



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

Date: 18.01.2024

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)
MEETING/CCFC MEETING HELD ON 06.12.2023 AT 15:00 HRS.
AT CUSTOM HOUSE, TUTICORIN**

The PTFC [Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee] Meeting / CCFC (Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee) Meeting was held on 06.12.2023 at 15:00 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	Joint Commissioner
3.	Shri. D. Dinesh	Deputy Commissioner
4.	Shri. Dharmaraj G	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. P. Sivakumar	TCFSA
3	Shri. A.S. Ramasamy	Secretary, TCBA
4	Shri. S.Rajkumar	Secretary, TCFSA
5	Shri. S. Nilesh Barani	Diamond Shipping
6	Shri. J. Pinto Villanarayan	TCBA
7	Shri. R Senthil Murugan	VOC Port Authority
8	Shri. Sasikumar S	TCBA

9	Shri. P Jeyanth Thomas	TCBA
10	Shri. S Saravana Perumal	CONCOR CFS
11	Shri. S Kandasamy	CONCOR CFS
12	Shri. E. M. Arun	DBGT
13	Shri V Minesh Raja	TCBA-EC
14	Shri S. M. Moorthi	TSSA
15	Shri Cecil Machado	TCBA
16	Shri D R Yogesh	VOC Port Authority
17	Shri C Karthikeya Prabu	Krishya Logistics LLP
18	Shri S Seyanlingam	Krishya Logistics LLP

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. Further to PTFC / CCFC meetings held during June and July, 2023 regarding Maersk Line issue, as per the instruction of the Commissioner to write with specific inputs to the Custom House, we have forwarded a mail ref. no. TCFSA/2023/07/44 dated 31.07.2023 & Our Letter No. TCFSA/2023/09/59 dated 21.09.2023. Highlighting the Maersk line issue since they are not following the guidelines of PN 2/2012 as directed by Tuticorin Custom.

Reply: - Commissioner informed that this office has already taken steps by communicating with the Maersk Line Office to address the issues and resolve the challenges faced by trades.

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 directed the disposal section to expedite the process of disposing of containers listed by the Tuticorin CFS Association except cases where no objection certificate is required from DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence) / other agencies before proceeding with disposal.

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.

Reply:- Commissioner informed that Kerry Indev Logistics Private Limited, Container Freight Station (CFS) have already received LAN IP (Local Area Network Internet Protocol) from DG Systems on 1st, December, 2023.

Question:-4. 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 to issue the PQ for e-auction cargoes.

a. Importer's five-year IEC history.

b. An importer authorization letter to be provided by Customs for the specific Bill of Lading (BL).

List of e-auctioned containers pending for PQ clearance as on 20.11.2023

Sl.	Name of the CFS	Lot no.	Container No.	Auctioned date	Cargo	Remarks / Status
1	SICAL Multimodal & Rail Transport Ltd., CFS	29/2023	CAIU3090118 MEDU5237180 TCLU2978245	06.11.2023	TEAK ROUND LOGS	AWAITING FOR PQ CERTIFICATE
2	SICAL Multimodal & Rail Transport Ltd., CFS	31/2023	CMAU7471917 CMAU6604492 TEMU7382127	16.10.2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS IN SHELL	AWAITING FOR PQ CERTIFICATE
3	SICAL Multimodal & Rail Transport Ltd., CFS	32/2023	APHU7223912 CAIU7113700 TRHU4632036 CAIU9704640	16.10.2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS IN SHELL	AWAITING FOR PQ CERTIFICATE
4	SICAL Multimodal & Rail Transport Ltd., CFS	33/2023	SEKU4310219 CMAU5839358 CMAU4434247 TLLU4535590	16.10.2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS IN SHELL	AWAITING FOR PQ CERTIFICATE
5	Hari & Co., CFS	21/2023	MSKU7755848 MRKU6602694 MRKU7075200 MRKU8631916 MSKU7495165 XINU1140923	20.04.2023	CASSIA TORA SEEDS	TILL DO NOT RELEASE PQ CERTIFICATE
6	Chola Logistiks Pvt. Ltd., CFS	08/2021 - UCC	CMAU7783617 TGHU9490098	05-09-2023	LOGS	P.Q Letter received from Customs - 14.09.2023

7	Chola Logistiks Pvt. Ltd., CFS	34/2023 - UCC	CMAU5076960 CMAU7886425	25-09-2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS	P.Q Letter received from Customs - 15.11.2023
8	Chola Logistiks Pvt. Ltd., CFS	36/2023 - UCC	BMOU6436143 TCLU3553968	25-09-2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS	P.Q Letter received from Customs - 15.11.2023
9	Chola Logistiks Pvt. Ltd., CFS	35/2023 - UCC	TGBU6183096 CMAU5970882 TEMU6160341	25-09-2023	RAW CASHEW NUTS	P.Q Letter received from Customs - 15.11.2023

Reply: - Commissioner informed that this office will take steps to communicate with the PQ (Plant Quarantine) Authorities to address and resolve the issues that are causing difficulties to trade.

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN CUSTOMS BROKER ASSOCIATION

Question:- 1. We are unable to trace/locate RoDTEP information even though the DBK/IGST & ROSCTL scroll status are very much available at Ice gate. The amount is credited directly into shipper's ledger and we unable to check according to the shipping bill. So, we are unable to clarify the details to shipper. In case, if foreign exchange not remitted or realized due to various issues, Shipper unable to refund the same according to the shipping bill.

Reply: Commissioner enquired that whether the particular role of checking RoDTEP (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products) information has been assigned to customs officers at other ports. If so, this office may be brought to the knowledge along with relevant circular/public notice.
Commissioner has assured that this office will make efforts to resolve this issue.

Question: - 2. Drawback Serial No.630299B (1.5%) is not updated when the revised drawback rates changed w.e.f. 30/10/2023 and shipping bill is not numbered if filed under 630299B. We request to kindly escalate for updating.

Reply: Commissioner has mentioned that this office has already reached out to DG Systems for rectification and the same is under process.

Question: -3. We are facing delay in post shipment compliance like cancellation of Bank Guarantee/LUT Bond and EPCG bond after Export Obligation fulfillment and submission of EODC.

Reply: Commissioner advised the trade to ensure all necessary documents are properly furnished to this office. Upon receiving the documents, this office will expedite the processing promptly.

Question: -4. We have been informed to submit Bank Guarantee for ISFTA verification, in this regard we would like to high light that the verification process will get delayed as the document as to be routed through CBIC, New Delhi and then forwarded to Indian

High Commission of the origin of export to get confirmation from the issuing authority. There are cases where Bank Guarantee has been submitted and pending more than two years and waiting for confirmation even after several reminders. This leads to financial burden to importers and block further imports. The ISFTA certificate are electronically generated with QR Code where we can verify the genuineness.

Reply: Commissioner has informed that this matter will be looked into.

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN SHIP AGENTS' ASSOCIATION

Question: - 1 Permission for discharging import Containers when ICEGATE is not functioning.

VOC Port Tuticorin has about 6-8 Tuticorin-Colombo –Tuticorin shuttle feeder calls per week. The transit time between Colombo –Tuticorin is very short i.e. only about 10 hrs. The vessel operator always files the IGM prior to arrival of the vessel at Tuticorin port in spite of short time available.

However, at times while the vessel operator is in the process of completing the IGM filing process prior to the arrival of the vessel, ICEGATE suddenly stops functioning. There were few such occasion in the recent past & thankfully, The ICEGATE start functioning and IGM could be filed and discharge operation could start.

As ICEGATE functioning is erratic at times, requesting you to kindly consider facilitating the discharge of containers from the vessel alone during such contingencies. Delivery may be withheld till such time the IGM Filing process is completed. After completing the IGM filing and processing of entry inward the container can be allowed to shift to CFS or DPD can be processed. If deemed fit, Suitable facility Intimation may be issued in this regard.

Reply: Commissioner inquired about the number of such instances that occurred in the past. Whether any other customs Commissionerate across India has issued a circular, public notice/facility intimation regarding this matter. If so, the same may be shared with this office along with the relevant circular, public notice, or notification.


(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.