



वित्तमंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
राजस्वविभाग / Department of Revenue
सीमाशुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय / Office of the Commissioner of Customs
कस्टमहाउसनयीहारबरएस्टेट / Custom House, New Harbour Estate
तूत्तुकुडी - 628 004 / Thoothukudi - 628004.
दूरभाष / Tel: 0461 2352655, 2352633 फैक्स / Fax 0461 2352019
Email:- customspolicy@gmail.com

C. No. VIII/48/58/2016-Cus.Pol

Date: 14.09.2023

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)
MEETING/CCFC MEETING HELD ON 31.08.2023 AT 16:00 HRS.
AT CUSTOM HOUSE, TUTICORIN**

The PTFC [Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee] Meeting / CCFC (Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee) Meeting was held on 31.08.2023 at 16.00 Hrs. at Custom House Tuticorin under the chairmanship of Shri. K. V. V. G Diwakar, Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin.

2. The following officers/members from the other agencies/ CFSS attended the meeting:

Sl. No.	Name of the officer	Designation
1.	Shri. P. Thanasekaran	Additional Commissioner
2.	Smt. S.Varalakshmi	Joint Commissioner
3.	Shri. P. Sree Harisankar	Joint Commissioner
4.	Shri. D. Dinesh	Deputy Commissioner
5.	Shri. Dharmaraj G	Deputy Commissioner
6.	Shri. M. Kannan	Assistant Commissioner
7.	Shri. G. Munisamy	Assistant Commissioner
8.	Shri. M. Chidambaram	Assistant Commissioner
9.	Shri. Menon Balraj	Assistant Commissioner
Sl. No.	Name of Nominated Members	Name of the Organisation
1.	Shri. Cecil Machado	President, TCBA
2.	Shri. A.S. Ramasamy	Secretary, TCBA
3.	Shri. S.Rajkumar	Secretary, TCFSA
4.	Shri. P.Jeyanth Thomas	Treasurer, TCBA
5.	Shri. J. Pinto Villanarayan	Jt. Secretary, TCBA
6.	Shri. R.Sreedhar	E.C. Member, TCBA
7.	Shri. V. Minesh Raja	E.C. Member, TCBA
8.	Shri. S. Sagayaraj	Asst. Secretary, TSAA

9.	Shri. E.K.Peter	DBGT
10.	Shri. R.Jegan Raj	Indian Shipping & Logistics
11.	Shri. E. M. Arun	DBGT
12.	Shri. M.Aravindhnan	VOC Port Authority
13.	Shri. R.Senthil Murugan	VOC Port Authority
14.	Shri. S.Ramasubramanian	Aspinwall
15.	Shri. Karthikeya Prabhu	Krishya Logistics

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Officers, members from other agencies and trade representatives. During the meeting, the following issues raised by the members were taken up for discussion and solution.

POINTS RAISED FOR CONSIDERATION

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN CFS ASSOCIATION

Question:- 1. Understand from our members that there are problems in receiving scanning reports for import containers through mail from customs.

Find below table showing status of Import scanning reports:

Sl.	Name of the CFS	Scanning Report by Mail
1	Kerry Indev Logistics Private Limited CFS	Not receiving
2	Diamond CFS Park	Receiving properly.
3	ALS Tuticorin Terminal Pvt. Ltd., CFS	Receiving lately. Sometimes not receiving. PNR movement is delayed because of this.
4	A.S.Shipping Agencies Pvt. Ltd., CFS	Receiving. One among Ten is not received.
5	Chola Logistiks CFS	Receiving properly.
6	Prompt Terminals (P) Ltd., CFS	Receiving properly.
7	St.John Freight Systems Ltd., ICD	Not receiving
8	DP World Multimodal Logistics Pvt. Ltd., CFS	Not receiving.
9	SANS CFS	Not receiving. Customs informed that it cannot be added. Collecting the details from known sources.
10	HARI CFS	Receiving properly.
11	VILSON CFS	Receiving properly.
12	Sical CFS	Receiving properly.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that this office is sending email to muthu.thiruvevka@kerryindev.com in the case of M/s. Kerry Indev CFS and to alagusankar.h@dpworld.com in the case of M/s. DP World CFS . In case of change in mail ID, same may be inform to DC,CSD.

(CSD SECTION)

Question:- 2. Clearance of long pending un-cleared / seized containers lying in CFS due to various issues.

Ref: Our Letter No. TCFSA/2023/06/24 dated 06.06.2023.We await Details from Customs for follow up on clearances of UCC /Seized Cargo.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that this office is working on it and also informed them that some of them are pending because of Pollution Control Board clearance. This office has already reconciled the list furnished by them last time. The Commissioner stated that this office is trying to dispose as many as possible except some cases where DRI NOC required.

(DISPOSAL SECTION)

Question:- 3. Lan IP awaited from Customs EDI for MPLS Connections.

Find below status of MPLS-VPN Customs Connection:

Sl.	Name of the CFS	Custodian Code	Network	Status of MPLS - VPN Connections
1	Kerry Indev Logistics Private Limited CFS	INTUT1ILP1	TATA	Line is through. Waiting for IP address from Customs EDI.
2	SEC CFS	INTUT1SEC1	BSNL	Line is through. Waiting for IP address from Customs EDI.
3	Chola Logistiks CFS	INTUT1CLP1	TATA	Line is through. Received IP address from Customs. Will start functioning in a couple of days.
4	DP World Multimodal Logistics Pvt. Ltd., CFS	INTUT1COW1	TATA	Line is through. Waiting for IP address from Customs EDI.
5	VILSON CFS	INTUT1VIL1	BSNL	Line is through. Waiting for IP address from Customs EDI.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that all the cases are sent to DG System and it is pending with them. This office will take up the issue with DG System and informed the trade to check with DG System. This office has forwarded application in time.

(EDI SECTION)

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN SHIPPING AGENTS ASSOCIATION

Question:-1. As direct port entry is a facility which helps Customs clearance of factory stuffed export containers on 24 x 7 basis, it helps in export containers connecting the immediate feeder / mainline vessel.

Requesting Tuticorin Customs to arrange for the facility in coordination with VOCPA.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that Notification No. 01/2023 dated 27.06.2023 has already been issued for operating DPE facility by M/s. VOC Port Authority. Now, Port Trust has to initiate action in this regard. The Commissioner instructed that CONCOR is notified as 24x7 working CFS and officers who are originally posted to DPE have been diverted temporarily to CONCOR. The Commissioner also advised the trade to pursue with M/s. VOC Port Authority also so that DPE becomes operational at the earliest.

(AC, CFS)

Question:-2. Identity card was manually issued to staff of Steamer agency who transact with Customs based on the validity of the Steamer agencies license till recent past. Now the manual application has been dispensed with and a new Online application has been implemented.

If the new Online application system, provision for applying Identity cards only for either Customs Brokers or Exporter / Importer.

There is no provision for Steamer agents to apply for Identity card.

Requesting to kindly make provision for Non CB / Exporter / Importer also to apply for Identity card OR kindly arrange to provide Identity card manually.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that CBLMS portal is available for filing applications for Customs Brokers or Exporter / Importer but the same is not available for Steamer agents. So present system of manual ID will be continued.

(CBLR SECTION)

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN CUSTOMS BROKER'S ASSOCIATION

Question:- 1. E-BRC issues

The exporters are facing difficulties with the alerts and SCN issued for the purpose of submission of E-BRC. The E-BRC are very much available and possible to be seen by the officers on the system itself and the need to withhold the export shipments by giving an alert or by issuing SCN for the refund of Drawback amount with interest is not necessary.

After such receipt of SCN and alert in the systems, the exporters are providing all the E-BRC for immediate release of the alert by giving suitable reply for the SCN. The process of issuing Order-In-Original and releasing the alert is taking a long time as we are unaware the reason for delay in process.

Further, the manual permission approved by the Deputy / Assistant Commissioner for a temporary period of 15 days has been dispensed with and it is now being insisted on, for the submission of all the BRC for granting temporary release of the alert and for allowing of the export of cargo. As the export shipments are being held up due to the issues of E-BRC, we request you to provide suitable solutions.

Reply:- Commissioner asked the trade to submit the BRC in time. Wherever alert revocation request is received, same is being processed on Priority. In case of contingency, on request manual permission will be given case to case basis.

(BRC SECTION)

Question:- 2. Refund of Duty paid

We herewith enclosed DGFT Notification No.20/2023 dated 20-07-2023 regarding Amendment in Export Policy of Non-Basmati Rice Under HS Code 1006 30 90. The refund of export duty paid on 20-07-2023 is pending with the refund section for a very long period.

We humbly request for speedy process of export duty refund to the Exporters as the amount involved is high.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that only one case is pending. If there is any specific case, same may be brought to the knowledge of Concerned AC.

(REFUND SECTION)

Question:-3. Single Window Link pending for PQ Department.

After the PQMS Portal was launched by the PQ department, the Bills of Entry is linking manually to the PQMS portal causing unnecessary delay. No positive action is being taken by ICEGATE and PQMS on this issue.

Further, the effectiveness of the Single window systems (SWIFT – Single Window Interface for Facilitating Trade) will be achieved when the Bill of Entry filing in the ICEGATE portal itself should be sufficient to collect the necessary data and no separate application should be filed by the importers/Customs Brokers in PQMS portal or FSSAI portal.

There is no separate application to be filed in PGA, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) and the NOC automatically gets connected to the Customs Portal.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that for this PQ issue, this office has already written letters to DG System.

(EDI SECTION)

Question:- 4. Electronic Cash Ledger- Delay in duty remittance- Interest refund

Due to the lapse in the Electronic Cash Ledger procedure, the Interest Refund during April 2023 is still not provided to the importers. The refund section is insisting on a certificate from DG Systems as per the Customs (Waiver of Interest) Third Order, 2023 dated 17.04.2023.

The certificate is still not being issued by DG Systems and the refund of the interest amount is pending for more than 5 months. We request to provide suitable solution to the trade for the earliest refund of the Interest with interest as the amount involved is high.

Reply:- Commissioner informed the trade that the matter has already been informed to DG System and this office will write again to DG system.

(REFUND SECTION)

Question:- 5. Delay in RMS OOC.

The granting of OOC is delayed even after PGA clearance and applicable Duty is paid. Due to this delay, the Importer/Customs Brokers are not able to plan the delivery in a timely manner. It incurs Additional Handling Charges, CFS Ground Rent and Shipping Line detention charges leading to bare more amount by importers/Custom Brokers.

Because of non availability of PQ NOC query is raised and that query has to be manually linked, then it has to be e-sanchit and then it comes in queue that causes delay

Reply:- The Commissioner informed the trade that Officers have been instructed to do first in-first out basis and the bills will be cleared on the basis of e-sanchit documents.

(RMS CELL)

Question:- 6. Issues in RBD Palmolien.

The import consignments are being cleared provisionally from bonded tanks. Once the entire quantity is cleared, based on the final quantity the Bills of Entry are being finalised and the PD Bonds are cancelled manually. As the final assessment could not be done in the system the Bills of Entry and PD bonds reflects pending.

There is no provision in the system for finalization of Bills of Entry and cancellation of Bonds.

We request to take up with DG Systems to find a solution to this long pending issue, since this is PAN India issue.

Reply:- The Commissioner informed that while conducting Inspection of Tuticorin Commissionerate by the officers of Vizag Chief Commissionerate, they suggested splitting the cargo into two bills. For 90% of the cargo, they can file both into-bond and ex-bond BE and can clear even if shore tank report is pending. They can file ex-bond BE for the remaining 10% after amendment on the basis of shore tank report then the finalization can be done in system itself.

(EDI SECTION/IMPORT ASSESSMENT)



(P. THANASEKARAN)

(ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER)

To,

The Members of the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee.

- (a) Tuticorin Customs Brokers' Association
No. 50, Beach Road, Opp. State Bank of India, Tuticorin- 628001
- (b) Tuticorin CFS Association
No. 108A, V.E. Road, Opp. DSF Grand Plaza, Tuticorin- 628002.
- (c) Tuticorin Ship Agents' Association,
50, Beach Road, Tuticorin-628001
- (d) The Traffic Manager, VOC Port trust, Tuticorin
- (e) PSA SICAL Terminal Limited, Tuticorin.
- (f) D.B.G.T. Terminal Limited, Tuticorin.

Copy Submitted to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Trichy.
2. Directorate General of Taxpayer Service, Customs & Central Excise, C.R. Building, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110109.
3. Additional Directorate General of Taxpayer Service (Chennai Zone), 26/1 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600034.

Copy to:

1. All the Deputy/ Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin.
2. The EDI Section- for uploading in the official website.