



वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance

राजस्व विभाग / Department of Revenue

सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय / Office of the Commissioner of Customs

सीमा शुल्कगृह, नयी हारबर एस्टेट / Custom House, New Harbour Estate

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e-Office F. No. GEN/EPC/MISC/148/2024-S and I

DATED: #ApprovedDate#

Minutes of Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC)/ Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) meeting, held on 14.05.2024 at 16:00 hrs. at Customs House Tuticorin

PTFC meeting for month of May-2024 was held on 14.05.2024 @16:00 hrs, at Customs House Tuticorin under the chairmanship of Shri. Vikas Nair, Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin. It was organised in hybrid mode i.e. physical as well as virtual mode to provide an opportunity to those who were unable to attend meeting *in-person* at above venue. Following Customs officials have attend the meeting:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Officer (Shri/Smt.)	Designation
01	P. Thanasekaran	Additional Commissioner
02	S. Varalakshmi	Additional Commissioner
03	Sree Hari Sankar	Joint Commissioner
04	M. Kannan	Assistant Commissioner
05	D. Dinesh	-do-
06	M. Chidambaram	-do-
07	Joseph K.C	-do-
08	Balraj Menon	-do-
09	G. Munisamy	-do-

2. Following stakeholders or representative of trade had participated in meeting:

Sl. No.	Name (Shri/Smt.)	Designation	Organisation
01	A. S. Ramasamy	Secretary	TCBA
02	Sasikumar. S	EC Member	TCBA
03	P. Jayanth Thomas	Secretary	TSAA
04	Cecil Machado	President	TCBA
05	V. Minesh Raj	E.C Member	TCBA
06	S. George Bush	E.C Member	TCBA
07	Angelina Koilraj	Manager	TCFSA
08	R. Senthil Murugan	ATM Gr-I	V.O.C Port Trust
09	E. M. Arun	Manager	DBGT
10	M. Gandhi	Asst. Manager	CMA
11	Deebu Thomas	Manager	PSA Sical
12	J. Palanikumar	Sr. Executive	PSA Sical
13	S. Chandrasekar	Officer(Accts)	PSA Sical
14	Dorababu	Deputy Director (Virtual Mode)	AEPC Tirupur
15	Karthikeyan	Virtual Mode	Exporters
16	Ramesh Kannan G	Virtual Mode	Exporters
17	S.P Mundra	Virtual Mode	Exporters

3. At the outset all customs officials, members from other agencies and trade representatives were welcomed in meeting and following issues were raised by the trade:

Point No. 1: We are having Letters from Tuticorin Customs asking export proceeds realisation has still not been part of their EDPMS System, in this regard they have issued the notices to the Exporters. But the real fact is that, All the Exports proceeds are realised well updated in the EDPMS system of the respective AD Code banks. In this regard, Most of the Customs EDPMS are not

designed to get the frequent updates on their EDPMS system for the exports proceeds realisation. We are facing severe difficulty on these notices from various Customs formations. Also, there is no clarity for the Customs Formations on how to reconcile the realisations at the respective station, some of them asking E-BRC's, some of them asking to update the EDPMS system.

(AEPC Tirupur)

Reply: This issue was discussed in detail in last PTFC meeting. BRC alert list of IEC holders will be published in due course. The exporter figuring in the said list will be given fair opportunity of being heard before issuing show cause notice. Exporter may avail this opportunity to submit documents for reconciliation of export proceeds and cancellation of BRC alert.

(BRC Section)

Pont No. 2: There is an abnormal delay in release of LUT/BG, after Fulfilment Export Obligation, even after repeated reminders. In this regard Board Circular No: F.NO/605/71/2015-DBK Dt: 02/12/2015 specifying the time limit for cancellation of Bond and Bank guarantee may be referred. We request your good self to kindly facilitate the trade by speedy cancellation of Bond /BG.

(TCB Association)

Reply: The concerned section has been advised to take stock of all pendency cases and dispose-off cases where documents are complete or issue deficiency memo in case some/any of documents are not submitted

(EPCG/DEEC Section)

Point No. 3: There is no provision for on line regularization / registration of bill of entry in the system for ICD filed bill of entry. For ICD filed bill of entry the regularization / registration has to be done by the inspector of ICD in the system and then only the bill of entry is getting regularized. This issue is pending for last few years, we have to approach ICD for regularization / registration of bill of entry every time.

(TCB

Association)

Reply: This process is done by the inspector when CHA comes for clearance of import cargo in ICD and this process hardly takes any time. It appears rather a facility for import, though in ICD all B.Es are registered/regularized by the shed officers. This process does not result in unreasonable delay in cargo clearance.

Moreover, this procedure is same for, and followed by, all ICDs established by Boards. However, this matter will be taken up to the DG System for a permanent solution.

(Policy Section)

Point No. 4: We are facing issues in auto linking of PGA NOC and the same has to be manually uploaded through e-Sanchit and linked with the bill of entry by the Assistant Commissioner and then OOC is granted. If the system/server is slow or not functioning due to technical glitches, we would unable to upload the documents in e-Sanchit and process further. Sometimes PGA NOC is released late, we have to do the documentation on the next day.

(TCB Association)

Reply:- As discussed in last meeting, this issue has already been resolved. Nevertheless, magnitude/scale of manual linking of PGA NOC will be monitored. Association is requested to furnish the data of Bill of Entry in following format *(from March-2024 to 13.05.2024)*:

Sl. No.	Bill of Entry No. & Date	Name of PGA	Date of apply for NOC	Date of NOC Received	Linked Online or Manually	Date of apply for manual link	Time taken due to technical glitch	Date of Manual link done
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The data submitted by the association will be communicated to the concerned PGAs and further action will be taken.

(Import Assessment)

Point No. 5: For Facilitating round the clock clearance of factory stuffed self (e-seal) sealed export shipment at Tuticorin there are two options i.e., Direct Port Entry of VOC Port as per Notification # 01/2023 Dt: 27.06.23 & 24 x 7 at CONCOR as per P.N.# 02/2015. Few months back, the Direct Port Entry of VOC Port seized to operate. Also, at CONCOR, there are challenges in availing 24 x 7 facility during late night/early morning. In this regard we request to inform VOC Port Authority to operate the DPE facility as per Notification No. 01/2023 DT 23/06/2023 and also the functioning of CONCOR 24X7 to decongestion at green gate/port.

(TCB & TSA Association)

Reply: As discussed in recent meeting, held on 30.04.2024, with managers of all CFSs, in order to reduce congestion, it was proposed to stretch the working hours of customs officer posted in CFS. In this regard, all the CFS were asked to submit the data of factory stuffed containers, with shipping bill filed, enter in CFS beyond working hours. In case, infrastructure and space is found adequate, on request, increase in working hours of shed officers posted there will be considered.

(Policy Section)

Point No. 6: There is a need for synchronization of holidays at par with customs holidays by all stake holders as we are facing delay in clearance due to holidays adopted by container lines even though the passed out of customs charge has been granted.

(TCB

Association)

Reply: A suitable Advisory will be issued to the Steamer lines/Shipping Agency concerning the synchronization of holidays.

(Policy Section)

Point No. 7: Post shipment Compliance on Provisional Assessment has to be finalised on receipt of necessary documents, as there is lot of pendency. We request to kindly do the final assessment with in a time frame.

(TCB

Association)

Reply:- There are a numbers of Bills pending for finalization for various reasons e.g. SVB, DRI, SIIB or other investigation pending, pending for additional documents e.g. test report, BIS certification, final invoices and shore tank receipts. The BOE are finalized as soon as the documents was submitted. However, if, in any case, there is unreasonable delay the same may be brought to the notice of this office with details.

(Import Asst.)

Point No. 8 Most of the liners are facing a challenge with import laden containers in uncleared status at various CFS for a very long period. We request you to make necessary arrangements to get the cargo auctioned / destuffed so that

the empty containers are back with Shipping lines so that those units may come back into circulation for soliciting exports.

(TSA Association)

Reply: This office has expedited necessary action required /procedure to be followed, for the process of disposing off containers as per data available with this office, except the cases where court proceedings are not finalized or no objection certificate is required from other agencies.

(Disposal Section)

Point No. 9: Vessel agents are facing issues on DGLL website while making ILH payment. Once ILH (Indian Lighthouse dues) is paid through DGLL, the website gets logged out automatically without producing payment/ILH receipt & thereby forced to make a second payment. If double payment is made, customs refund process is time consuming. Since the ILH receipt is not generated due website issues, it affects for making entry inward and OOC for cargo delivery upon vessel berthing as ILH e-receipt number is mandate to grant inward. We kindly request Commissioner of Customs to examine and consider/allow vessel entry inward with dummy ILH number basis verification of payment statement and also if double payment is done for certain emergencies, the refund may arrange within a week's time.

(TSA Association)

Reply: ILH payment are made through website of Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships. It comes under ministry of Ports, Shipping and waterways. Refund of excess or dual payment of ILH is not looked after by this office. If there is a technical glitch in said website, for payment, then matter may be raised with concerned forum of said ministry. In case, there is technical glitches in website and unique reference number is not generated, Customs officials may be approached with required proof of payment to take suitable actions, if available, for clearance of cargo.

(Policy section)

Point No. 10: As coastal outbound volumes are increasing, the need for gating-in the outbound laden coastal containers during weekend / holidays have arisen. Requesting you to kindly consider permitting coastal export units to gate-in the

port & offload the same at terminal against the manual updated annexure sheet which is the procedure followed by other ports Indian ports. It will very helpful for our trade and increase the coastal trade volume and to avoid gate congestion / truck waiting for BCG.

(TSA Association)

Reply: Matter is under consideration and feasible steps, would be taken in due course.

Section)

(Policy

(P. THANASEKARAN)

Additional Commissioner of Customs

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.
- (g) AEPC Tirupur

Copy Submitted to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Trichy.

Copy to:

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