.12/2026-Cus dated

17.03.2026 clearly states that the Exporter has to approach the Customs formations at the Port of Landing.

5.2 The Chairman asked Commissioner (Export) whether the Exporters instead of communicating directly to other Customs formations at Port of Landing, can communicate to Export Commissionerate and the same be channelized and transmitted by Export Commissionerate officially to the Customs formations at Port of Landing. The Commissioner (Export) stated that exactly this suggestion put forth by CCBA was accepted in the last CCFC Meeting. The Commissioner (Export) further informed that already they have given NOC for 71 containers which were lying at Mundra and other places.

(Point Closed)

Point No. MAA 280:- CONTAINERS DISCHARGED AT FOREIGN PORTS LIKE COLOMBO AND RETURNED TO CHENNAI

6. The Secretary, CCBA, stated that clearances of containers discharged at Foreign Ports are facing procedural confusion regarding documentation and further processing and requested for proper guidelines be issued in this regard.

6.1 On being asked to share his views, the Commissioner (Export) stated that any cargo returning from foreign country will be considered as re-import and they have to file BE and Sea Arrival Manifest for clearance and sought the views of Preventive Commissionerate. Smt. S.Saraswathi, ADC (Preventive) stated that she will revert on this issue.

6.2 Dr. Venugopalan Nair, DC (CCO) stated that this issue has not been envisaged in Board's Circular No. 09/2026-Cus dated 08.03.2026 wherein the procedure for clearance of cargo where the export cargo has not been off loaded at a foreign port has only been prescribed.

6.3 On being asked whether the above clarification addresses his query, Shri Sekar informed that there is a confusion among various locations on whether this has been covered under Circular No.12/2026-Cus dated 17.03.2026 i.e. containers are unable to be discharged at actual destination and while coming back, en-route offloaded at Colombo Transshipment Terminal. There is a confusion as to whether BE has to be filed as per Circular No. 09/2026-Cus or Circular No.12/2026-Cus has to be followed. Shri Sekar further stated that if Department clarifies that only BE has to be filed, accordingly their members will be communicated.

6.4 Shri Sekar stated that many containers arrived and moved to various CFSs since the vessel is different from the earlier one and IGM has been filed. Shri Rajesh V Shelke, ADC (CCO) asked the Secretary, CCBA, to provide the details of containers pending on account of this issue so that this point can be discussed further in the next weekly meeting.

(Action: CCBA / Export / Preventive Commissionerates)

Point No. MAA 281:- GST REFUND ISSUES

7. The Secretary, CCBA stated that GST amount is one of the incentives to be claimed / returned by exporters. In many cases, GST scroll is generated but the amount is not credited to exporters' a/c. In such situation, there is no clarity on how to reverse or handle the refund.

7.1 On being asked to share the views, Commissioner (Export) stated that either the benefit has to be stopped before cancellation of SB and in case, if we could not stop the benefit which has already been scrolled out, it is the responsibility of the Exporter to return the benefit before cancellation of the SB. Shri Sekar informed that after scrolling out, it takes two to three months for the amount to get credited. Shri Sekar further clarified that the Board's Circular states before the cancellation of SB, the Exporter has to return the incentive, but physically the incentive has not got credited to the Exporter's a/c. The Commissioner (Export) stated that Export Commissionerate is successfully generating thousands of scrolls and Crores of Rupees are getting credited to the Exporters' account but some Exporters may not get refund in time due to various errors which has been detailed in the PNs issued by the Export Commissionerate. The Commissioner (Export) further stated that if there are no errors and in spite of that incentive not got credited, then the same may be escalated to him for guidance and resolution. The Commissioner (Export) stated that as per records available with him for cancellation of SB, in only one case, IGST scroll is generated but amount not got credited to the Exporter's a/c and he has asked his Officers to examine whether any option is available to suspend such SB separately. The Commissioner (Export) asked Shri Sekar, Secretary, CCBA, to furnish the details of specific SBs where IGST scroll has been generated but the amount not got credited to the Exporter's a/c.

(Point Closed)

Point No. MAA 282:- CONTAINERS LYING AT PORT / CFS - DEMURRAGE BURDEN.

8. The Secretary, CCBA, stated that Containers are lying un-cleared at Ports and CFSs due to the Gulf conflict leading to heavy demurrage and container detention charges, which are beyond the control of exporters. It is requested that all the Ports, Liners, and CFSs may issue an advisory to waive storage and detention charges on this account. Customs intervention is highly appreciated in this regard.

8.1 On being asked for the views of Preventive Commissionerate, Smt. S.Saraswathi, ADC (Preventive) stated that it is not known whether CCBA has placed this request before the respective Port authorities as they are also conducting separate stakeholders meeting and as far as Liners are concerned, she said will find out what best can be done at their level.

8.2 Attempts were made to elicit the views of Chennai Port Authority and Kamarajar Port Ltd, but due to network issues at their end, their views could not be ascertained. Later, Shri G.Sendhil Kumaran, Sr. DTM, Chennai Port Authority and Shri Om Pragesh, CM (Traffic), Kamarajar Port Ltd., stated that Trade Notices have been issued on Waiver of Charges and any request received from Trade would be considered on case to case basis.

8.3 The Addl. Commissioner (CCO) asked Preventive and Export Commissionerates, to get the feedback from Adani Kattupalli Port / Liners and CFSs respectively so that

this point can be discussed further in the next weekly meeting.

(Action: Preventive / Export Commissionerates)

Point No. MAA 283:- NEED FOR A NODAL OFFICER

9. The Secretary, CCBA, stated that Trade is facing difficulty in approaching multiple authorities. Hence, it is requested to appoint a dedicated Nodal Officer in Customs for smooth and time-bound resolution.

9.1 The Addl. Commissioner (CCO) stated that Shri Gopi Dhonthireddy, Additional Commissioner (Preventive) has been nominated as Nodal Officer, for expeditious processing and supervision of requests for international transshipment due to closure of Strait of Hormuz.

(Point Closed)

10. Shri Rajesh V Shelke, Addl. Commissioner (CCO) informed that this Meeting will be held on every Wednesday at 04.00 PM and requested all the Members to attend without fail. He also requested that the agenda points may be shared in advance at least by Monday so that there could be fruitful discussion.

11. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

This is issued with the approval of the Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Chennai Zone.

(Dr.VENUGOPALAN NAIR)

(डॉ. वेणुगोपालन नायर)

उप आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क (मु.आ.का.)

DEPUTY 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)

