

I/1741809/2024



प्रधान मुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क का कार्यालय,  
**OFFICE OF THE PR. CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,**  
 मुंबई जोन -I, दूसरी मंजिल, नवीन सीमा शुल्क भवन, बेलार्ड इस्टेट,  
**MUMBAI ZONE-I, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR, NEW CUSTOM HOUSE,**  
**BALLARD ESTATE, मुंबई/ MUMBAI- 400 001**  
**Email: ccu-cusmum1@nic.in**

F. No. CCCO/TECH/425/2021-TECH

09-02-2024

**MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION  
 COMMITTEE (CCFC) MEETING OF MUMBAI CUSTOMS, ZONE-I HELD  
 ON 31.01.2024 AT NEW CUSTOMS HOUSE, MUMBAI**

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) for the Financial Year 2023-24 of Mumbai Customs Zone-I for the month of January 2024 was held on 31.01.2024 (Wednesday) at 1600 Hrs in the Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, New Customs House, Mumbai under the Chairmanship of Shri Pramod Kumar Agrawal, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I.

2. The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:

SN.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Sunil Jain	Pr. Commissioner of Customs (G)
2.	Shri Ashok Kumar P. Kothari	Commissioner of Customs (Audit)
3.	Shri Aslam Hassan	Commissioner of Customs (Export)
4.	Ms. Priya Goel	Commissioner of Customs (Import-II)
5.	Ms. Hemlata Rai	Additional Commissioner of Customs, PCCO
6.	Shri Neelesh Rautkar	Additional Commissioner of Customs, (Import-II)
7.	Shri Mallinath Jeure	Additional Commissioner of Customs, (Import-I)
8.	Shri Ajit U. Nair	Assistant Commissioner of Customs, PCCO
9.	Shri Sangappa Arjun Teli	FSSAI
10.	Shri Lavekesh Kumar	Plant Quarantine, PPO
11.	Shri P. N. Wasnik	Assistant Director (Lab), Textiles Committee
12.	Ms. Suchita Ambetkar	O/o Assistant Drugs Controller (I)
13.	Shri Dushyant Mulani	President, BCBA
14.	Shri Omprakash Agrawal	Director, Nagarkot Forwarders Pvt. Ltd.
15.	Shri Karunakar Shetty	Maharashtra Chamber
16.	Shri Paresh Thakkar	BCBA
17.	Shri Kiran Rambhia	BCBA
18.	Shri Harsh Lapsia	BCBA

I/1741809/2024

19.	Shri Sanjeev Harale	BCBA
20	Shri Vinayak Aparaj	BCBA
21	Shri Manohar Patyane	BCBA

3. At the outset, the Chairman extended his greetings and welcomed the members of the PGAs and trade representatives to the meeting of Mumbai Customs Zone-I. The Chair also extended his thanks to the trade attendees for their presence at the Customs Day celebration held on January 27, 2024. Shri Dushyant Mulani, President, BCBA, on behalf of the trade also thanked the Chair for including them in the Customs Day celebration, emphasizing that the Department's recognition fosters a sense of gratification among trade members.

3.1 The Chair then enquired regarding the agenda points for the meeting. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) informed that no agenda points have been received and drew attention towards the action taken on the points of discussion in the last meeting held 27.12.2023.

- i. The Chair noted that the O/o the Commissioner of Customs (Import-I) have issued Public Notice No.47/2023-24 dated 30.01.2024 therein devising a mechanism of grievance redressal and problem solving at the end of BIS and Line Ministry, as requested by BCBA in the last meeting. The said point was hence considered as closed.
- ii. The Chair observed that the request of BCBA for issuance of a Public Notice clarifying the 'Proper Officer' under Section 149 of the Customs Act, 1962, can be issued only by Board. The Chair further, informed the BCBA officials that Board has already issued a Notification No. 22/2022-Customs (N.T.), New Delhi, dated the 31st March, 2022. The Chair directed, Ms. Priya Goel, Commissioner of Customs (Import-II) to ensure that the said Notification is uploaded on the website of Mumbai Customs Zone-I. Thereby, the point was considered closed.
- iii. The Chair observed that as discussed in the earlier CCFC meeting held on 27.12.2023, BCBA was to coordinate a meeting between the department and top 20 importers in January 2024, however no intimation regarding the same had been received. Shri Dushyant Mulani, President, BCBA suggested that the same can be held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of February. The Chair informed Shri Dushyant Mulani that since a Chief Commissioners Conference is scheduled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February, he may accordingly fix a suitable date and inform Mumbai Zone-I.

4.1 The Chair noted that after assessment in case of 133 Bills of Entry payment of duty to the tune Rs.157 crores are still pending for more than 25 days. Shri Dushyant Mulani

I/1741809/2024

replied that they are being sent emails by TSK on daily basis regarding Bills of Entry which are pending for duty payment after assessment and that around 50% of such Bills of Entry are Ex-Bond Bills of Entry. The Chair suggested that the trade make the payment of duty for ex-bond Bills of Entry also since due to the upcoming Budget session, there could be delay owing to updation of changes to be made in System. Shri Dushyant Mulani, proposed that a meeting can be held between the Importers/Custom Brokers and the Commissioners of Customs, Import-I and Import-II to seek explanation for such delay in payment of duty. The Chair gave his approval for the same.

4.2 The Chair then directed Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) to present the Power Point Presentation displaying the average time taken by importers for payment of duty from Assessment of Bills of Entry and time taken by the importers for replying to the queries raised.

- i. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) informed that the month-wise average time taken for payment of duty from assessment has improved for the month of January '24 in comparison with the months of November '23 and December '23.
- ii. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) further briefed the Chair that it is a matter of concern that the number of Bills of Entry, wherein duty paid on the same day and within 3 days from the date of assessment, have reduced in the month of January 2024 and the number of Bills of Entry, wherein duty have been paid between 10-30 days and more than 30 days, from the date of assessment have increased.

The Chair noted that the duty payment should be made within 3 days from assessment and urged Trade representatives/Customs Brokers to take note of the same.

Shri Dushyant Mulani, informed the Chair they have formed a team of 4 officials who on receipt of the daily e-mail from the TSK Section, make telephone calls to concerned Custom Brokers and follow-up regularly for payment of duty.

- iii. As regards the time taken by the importers for replying to the query raised, Ms. Hemlata Rai, Additional Commissioner of Customs (PCCO) informed that there is an improvement with regard to the queries replied 'within less than 6 hours' and 'between 6-24 hours' in the month of January 2024 in comparison with the corresponding data for months of November and December 2023; that as regards query replied in 'more than 3 days' there has been some improvement compared to

I/1741809/2024

corresponding data of December 2023, but there still remains potential for further improvement when compared to data of November 2023. She further added that for the month of January 2024, there are still 7 Bills of Entry pending for replying to the query raised and the earliest entry is dated 13.01.2024.

The Chair noted the same and stated that the number of queries raised for the month of January 2024 has reduced as there is constant monitoring at the senior level. The Chair also observed that the time taken by the trade for replying to the query is a matter of great concern as it adversely affects the dwell time. The Chair, requested the trade to take prompt action while responding to the query considering that the department is committed to trade facilitation and working tirelessly 24 x 7 including Sundays.

5. Shri Dushyant Mulani, President, BCBA appreciated the fact that Mumbai Customs Zone-I has already held two 'G' Category examinations within a gap of six months in a fully digital manner with over 3000 candidates appearing for the same and results for which was declared within a day after the exam. Shri Dushyant Mulani further added that they intend to conduct a case study highlighting the scale and scope of examination conducted by Mumbai Customs Zone-I.

6. As there was no further point for discussion, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

This issue with the approval of Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I.

AJIT UNNIKRISHNAN NAIR  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Copy to:

1. Under Secretary, (CUS IV), CBIC, North Block New Delhi
2. All Commissioners of Customs, Mumbai Zone I
3. All the Members of CCFC Meeting by email
4. BCBA, Mumbai by email
5. AC/DC,EDI (with a request to upload the minutes on the Zonal website Office)