



वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
राजस्व विभाग / Department of Revenue
सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त के कार्यालय / Office of the Commissioner of Customs
कस्टम हाउस ए नई हार्बर एस्टेट / Custom House, New Harbour Estate
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C.No.VIII/48/333/2012- Cus Pol.

Dated: 18.11.2014

**MINUTES OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 13.11.2014 AT CUSTOM HOUSE, TUTICORIN**

The Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) Meeting of Tuticorin Customs Commissionerate was held at 16.30 Hrs. on 13.11.2014 at Custom House, Tuticorin under the Chairmanship of Shri P.V. Subba Rao, Commissioner of Customs.

2. The following Members from the Department and Trade participated in the Meeting.

SI. No.	Name of the Officer S/Shri.	Designation
1.	P.V. Subba Rao	Commissioner
2.	Suresh Nandanwar	Additional Commissioner
3.	A. Sakthi	Deputy Commissioner
4.	Balmukund	Assistant Commissioner
5.	T. Muthukumar	Superintendent (Policy)
6.	Shiv Pujan Kumar	Inspector (Policy)

SI. No.	Nominated Members S/Shri.	Name of the Organisation
1.	K.Pon Venkatesh	President, TCBA
2.	A.S. Ramasamy	Asst. Secretary, TCBA
3.	V. Minesh Raja	E.C. Member, TCBA
4.	J. David Raja	Chairman, NACFS
5.	M. Raghukumar	Nhava Seva CFS
6.	A.Vijay Sundar	MAERSK Line
7.	L. Pandian	AS Shipping
8.	J. Celestine Villavarayar	Vice Chairman, NACFS
9.	L. Anand Moreis	Secretary, TSAA
10.	J.R.Moorthy	Transworld Terminals (CWC CFS)
11.	A.Narayanan	Manager, CWC CFS
12.	D Bremah	Marketing Manager, VVD SSP Ltd.
13.	R.Jeeva Dev Anand	Hari & Co.
14.	C. Karthikeya Prabu	NACFS, Tuticorin Chapter

At the outset the Chairman welcomed the participants. Thereafter the points sponsored by various members/trade associations were discussed and decisions were taken.

POINTS RAISED BY TUTICORIN CUSTOMS BROKERS ASSOCIATION

1. Pendency of Drawback

The drawback Pendency has come down sharply in the past 1 month. Currently the drawback pending is predominantly due to EGM delays and they requested the Commissioner to take up with Vessel Operators for submission of EGM within the stipulated time frame of 7 days from the date of vessel sailing so that overall Pendency of drawback can be further brought down. This would be a real benefit to the exporters.

DECISION: In respect of the drawback bills pending under EGM error, the error has to be processed by the representative Liner/Exporter by liaising with EGM Section. Guidelines have been issued in this regard under Facility Intimation No. 10/2014 dated 11.11.2014 to facilitate processing of requests to amend the EGM/ to file Supplementary EGMs so that pendency of drawback on account of EGM Errors can be reduced.

2. Random Sampling for regular import commodities excluding high risk food items

As per Board Circular No. 03/2011, 25/28.01.04, 37/14.06.04 provision exists for random lab testing for import of regular commodities (excluding high risk food items). However, currently compulsory lab testing for each & every consignment is being insisted even for import of regular commodities. They requested to consider random sampling for regular import commodities as per the circular attached.

DECISION: Only consignments of food items falling under the category of High Risk Food Items as per DGFT Policy Circular No. 37 (RE2003)/2002-07 dated 14.06.2014 and the food items fall under the category of perishable food items not for direct use by the importer such as hotels etc., as per Para 7(a) & (b) of Customs Circular No. 03/2011-Cus dated 06.01.2011 are being cleared after testing the samples and clearance from FSSAI. For other food items the stipulated procedure vide Para (2) of the DGFT policy circular No. 25 (RE-2003)/2002-2007 dated 28.01.2014 has been followed. If there is difficulty regarding any specific commodity, it may be brought to the notice of the Assistant Commissioner.

3. Simplification of Procedure

(a) The procedure for Shipping Bills shutout / short shipment / various amendments is very lengthy which causes delay at the time of shipment which may be simplified.

DECISION: As per the Notice of Short-Export Rules, 1963, Notification No. 56-Cus, dated 01.02.1963, " If any goods mentioned in a shipping bill or bill of export and cleared for exportation are not exported , the exporter shall, within seven days, from the date of departure of the conveyance by which such goods were intended to be exported, - (1) Furnish the following information in writing to the proper officer in respect of the goods not so exported , namely (i) No. of packages, (ii) Description of goods (iii) Quantity (iv) Value (v) Country of destination, or (2) Present the shipping bill or as the case may be, the bill of export for cancellation or amendment".

Any exporter who fails to comply with the provisions of Rule-2 shall be a liable to penalty. However, any specific cases of such delays in shipment is given, the same will be suitably redressed.

(b) RMS facilitated Bills of Entry are being redirected for assessment often for which the procedure for recalling the same is very lengthy , which may be simplified to avoid delay and container line detention.

DECISION: As per Board Circular No.43/2005-Cus Dated: 24 Nov 2005, the field formations might decide to apply a particular treatment to the BE which is at variance with the decision received from the RMS owing to risks which are not factored in the RMS. Such a course of action shall however be taken only with the prior approval of the jurisdictional Commissioners of Customs or an officer authorized by him for this purpose, who shall not be below the rank of Addl./ Joint Commissioner of Customs, and after recording the reasons for the same. These directions will be followed.

4. Issue of Cheque for Drawback/ Refund

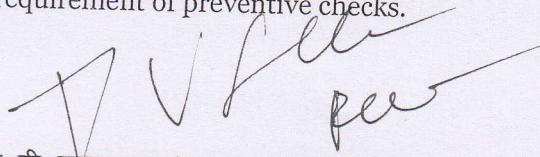
The cheques issued by Customs Department for Drawback as well as Refund have permanent printing as State Bank of India. However, Custom House, Tuticorin is transacting through Indian Overseas Bank, Main Branch, Tuticorin. So when the cheques are issued by Drawback / Refund section, the name is being sealed. Now as the banking clearances are being done online, cheques are being returned because of the crossing & sealing. Hence, they requested to look into it & provide a solution to avoid returning of Cheques.

DECISION: The PAO as well as Indian Overseas Bank, Main Branch, Tuticorin are taking steps to issue New Cheques in the name of Indian Overseas Bank very shortly.

5. Scanning of containers

Earlier containers were chosen on random for scanning but nowadays, all containers of a single Bill of lading are being chosen. Also the chosen containers of the same bill of lading are marked for 100% Examination. This leads to delay & additional cost. They requested to address the issue:

DECISION: The containers are selected for scanning by RMS and are marked for 100% examination in case of any suspicion. The existing practice will be reviewed and changes, if necessary, will be made without compromising the requirement of preventive checks.


पी. वी. सुब्बा राव / (P.V. SUBBA RAO)
आयुक्त/ COMMISSIONER

To

1. The Members of the Permanent trade facilitation committee
2. Tuticorin Customs Brokers' Association.
3. NACFS, Tuticorin.
4. PSA Sical Terminal Limited, Tuticorin
5. The Traffic Manager, VOC Port Trust, Tuticorin.

Copy submitted to the Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive) Trichy

Copy to:

1. The Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin
2. The Additional Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin
3. The Joint Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin
4. All the Deputy / Assistant Commissioners of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin
5. The EDI Section with a direction to upload in the Official website