



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  
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Dated: 09.06.2021

**MINUTES OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC) MEETING HELD ON 02.06.2021 AT 16:00 HRS. IN VIRTUAL MODE**

The PTFC [PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE] Meeting was held on 02.06.2021 at 16.00 Hrs. in virtual mode at Custom House, Tuticorin under the Chairmanship of Shri Dinesh K. Chakravarthy, 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)	Designation
1.	Dayanandan. T	Joint Commissioner
2.	K. S. Bijumon	Assistant Commissioner
3.	Oommen Joseph	Assistant Commissioner
4.	A.M.Nandakumar	Assistant Commissioner
5.	W. Paul Peter	Assistant Commissioner
6.	S. Ramprasad	Superintendent (Policy)

**MEMBERS FROM OTHER AGENCIES / CFS**

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.	C. Senthil	TSAA
7.	S. Sagayaraj	Asst. Secy., TSAA
8.	M. Subramanian	CWC Nhava Seva CFS
9.	J. David Raja	Vice-President, St. John ICD
10.	Celestine Villavarayar	President, NACFS
11.	Rajkumar,	Secretary, NACFS

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

**FRESH POINTS RAISED FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**1. (a) Functioning of E-Office**

During the pandemic situation and Lockdown the E-office may be functioned effectively on receipt E-mail with required attachments from the trade to the

respective department/ officers. The process of E-Office shall be faster and quick for earliest response to the Trade.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** E-office has already been made functional in this office. Necessary instructions has been issued to the officers to consider those correspondence received through our official email wherein any immediate action is warranted.

Action: AC (CRU)

**(b) Import BE clearance against copy documents:**

As there is a delay in receipt of Original documents due to the erratic functioning of courier, we are unable to submit the original documents in time for clearance. Hence, We request you to kindly grant OOC for FAG assessed or RMS facilitated Bills of Entries based on the required documents uploaded through E-sanchit for clearance of imported goods and also if there is any Free Trade Agreement/duty benefit under CAROTAR involved, the Certificate verification/defacing and OOC may be granted against copy of Certificates with an undertaking from the importer for the production of Original certificate.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** Vide per Board's Circular No.32/2020-Customs dated 06.07.2020 & 45/2020-Customs dated 21.08.2020, for uniformity, Board has instructed all field formations to adhere to directions, which requires the submission of original hard copy of a COO for defacement.

In this regard, if any difficulty is faced by the Trade, the cargo may be cleared against copy documents of Certificate of Origin (COO) by preferring the provisional assessment of Bill of Entry, which would be subject to the conditions that importer furnishes a security amount equal to the difference between the duty provisionally assessed under section 18 of the Customs Act, 1962 and the preferential duty claimed. Further, on receipt of Original COO from the exporting country, the same may be produced to this office for defacement and so as to assess the BE finally.

Action: AC (TSK)

**c) Waiver of Late filing Fine:**

During this pandemic all over the world, there are lockdown restrictions at the Port of Loading and in the place of issue of the BL and thereby the required documents for filing the BE as per the latest amended provisions of the Section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 could not be fulfilled by the Importers. During the similar situations in the last year, the waiver of fine for late filing of BE was provided on a Pan India basis by the CBIC. Now, the situation is being dealt separately at each Customs Location and considering the lockdown scenario, the waiver of penalty for late filing shall be considered favourably at our customs station.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** Presently, no such instructions have been received from the Board. Though the Chennai VII Commissionerate has reportedly issued Facility Circular for waiver of late fee, the same might have been issued considering the severity of Covid-19 spread in and around Chennai. Such Circular for Waiver of late fee will be issued by Tuticorin CH either based on Board's instruction or on need basis considering the Covid-19 situation in Tuticorin District.

Action: AC (Policy)

**d) Gate out/in process of Export Laden containers**

We request to implement the Gate out of Export laden containers from CFS and Gate in at Port as per the procedure laid down in the board circular 30/2020 dtd.22nd June 2020 and subsequent Tuticorin Customs Public Notice 17/2020 dtd 2nd July



2020 as we are facing the difficulty to commute our staffs from CFS to Gate and also to facilitate ease of doing business.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** Necessary instructions to the concerned officers have been issued in this regard.

Action: AC (CFS & ICD)

**2) Deletion of Other CVD.**

After the budget modification the BEs filed under the Chapter Heading 2710 attracts additional duty towards Transformer Oil vide notification number 190/78 has to be deleted by re-calling and re-assess the bill of entry which leads to delay in clearance especially for bulk Liquid cargo of Naphtha or Fuel Oil in Tanker Vessels are facing much of the difficulties arriving on weekend or holidays. We have also represented through various forums to CBIC and DG systems. Till we get a modification in system, we request you to kindly issue a standing order for re-calling and re-assessment of BEs without any intervention on routine basis. We also attached herewith standing order issued by Commissioner of Customs, Chennai vide order No. Order No. 10/2021 dated 17.05.2021 on the similar issue for your kind reference.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** A reference has already been made from EDI Section of Custom House, Tuticorin to the DG Systems to rectify the above issue and a Public Notice to lessen the difficulty faced in recalling of BE for re-assessment has been issued shortly in line with Chennai Customs Commissionerate.

Action: AC (EDI & Import Assessment)

**3) IGST/Drawback Scroll issues – Reg**

When the scroll is generated for bunch of shipping bills, in which if one exporter IFSC is mismatched, the entire scroll of all shipping bills will be bounced back to the department and the exporters are not getting their refund in time. This resulted in payment of IGST/ Drawback is pending for past two months.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:**

This office has no role in rectification of the above issue as the same has to be resolved by the O/o the PFMS, New Delhi through the Office of the DG Systems and Data Management, New Delhi. In this regard, a letter was already addressed on 08.04.2021 by the Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Tuticorin to the DG Systems and Data Management, New Delhi to take up the matter with the Office of the PFMS, New Delhi. Further, it is informed that this issue was already raised by the TCBA, on 08.04.2021 for which the reply was furnished to them on the same day itself. The officials of the TCBA were requested to sensitize all exporters to update their Bank Particulars i.e. New IFSC Code in the EDI System immediately so as to prevent further recurrence of the same issue in future.

In this regard, a Public Notice No. 08/2021 dated 21.04.2021 was also issued by the Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin informing the exporters to update their correct bank particulars specifically the IFSC code with the EDI system consequent upon the merger of Nationalized Scheduled Banks, urgently. The status of the different banks consequent upon merger was also mentioned for ease of reference. Hence, action in this regard has to be initiated by the TCBA by way of sensitizing the exporters to update their correct bank particulars with the Customs EDI system.

Action: AC (Drawback & IGST)

#### **4) Functioning of CFS on holidays:**

We have been informed that over time facility is not permitted for CFS on holidays. We request you to kindly permit export clearance on holidays other than national holidays (26th January, 15th August & 2nd October) on overtime basis. This will facilitate export cargo to connect the planned mother vessels from Colombo.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** On need basis, the required permissions for import/export clearance on payment of applicable MOT fees are being considered depending upon the urgency and volume.

Action: AC (CFS & ICD)

#### **5) G Card Exam:**

G - Card examination have not been conducted for more than 3 years and, it is requested to conduct the same at the earliest and on yearly basis.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** Due to ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic and lockdown situation, no venues are available where G Card examination could be conducted. Once the spread of Covid-19 is contained in this District, the proposal to conduct the G-Card Exam will be taken up for consideration. In future, if situation allows, the same will be conducted on yearly basis.

Action: AC (CBS)

#### **5) Single Window Clearance system- PGA - Import shipments**

The SWIFT program initiated during 2016 and it was successfully having a link with FSSAI & PQ and seamless process of documents were happening. However, recently there is a system linking issues with PGAs, we have to approach the concerned group Assistant Commissioner to get intervention for clearance of cargo.

**[Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association]**

**Reply:** The above issue is only a temporary system related technical glitch. Only very few documents are not automatically linked with other PGAs. In such cases, the AC (Imports) is linking such documents manually so as to ensure smooth clearance. However, if the problem persists, the same will be taken up to the DG Systems, in case of necessity.

Action: AC (Import Assessment)

#### **6. Clarity sought on overtime for CFS/ICD after office hours and on holidays other than closed holidays.**

**[ NACFS, Tuticorin ]**

**Reply:** In this regard, the instructions to work on 24x7 basis have been issued to ensure that all goods including raw material required for Covid-19 medical supplies, other supplies, consumable etc. are reaching the concerned on emergency basis and to ensure that the seamless flow of economic activity is not disturbed during the lock down period. **Such instructions will not affect the provisions of Section 36 of the Customs Act, 1962 relating to MOT fees. Therefore, MOT has to be paid either by the CHA or CCSP (CFS/ICD).** In case the same has not been paid previously, the same shall be paid forthwith fully along with arrears.

Action: AC (CFS & ICD)

#### **7 Delay in response to E-auction letter as received from MSTC and submitted by NACFS Tuticorin Chapter:**

- \* Letter submitted on 19.04.2021 awaiting reply
- \* Letter submitted on 26.04.2021 awaiting reply.



\* Letter submitted on 03.05.2021 awaiting reply.

**Reply:** In this regard, the reply has already been sent to the concerned CFSs/ICD on 28.05.2021. Delay was due to delayed submission of Bid Sheets by Individual CFSs/ICD and subsequent verification of Bid Reports and consolidation by the Section.

[NACFS, Tuticorin]  
Action: AC (Disposal)

8. Letter Submitted to Customs dated 15.04.2021 regarding ONE LINE.

[NACFS, Tuticorin]

**Reply:** The issue pertains to alleged refusal by M/s. Ocean Network Express (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai (one of the Shipping Lines) to empanel 4 CFSs out of the 12 CFSs meant for handling imports. On perusal of the letter dated 15.04.2021, it is found that full details of the issue have not been provided and on receipt of the same, it would be addressed and resolved on priority basis. The developments will be deliberated during the ensuing PTFC meeting proposed to be conducted during the last week of June 2021.

Action: AC (IG)

9. **SCMTR implementation status of CFS/ICD to get prepared.**

[NACFS, Tuticorin]

**Reply:** As per Notification No: 50/2021 (N. T. ) dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, the date for implementing SCMTR has been extended to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

16/06/2021  
(DINESH K. CHAKRAVARTHY)  
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.
2. The EDI Section - for uploading in the Official website.