



वित्तमंत्रालय/ Ministry of Finance
राजस्वविभाग / Department of Revenue
सीमाशुल्कआयुक्तकार्यालय / Office of the Commissioner of Customs
कस्टमहाउसनयीहारबरएस्टेट / Custom House, New Harbour Estate
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C. No. VIII/48/58/2016-Cus.Pol

Date: 06.02.2024

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)
MEETING/CCFC MEETING HELD ON 30.01.2024 AT 11:00 HRS.
AT CUSTOM HOUSE, TUTICORIN

The PTFC [Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee] Meeting / CCFC (Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee) Meeting was held on 30.01.2024 at 11:00 HRS at Custom House Tuticorin under the chairmanship of Shri. Vikas Nair, 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	Additional Commissioner
3.	Shri. Sree Hari Sankar P	Joint Commissioner
4.	Shri. D. Dinesh	Deputy Commissioner
5.	Shri. S Anil Kumar	Assistant 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. J Celestine	TCFSA
2	Shri. A.S. Ramasamy	Secretary, TCBA
3	Shri. J. Pinto Villanarayan	TCBA
4	Shri. P Jeyanth Thomas	TCBA
5	Shri. E. M. Arun	DBGT
6	Shri V Minesh Raja	TCBA-EC
7	Shri S. M. Moorthi	TSSA
8	Shri V Kannan	Machado Sons

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 BY TUTICORIN CFS ASSOCIATION

Point No.: - 1. Clearance of long pending un-cleared / seized containers lying in CFS due to various issues.

As instructed in the minutes of the PTFC / CCFC meeting held on 31.10.2023, Customs Ref: C.NO.VII/48/58/2016-Cus.Pol dated 21.11.2023, received on 22.11.2023, we have submitted a detailed list of pending containers as per our letter no. TCFSA/2023/11/84 dated 28.11.2023 awaiting clearance of long pending containers category wise due to NOC from DRI, DIU, PQ, PCB, Court Case and Other Government Agencies and Long Pending Containers due to various other reasons.

Reply: - Commissioner informed that this office is expediting necessary action required for the process of disposing off containers listed by the Tuticorin CFS Association except cases where no objection certificate is required from the DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence) / other agencies before proceeding with disposal.

Point No.: -2. PQ clearance delay for e-auction cargo

The PQ authority is issuing PQ clearance within 24 hours for the normal clearance under BE home consumption, but they are taking more than a month period and asking for the documents to issue the PQ for e-auction cargoes.

Reply: - Commissioner informed that this office has brought the matter to the attention of the Plant Quarantine (PQ) Authorities for the purpose of addressing and resolving the issues.

Point No.: -3. Delay in Import movement of containers during boarding of the Vessels by Customs Officers

We are facing delay in movement of Import containers in the terminal due to non-availability of officers at the terminals during vessel boarding time, which is delaying the import container movements.

Reply: - The Commissioner has informed that occurrences of this type of delay (if happened) is only occasional. The same may be brought to the notice of the DC/AC for necessary action immediately and may be escalated to ADC/JC for early redressal.

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN CUSTOMS BROKERS' ASSOCIATION

Point No.: - 1. Post Shipment Compliance on Export Obligation Fulfilment

We represented the issue on delay in process of EODC in the last PTFC meeting and it has been directed to submit the full set of documents.

In this regard we submit herewith the board circular No F. No. 605/71/2015-DBK DT 02/12/2015 specifying the time limit for cancellation of Bond and Bank Guarantee.

Reply: - The Commissioner informed the association to furnish the list of the applications pending for process of EODC and directed the section to streamline the procedure for manual EODC which cannot be verified online.

Point No.: - 2. CBLMS Functioning

We are enrolling members those who have been issued Custom Broking License and also Form C extension from various locations based on the copy of the License or endorsement. However, we understand that most of Form C extension Custom Brokers office is closed and there is no authorised person to transact business. So, we request your good self to kindly look in to the issue.

Reply: - The Commissioner directed that deviation, if any of the conditions prescribed under CBLR may be brought to the notice of this office for further necessary action as per law.

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN SHIP AGENTS' ASSOCIATION

Point No.: - 1. Boarding the Coastal vessels by Preventive Officer

There are various types of vessels i.e. Container / Bulk / Break Bulk / Liquid bulk etc carrying only coastal goods i.e. the Origin & Destination Ports are within India.

Board circulars issued by Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), Central Board of Excise & Customs, New Delhi for facilitating coastal trade are enclosed for our ready reference. (Enclosure attached – Circular No. 16/98-Cus., dated 11-3-98, F.No. 450/86/92-Cus. IV and Circular No. 14/2016-Cus., dated 27-04-2016, F. No. 450/183/2014-CusIV.)

For vessels carrying Coastal cargo exclusively, Tuticorin Customs Commissioner may kindly consider to dispense the Procedure of Boarding by Preventive Officers on vessels carrying coastal cargo exclusively.

Reply: - The Commissioner has directed wharf preventive/ docks officers to follow the procedures issued by the Board in respect of coastal cargo.

Point No.: - 2. Boarding of vessel by Preventive Officers

We reliably understand that the proper officer for boarding the vessel is Customs Inspector. For very many decades, at Tuticorin Port, only the Inspectors used to board the vessel for undertaking the necessary arrival procedures.

However, in the recent past i.e. for the past 2 – 3 years, both the Superintendent as well as the Inspectors are boarding the vessel together.

Requesting Tuticorin Customs Commissioner to kindly evaluate and streamline the procedure with regard to which proper officer is to board the vessel.

Reply: - The Commissioner has directed the concerned Assistant Commissioner to examine the issue in detail and put up the relevant guidelines for perusal and necessary directions may be issued to the officers for strict implementation.

Point No.: - 3. Time of Submission of ILH (Indian Light House dues)

For completing the reversion procedure, one of the supporting documents that has to be submitted is the ILH payment proof.

Currently, Tuticorin Customs is insisting for the same at the time of initiating the process itself while the same can be submitted prior to boarding of Proper officer boarding the vessel for completing the procedures for physical reversion.

Requesting Tuticorin Customs Commissioner to kindly evaluate and facilitate the trade by allowing the Ship Agent to submit the ILH payment receipt to the proper officer at the time of boarding the vessel for undertaking the reversion procedure.

Reply: The Commissioner has directed wharf preventive/ docks officers to verify the ILH dues at the time of giving port clearance.


(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.