



**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF  
CUSTOMS MUMBAI, ZONE-I**

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F. No. S/V-30(93)/2014 CCO-I (Unit IV)

Date:30.11.2017

**MINUTES OF THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE  
(CCFC) MEETING HELD ON 23.11.2017**

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The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) of Zone-I was held on 23.11.2017 at 4:00 P.M. in the Conference Hall, New Custom House, under the Chairmanship of Shri Rajeev Tandon, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I.

2. The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name &amp; Designation (S/Shri)</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	S.K. Das, Pr. Commissioner(Gen)	Customs Zone-I
2	Ramesh Chander , Commissioner (Export.- I ),	Customs Zone-I
3	J. S. Negi, Commissioner(Import- II)	Customs Zone-I
4	Ms Prachi Saroop, Commissioner(Import- I, Export-II)	Customs Zone-I
5	Ms Kiran Verma, Commissioner	Customs Zone-I
6	Akhilesh Pandey, ADC, CCO	Customs Zone-I
7	Ms. Sunita Pandey, ADC, Export-II	Customs Zone-I
8	N. Rammohan Rao, JC/Import-II	Customs Zone-I
9	Ravi Tiwari, AC/CC Office	Customs Zone-I
10	G. Manigandasamy, DC/EDI.	Customs Zone-I
11	Ms. Gauravi Dubey Prabhudesai, DC/Docks	Customs Zone-I
12	Amar Bhadur Singh, DC/Import-II	Customs Zone-I
13	Sudhir P.V., Pr. System Analyst	NIC

14	S. Nandeshwar, Chemical Examiner	DyCC
15	S.C. Mathur, Chemical Examiner	DyCC
16	P.K.Rout, Asstt. Commandant	CISF
17	S. K. Sam, Inspector	CISF
18	Dr. A. Siddiqui, Deputy Director	RPQS
19	Mohan Nihalani, President	AIIEA
20	K. B. Bhandari	AILBIEA
21	Neelesh Datir, Ex. Member	AILBIEA
22	K. B. Bhandari, Member	BCBA
23	V.K. Pancham, Dy. Director,	FSSAI
24	P. Muthumaron, Director(WR)	FSSAI
25	Faiyaz Merchant, Partner	Customs Broker
26	Ms Geeta Suvarna, Op. Manager, Customs Broker	Kainaaz Ass.
27	Rohenton Master, Director, Customs Broker	Kainaaz Ass.
28	Samir Sanghvi, Director	C. N. Sanghvi & Co.
29	Amith S. Momaya, Director	D V Shipping

3. At the outset, the Chair welcomed all the members of CCFC and all the members introduced themselves.

4. Thereafter, Shri Akhilesh Pandey, the Addl. Commissioner, CCO presented the old agenda points, which are discussed as below:

<b>Issue 1</b>	CISF presence during loading and unloading the car cargo
Issue in brief	<p>The representative of BCBA expressed the difficulty faced, citing the recent amendment by the MbPT making the presence of CISF official mandatory, while loading/unloading of wheeled (Car) cargo in the RO-RO vessel. It was expressed that difficulty in coordinating the agency involved, especially MbPT, CISF, is the issue. The members of BCBA submitted that there was no need for dual control of CISF at the entry/ exit point and also at the loading/ unloading point inside the Custom bonded area.</p> <p>The Chair directed that the Preventive General Section should study and examine the issue. He also directed BCBA to submit the representation to CISF, with a copy to Customs.</p>

Action Taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For factual verification, a team of Customs officers visited Mumbai Docks, where the work of unloading of car from trailer was under way. It was observed that CISF personnel were checking the car meant for export for security purpose. The Assistant Commandant of CISF also submitted the factual report on the issue, which is as follows:</li> <li>• Car carriers, which are entering into port, are locked and sealed. Hence, to ensure that, there is no contraband items including arms, explosives etc., are inside the export vehicles, screening of export vehicles is indispensable to prevent any major security breach, which is mandate of CISF.</li> <li>• Various stake holders have already been briefed by the CISF on the issue during their monthly meeting .</li> </ul>
Directions of the Chair	<p>The issue has attained finality at this forum, as it appears to be a security issue, which has been duly informed by the CISF to all stake holders As the CISF is carrying out their designated mandate for security of the country. Hence, the Chair directed that the issue may be closed.</p>
	<b>Point Closed</b>
<b>Issue 2</b>	Shifting of STP
Issue in brief	<p>During the CCFC meeting held on 18.04.2017, the issue of proposed closure of STP (Sewri Timber Point) and shifting of cargo examination area to some other location was raised. It was informed that substitute place is in-adequate to handle the activities in STP CFS. And also that post-GST volume of containerized cargo would see upward growth, resultantly requiring more space for activities. Representatives of BCBA also seconded the observation.</p> <p>MbPT had conveyed to the Customs that STP will be handed over to MMRDA by Oct-Nov'2017. Therefore, the alternative place i.e. Wadala Incinerator Plot was chosen in the joint survey conducted by MbPT and Customs. Further, Customs has requested for basic infrastructure like weigh bridge, space for examination and office space in the proposed Wadala Incinerator Plot and the MbPT agreed to develop the same.</p> <p>In the meantime, MbPT offered MOD (Manganese Ore Depot)</p>

	and existing infrastructure in the MOD will be used for the time being.
Action Taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MbPT was requested to provide the basic infrastructure facility like weigh bridge, space for examination and office space at MOD, till the Wadala Incinerator plot is developed.</li> <li>• Action lies with MbPT to provide necessary facilities at the earliest.</li> <li>• It is finally decided that, if the MbPT insists on shifting of STP, they should provide the necessary infrastructure.</li> </ul>
Directions of the Chair	Since the situation has remained static. As, there is no immediate action required, the Chair directed that the agenda item may be treated as closed.
	<b>Point closed</b>

5. Thereafter, the Addl. Commissioner/CCO presented the new agenda points, as below:

**FRESH AGENDA POINTS OF THE CCFC MEETING HELD ON 23.11.2017**

<b>Issue 1 A</b>	<p>A reference dated 11.09.2017 (email dtd.21.09.2017) was received from AILBIEA regarding exemption of ADC NOC on importing liquid bulk chemicals such as Phenol, IPA, Refined Glycerine, Caustic Soda etc .</p> <p>It is intimated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The issue was taken up earlier in April 2016 and the same was sorted out and liquid bulk chemicals were being cleared without ADC NOC.</li> <li>• The AILBEA had requested to revisit the procedure for aforesaid liquid bulk chemicals.</li> </ul>
Action Taken	<p>As regards requirement of ADC NOC being reflected in the system, the issue has been referred to Commissioner SWIFT in the month of November for necessary rectification. Two main liquid bulk chemicals are imported at this port viz; ISO Propyl Alcohol and Caustic soda. It was informed that:-</p> <p>(i) ISO Propyl Alcohol is included in the PGA Exemption Category list (PEC). Despite such inclusion in the PEC list, the status of B/E of ISO Propyl Alcohol is shown in the system as pending for ADC NOC. While filing the Bill of</p>

	<p>Entry, if the item is covered under PEC, the importer needs to quote the same.</p> <p>(ii) Caustic soda is not included in the PEC exemption list. Reference has been made to Board, regarding the representation of All India Liquid Bulk Importers &amp; Exporters Association and to consider its inclusion in PEC list as it is a bulk chemical.</p>
Directions of the Chair	<p>The matter stands referred to the Commissioner(Swift) as well as Board. No action is pending in this office, hence, the Chair directed that the point may be treated as closed.</p> <p>The Chair directed that the point may be treated as closed.</p>
	<b>Point closed</b>
<b>Issue 1 B</b>	<p>A reference vide letter dated 03.11.2017 was received from AILBIEA regarding obtaining ADC NOC for dual use items of Import- Liquid Bulk.</p> <p>It is intimated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to single window clearance, the Customs department never use to refer any dual use items for ADC NOC, provided the Importer gave a declaration that the imported item was meant for medicinal/ industrial use.</li> <li>• Due to requirement of ADC NOC clearances are delayed and trade is facing difficulties and hardships.</li> </ul>
Action taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference was made to Asstt, Drug Controller(Airport), CDSCO, to expedite the process of granting ADC NOC and also to furnish list showing pending documents for ADC NOC pertaining to NCH, Zone-I, Mumbai.</li> <li>• As regards requirement of ADC NOC being reflected in the system, the issue has been referred to Commissioner SWIFT for necessary rectification.</li> <li>• ADC Drug Controller has been requested to look into the matter and sort out all the pending ADC NOC.</li> <li>• Issue was discussed the with Single Window team at New Delhi. It was informed that this issue was discussed between CDSCO Headquarters representative, ALIBIEA representative (Mr. Nilesh) and Deputy Drug Controller (Mr. Indrajeet Hura). The issue was discussed and it was clarified that as per Act, the clearance/NOC from ADC is required in dual use goods. To facilitate the issue, it was discussed and clarified that the</li> </ul>

	concerned importers should get one time clearance for 1 year from the office of DDC (at any) for same item/supplier/quantity, based on which, the office of ADC shall give clearance during import of goods.
Directions of the Chair	The Chair directed that the point may be treated as closed.
	<b>Point closed</b>
<b>Issue 2</b>	<p>A reference was received from BCBA vide letter dated 10.11.2017 regarding Dispense with manual RA for project import and confirmation to/fro between 3 zones should be initiated.</p> <p>It is intimated that:</p> <p>When any project required at one port and the goods are arrived at other port, RA(Release Advice) against the project/ contract is required from the port of registration to port of clearance files is to be processed as under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA to be prepared and sent in sealed cover to Customs</li> <li>• Again confirmation is sent by fax and or sealed cover</li> <li>• Retrieval of the copy of fax/email to group for proving the genuiness of RA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestions proposed by BCBA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In order to go with paperless and ease of doing business and dwell time, if a email ID for all 3 zones for project cell/ contract department with AO/DC is created, then RA can be sent on mails from official required ID of contract cell AO/DC</li> <li>• This will avoid confirmations</li> <li>• Manual processing of RA and sealed cover can be avoided which will save dwell time and raising the queries for RA purpose.</li> <li>• Assessment will be faster and will save paper and help in ease of doing business</li> </ul>
Action Taken	In order to reduce the Dwell time, it is a welcome suggestion and under consideration. Necessary procedure is being devised for the same.
Directions of the Chair	<p>The suggestion is welcome to reduce the dwell time. Due procedure will be devised by Customs to implement the same for facilitation of Trade.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Commissioner-Import-I</b></p>
<b>Issue 3</b>	A reference was received from BCBA vide letter dated 10.11.2017 regarding Exim Trade is facing insurmountable problems for

	clearance of import and export consignments through MBPT due to non-compliance of GST rules and regulation. MBPT has still not commenced invoicing/ billing in terms of Para 33 of Notification No.10/2017.
Action Taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this regard, clarification dated 08.11.2017 has already been issued by Office of Commissioner of Central Tax &amp; Central Excise with reference to Rule 33 of the Central Goods and Service Tax Rules, 2017.</li> <li>Action lies with MBPT to comply the same in true spirit to ensure the trade facilitation.</li> </ul>
Directions of the Chair	<p>Issue was discussed in length. The legal opinion given by GST was also discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a concept of Pure Agent in GST regime too. The Customs Broker can ask the Custodian i.e. Shipping Line etc. to make the invoice in the name of the Customers where there is actual reimbursement of expenses. At the most, the Custodian may ask authority letter from the Customers authorizing Customs Broker for customs clearances, transport to pay shipping lines etc. on behalf of Customers.</li> <li>Rule 33 of the Central Goods and Service Tax, 2017, as amended by the Notification No.10/2017 Central Tax dated 28.06.2017, which says” the expenditure of costs incurred by a supplier as a pure agent of the recipient of supply shall be excluded from the value of supply, if the stipulated conditions are satisfied.”</li> <li>The Chair directed BCBA to check the procedure followed at JNPT and if required fresh follow up with MbPT. Since the present rules lays down procedure under Rule 33 of GSTR, the Chair directed the BCBA to submit a written representation to MbPT with a copy to Chairman, CCFC.</li> </ul>
	<b>Action: MbPT</b>
<b>Issue 4</b>	A reference was received from FSSAI vide email dated 10.11.2017 intimating that 'Manual signed NOC is still insisted by CHA'
Action Taken	It was discussed that manual NOC for FSSAI should not be insisted upon by Customs Broker. It has been informed by AC Group I, that FSSAI NOC is not required for assessment and further AC, Docks has informed that examination orders given by Appraising Group are being followed.
Directions of	The Chair directed DC /Docks to provide details of emails of officials

the Chair.	posted at docks to FSSAI for retrieving the, FSSAI NOC online.
	<b>Point Closed</b>
<b>Issue 5</b>	A reference through mail dated 21.11.2017 was received from Timber Association (Maharashtra) intimating concern about delay in clearance of import consignments of timber logs.
Action taken	DC/ ICD Mulund vide letter dated 22.11.2017 has informed that no specific details are mentioned in the letter. However, teak wood being one of the top commodities in terms of volume and revenue, this office is fully seized of facilitating the clearance of such legitimate cargo. Specific details if any may be provided to the concerned officer to sort out the issue.
Direction of the Chair	As per the response from DC/CFS, Mulund, there were no such delays and clearances of legitimate timber are taken on priority basis. The Chair directed to timber association to bring further instances of delay in the notice of senior officers for immediate solution.
	<b>Point Closed</b>

6. Sh. Akhilesh Pandey, Addl. Commissioner/CCO presented an analysis of Dwell time conducted by the department for clearance of Import cargo at Mumbai Customs, Zone-I, for the month of October'2017. It was brought to the notice of the CCFC members that :

- Out of the total time taken for clearance of the non-RMS facilitated cargo, Mumbai Customs consumed 60 hours and 39 minute (35%) of the time, whereas the Trade used 110 hours 52 minutes( 65%) of the time.
- For RMS B/Es, the average time taken by the Customs is 11 hrs 36 min(6%), whereas the average time taken by Importer/Customs Broker is 176 hrs 47 (94%) minutes.

7. Further, it was informed that the Mumbai Customs, Zone- I, had ranked the top importers & Custom Brokers, who performed best in the criteria of minimum dwell time taken to clear the cargo. The Importers and Custom Brokers, who were best performers in the dwell time, were as follows:



**IMPORTERS**

<b>AREA</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Entry Inward to Submission of B/E</b>	VRAJ CONSTRUCTION CO.	AROMA IMPORTS	SUNSHINE MOBITECH LLP
<b>Assessment to Duty Payment</b>	COLUMBIA PETROCHEM PVT. LTD.	PETROCHEM MIDDLE EAST (India) PVT. LTD.	METAL ONE CORPORATION INDIA PVT. LTD
<b>Payment to Registration</b>	SAVITA OIL TECHNOLOGIES LTD.	C. J. SHAH & CO.	SAVITA OIL TECHNOLOGIES LTD

**CUSTOMS BROKERS**

<b>Criteria- (No. of Bills of Entry)</b>	<b>Entry Inward to Submission of B/E</b>	<b>Assessment to Duty Payment</b>	<b>Payment to Registration</b>
15-20	BABAJI KHIMJI & CO.	JETWINGS FREIGHT FORWARDERS.	V. ARJOON
21-30	ALL INDIA CLEARING & FORWARDING PVT. LIMITED	KAINAAZ ASSOCIATES	RAJAN VIRJI & CO.
Above 30	C. N. SANGHAVI & CO.	AMC LOGISTICS (INDIA) PVT. LTD.	EXIM INDIA TRADE AGENCIES

8. The Chair pointed out that in order to achieve the mission of “Ease of doing business”, it is imperative that significant reduction in the dwell time is brought about. Also there has been a clarion call from PMO to reduce the dwell time. The Chair appreciated the efforts taken by these importers/ Customs Brokers and urged others to follow such best practices. The CCFC Members appreciated and lauded the above Importers and the Customs Brokers for their positive efforts.

9. Apart from the agenda points, the members raised some other issues:- like traffic congestion of oil tankers at entry gates during late night and early morning and delay in Scanning of containers due to scarcity of trucks. The Chair assured them that he will look into the matter, with a direction to give issues formally in writing bringing out exact details, so that the matter could be appropriately taken up with concerned agencies.

10. All the stake holders present and Shri Mohan Nihalini appreciated the positive changes in the ambience of New Custom House in the form of wearing of neat and clean uniform by the staff. Swachhta posters and other informative

material displayed in the corridors showcasing interesting & useful information and statistical data and facts about the department.

11. The Chair urged to have maximum participation of the CCFC Members to achieve a meaningful interaction and fulfil the objectives of CCFC. While, appreciating and welcoming the participation of designated officers of Participating Government Agencies/department/ stakeholders nominated, vide Trade Notice F.No. S/V-30(93)/2014 CCO I(Unit-IV) dated 30.04.2015, he requested to carry on the spirit of the meeting and execute the decisions arrived at in their respective organizations, for meaningful interaction and attainment of the stated objectives of the CCFC.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

**Sd/-**  
**30.11.2017**

**(Akhilesh Pandey)**  
Addl. Commissioner of Customs (CCO),  
Mumbai Zone-I

Copy to:

1. Shri Pawan Khetan, OSD(CUS IV), CBEC, New Delhi
2. All Pr. Commrs/Commissioners of Customs, Mumbai Zone-I
3. All the Members of the CCFC Meeting ...by email
4. BCBA
5. DC/ICD (M), DC
6. AC/EDI [with a request to upload the Minutes on the website under separate head CCFC (soft copy)]
7. Office copy
8. Jt. Director, CRCL, NCH, Mumbai, Zone-I