



वित्त मंत्रालय/ Ministry of Finance
राजस्व विभाग / Department of Revenue
सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त कार्यालय/ Office of the Commissioner of Customs
कस्टम हाउस नयी हारबर एस्टेट/ Custom House, New Harbour Estate
तूतुकुडी- 628 004 / Thoothukudi – 628004.
दूरभाष / Tel: 0461 2352655, 2352633 फैक्स / Fax 0461 2352019

C.No.VIII/48/58/2016-Cus.Pol.(PF)(Vol.I)

Date: 29.10.2021

MINUTES OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)
MEETING HELD ON 28.10.2021 AT 1615 HRS. IN VIRTUAL MODE

The PTFC [PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE] Meeting was held on 28.10.2021 AT 1615 in virtual mode at Custom House, Tuticorin under the Chairmanship of Smt. S. Varalakshmi, Joint Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin.

2. The following Departmental officers and members from the other agencies/CFS attended the meeting:

Sl. No.	Name of the officer (S/Shri/Smt)	Designation
1.	W. Paul Peter	Assistant Commissioner
2.	G. Munisamy	Assistant Commissioner
3.	D. Dinesh	Assistant Commissioner
4.	Dr. Anil Kumar. S.	Assistant Commissioner
5.	M. Kannan	Assistant Commissioner
6.	S. Ramprasad	Superintendent (Policy)
Sl. No.	Name of Nominated Members (S/Shri.)	Name of the Organization
1.	R. Sreedhar	President, TCBA
2.	Cecil Machado	Vice President, TCBA
3.	S. Sasikumar	Secretary, TCBA
4.	J. Pinto Villavarayar	Asst. Secy., TCBA
5.	A.S. Ramasamy	EC Member, TCBA
6.	Minesh Raja	--do--
7.	S. Manthirammoorthy	TSAA
8.	S. Sagayaraj	Asst. Secy., TSAA
9.	P. Sivakumar	NACFS

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members and Officers from other agencies.

POINTS TAKEN UP FOR DISCUSSION

A. Points sponsored by Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association

- 1. BRC ALERT REVOKING:** There is BRC alert in the system for shippers for which negative statement / BRC for the period 2014 to 2019 has been submitted by shippers. In spite of the same, the alert has not been revoked. In certain cases, even after passing O-I-O, the alert is still not revoked. Hence we have to get permission for every shipment due to non-closer of BRC alert. In this issue, we would also request you to kindly accept negative statement from the Chartered Accountant which was followed earlier as the e-BRC couldn't be downloaded due to merger of various banks and corresponding changes in IFSC codes.

Reply: In this regard, it is submitted that as per Public Notice no.07/2018 dated 14.03.2018 issued in file C.No.II/20/154/2017-BRC, acceptance of the negative statements issued by the Authorised Dealer Banks/Chartered Accountants showing the proof of realization of export proceeds should be stopped forthwith. So the question of revoking the alert by accepting the negative statements does not arise.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (BRC)
(AC (BRC) may kindly examine the issues regarding BRC alerts pending for revocation)

2. REGISTRATION OF EXPORTER BANK DETAILS:

We are submitting documents for registration of exporter's bank details (A.D.Code & IFSC code) for which we request for issuance of acknowledgement.

Reply: The matter will be examined and in case if it is found feasible, the officer concerned will be issuing the acknowledgement for the same.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (DBK)
(AC (DBK) may kindly examine the above issues and if found feasible, the suitable instruction may be issued to the concerned officers)

3. WORKING ON 2nd SATURDAYS & HOLIDAYS FOR EXPORT:

The export examination has been carried out in CFS on overtime basis during 2nd Saturdays and holidays. We request deputation of officers for assessment of shipping bills and facilitate the trade as done in other neighbouring ports where they post officers on turn duty.

Reply: There are no provisions under Customs (Fee for rendering Services by Customs Officers) Regulations, 1998 for assessment on OT basis. Further, there is no direction from the Board as issued in case of Faceless Assessment of import goods vide Circular No.45/2020-Customs dated 12.10.2020.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (Export Assessment)
(AC (E.A.) may kindly examine the above issues with regards to practices followed at other major ports and feasibility report may be prepared)

4. SLOW WORKING OF SYSTEM

We are experiencing delay in filing of Shipping Bills & Bills of Entries for the past few weeks and following are the difficulties faced due to system related issues.

a). After numbering, Shipping Bills are delayed in RMS output for minimum of 2 hours and sometime nearly 10 hours. Due to this delay, export shipments are held up due to marking for assessment and the same has to be done during the normal working hours of the next working day only. We request to kindly take up with DG systems as the percentage of RMS has been reduced due to system slowdown.

Reply: The issue has already been addressed to DG system by System Manager, CH, Tuticorin through e-mail on 28-10-2021.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (EDI)
(AC (EDI) may kindly follow up the above matter with DG Systems for early resolution)

b). After submission of job in ICEGATE, numbering of Bills of Entry are very much delayed which leads to incurring of Late Fine as per Sec46 of Customs Act 1962. We request you to kindly grant permission for waiver of Late fine due to system issues. As & when there are systems slowdowns for more than two hours, blanket permission may be kindly considered to the benefit of the trade.

Reply: The issue is addressed to DG system already by System Manager, Customs House, Tuticorin vide e-mail dated 28-10-2021. Regarding Association's request for waiver of Late Fine due to system issues and blanket permission for system slowdown for more than two hours, only Board can decide the issue as this is a policy matter and it is a PAN India issue also.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (EDI)
(AC (EDI) may kindly follow up the above matter with DG Systems for early resolution)

B. Points sponsored by Tuticorin Ship Agents' Association

- 5.** Our Customs License was treated as base document for Port and all Statuary formalities. After completion of registration of SCMTR, we have not received any license from the customs. But VOC Port Trust is insisting us to submit our Customs Licenses to obtain tri-party agreement. Hence we request you to take up the matter with VOC Port Trust to accept the SCMTR confirmation instead of customs license.

Reply: It is submitted that all the stakeholders who are already registered at Customs to act as Steamer Agent, liner and Console Agents can apply for SCMTR registration under different category through ICEGATE to file the messages under new format. The customs authority is not issuing any separate license for SCMTR registrations done at ICEGATE. However, this office can provide details of registrations under SCMTR for different category to VOC port if required.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (IG)
(AC (IG) may kindly communicate with the concerned Port Trust person to clear the misconceptions, if any)

- 6.** Our members are receiving show cause notice in regard EGM errors. Initially customs provided Error list and 80% of the error list was cleared. Presently our members are receiving show cause notice for not closing the EGM. We have cleared most of the errors during the pandemic situation and request you to waive the show-cause notices issued to the members.

Reply: Since, there are no provisions available in the Customs Act, 1962 to waive the Show Cause notices issued or to be issued which are related to EGM Errors, the above request cannot be acceded to.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (MCD)

(AC(MCD) may kindly instruct to the officers posted at MCD Cell to resolve the issues relating to EGM errors and to clear the pendency at the earliest)

C. Points sponsored by NACFS – Tuticorin

7. Import Scanning list: as we have been informing on all the previous PTFC meeting, the issue is still not rectified, most of the members are not receiving the scanning list which is delaying the container movements from the port.

Reply: This office has no role in generation of scanning list for selection of containers as the same is being done by RMD, Mumbai only. If it is required and felt necessary, RMD, Mumbai would be appraised about the above issue for early resolution.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (CSD)

(AC(CSD) may kindly take up the matter with RMD, Mumbai for early resolution at the earliest)

8. Shipping filling under RMS getting delayed: process of shipping Bill under RMS filed after noon hours are getting delayed which is impacting export movements.

Reply: Above issue is a technical glitch which has to be resolved by DG, Systems only. The matter will be escalated through EDI Section for appropriate action.

Action Owner: Assistant Commissioner (EDI)

(AC (EDI) may kindly follow up the above matter with DG Systems for early resolution)



(S. VARALAKSHMI)

JOINT 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.

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 Commissioners of Customs, Custom House for necessary action.
2. The EDI Section – for uploading in the Official website.