



सीमा शुल्क मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय, बंगलुरु अञ्चल
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS BENGALURU CUSTOMS ZONE;
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File No. **CCCO/TECH/TGRV/CCFC/1/2020-S AND I-O/o CC-CUS-ZONE Bengaluru**

Date: as e-signed

Minutes of the 52nd CCFC Meeting Bengaluru Customs Zone held on 30.03.2023 at 03:45 PM

The 52nd Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) Meeting was held on 30th March, 2023 from 15:45 hours onwards through video conference. Smt. Kajal Singh, Pr. Commissioner, AP&ACC, Commissionerate, Bengaluru, chaired the CCFC meeting as directed by the Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone.

The following officers/ members of CCFC/ Stakeholders attended the meeting.

.S.No	(Name (S/Shri/Smt/Ms./Dr	Designation/Organization
1.	Dr. Balamurugan K, I.R.S	Commissioner, City Customs, Bengaluru
2.	Reena Shetty, I. R. S	Commissioner, Mangaluru Commissionerate
3.	Parry Vallal, I. R. S	Additional Commissioner, ICD Whitefield, City Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru
4.	Vishal Pratap Singh, I. R. S	Additional Commissioner, Mangalore Customs Commissionerate, Mangalore
5.	Nagaraja Naik I. R. S	Additional Commissioner, AP & ACC Commissionerate, Bengaluru
6.	Mashhood Ur Rehman Farooqui, I. R. S	Additional Commissioner, City Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru
7.	Mahesh N A	Additional Drug Controller, Bengaluru
8.	T K Sahu	Regional Officer, AQCS, Bangalore
9.	Vijaykumar S Makal	President, KASSIA
10.	V Chandru	Vice Chairman, Air Cargo Forum India
11.	Belli Gowda	Rep, Supreme Freight
12.	Girish Narayan	Secretary, Bangalore Custom House Agents Association Limited
13.	D Sathish Kumar	Manager, Concor India
14.	Dr. Pradeep P E	PPO(E), PQS, Mangaluru
15.	Sridhar	BAIL Airport
16.	Thulasiram B V	HAL CFS
17.	Radhakrishna	Textiles Committee
18.	Mayank Puri	Gateway Manager, DHL Express
19.	Prem Kumar	DHL

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20.	Gokul	Deputy Traffic Manager, New Mangalore Port Trust
21.	Padmanabha Shirur	Asst Director, Textiles Committee
22.	Gangadhar V Shetty	Rep, Siddhi Vinayak
23.	Naveen Kumar	Manager, CFS CWC Bengaluru
24.	Kusumkar Naik	Manager-Operations, EICI, Bengaluru
25.	Soma Chaudhary	Joint Director, FIEO Bengaluru
26.	K Kumar	Custodian, Air India SATS
27.	Dr. D. K. Nagaraju	Dy. Director, RPQS, Bengaluru
28.	Salva Saidutty	RPQS, Bengaluru

2. The Deputy/ Assistant Commissioners concerned from AP&ACC, City Customs and Mangalore Customs also attended the WebEx-meeting.

3. The meeting commenced with a welcome note by the Chairman. The Member Secretary, CCFC & ADC(CCO), Bengaluru Customs Zone made a presentation on the recent Board Circulars, advisories issued by DG Systems and public notices of the Commissionerates under Bengaluru Customs Zone issued during the period from 28th December 2022 to 23rd March 2023.

4. Discussions on the agenda points received for the meeting are recorded hereunder:

A. RPQS Bengaluru

Agenda Item 1: Inclusion of HSN Codes w.r.t. all agricultural commodities under BE linking with PQ NOC

It was noted that, some commodities especially timber items, which are filed under the HSN code of "Others" (Code no: 44072900), are not linked to PQ clearance under BE.

Some items like Merbau logs which fall in the category others (Code no: 44072900) are being referred in some ports and not being referred to Plant Quarantine in other ports.

In the matter, the Chairperson requested for list of all such items along with description, in order to get clarification and appropriate classification for those specific items which would ensure a uniform practice across all ports.

[Action: RPQS Bengaluru]

Agenda Item 2: Discussion on provision to release part shipments:

Recently, 2 cases had come up in PQ Import shipments, of which, one had some Dendrobium Orchid Plants with flowers for release, which is not allowed to import as per PQ Order, 2003 (only saplings are allowed for import) and the other had 3 varieties of unlisted / non-allowed TC plants mixed up with 3 varieties of permitted TC plants. In both the cases, considering the trade value and perishable nature of the consignment, PQ had decided to release the part shipments which were in compliance to PQ Order 2003, and issue deportation/destruction orders for the non-permissible ones.

Shri T. K. Sahu, Regional Officer, AQCS, Bangalore stated that in some Bill of entries, the items imported are partially permissible and partially restricted and since amendment takes some time, it is difficult to clear the goods. It was requested to allow part clearance as some of the goods may be perishable.

The Chairperson inquired whether partial clearance can be allowed with OOC. Shri Parry Vallal, ADC, ICD, Bengaluru informed that in case of partial clearance, IGM cannot be closed in the system. Chairperson suggested that in such cases, partial shipment may be cleared and the remaining goods subjected to adjudication; and any excess duty paid to be adjusted against Fine/Penalty for importing restricted goods.

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B. ACFI – Bangalore**Agenda Item 3: CBLMS Portal is working intermittently - unable to view or edit the discrepancies mentioned by Customs Office.**

Documents submitted on CBLMS Portal is showing as submitted for more than 15 to 20 days but no further process is happening.

Customs Broker has submitted the Form – C at Tiruchirappalli Customs for extension to operate at Hosur ICD manually on 19th Jan 2023 as well on the CBLMS portal, attached all the doc's related to this issue and also the present screenshot of the CBLMS portal (Dear ACTIVE FREIGHT LOGISTICS PVT LTD (CBLMS No. in process), your application regarding CBLMS Profile has been successfully submitted. The reference no. of this application is 100000005494. Please use this reference number for all matters related to this application)

Shri V Chandru, Vice Chairman, Air Cargo Forum India informed that the Customs Broker has rented the office & appointed all the required staffs but unable to file or do any business transaction for the past 3 months due to this issue on the portal, Also the CB has requested to give manual process permission to start the business. It was stated that the Form C was filed by a registered CHA on 09.02.2023 and forwarded to Trichy Customs on 23.03.2023.

Shri Mashhood Farooqui, ADC, BCC, Bengaluru, informed that necessary verification was to be conducted by the parent Commissionerate and verification report was forwarded to Trichy Customs; the action is pending with Trichy Customs.

The Chairperson suggested that an email may be sent by City Customs, Bengaluru to Trichy Customs to expedite the matter.

Further, the ACFI has suggested that the current status of the application is not known and it was suggested that a representation be sent to Mumbai Customs for module change incorporating the present status of the application and made visible to the Customs broker.

[Action: Commr, Bengaluru City Customs Commissionerate]

C. Issues raised during the meeting**Agenda Item 4: System issues**

a) *Girish Narayan, Secretary Bangalore Custom House Agents Association Limited has stated that there are system issues with RoDTEP/RoSTCL.*

Chairperson acknowledged that there are systems issues and that they are being followed up on daily basis.

b) *Mr. Kusumakar from EICI has stated that in respect of Electronic Cash Ledger registration, that none of the Courier companies could register, because of ICEGATE error and that the date of implementation is 01.04.2023.*

Chairperson responded that it is an All India issue and the ECCS team is working on it. She also informed that if the issue is not resolved before 30.03.2023, the issue will again be taken up.

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5. Discussion on Action Points of the last CCFC Meeting (51st CCFC held on 21.12.2022)

1. (D Sathish Kumar- Concor India)- Pending from 50th CCFC meeting

ICD, Whitefield is receiving consignments of M/s Ikea India. They had requested Animal Quarantine Department to depute one of the officers to collect samples for testing as the samples are now being taken to the airport office of AQ for testing.

Shri, D Sathish Kumar- Concor India informed that the issue is not yet resolved. He said Ikea is the only unit where this issue is being faced. Further Shri T K Sahu had replied that the number of consignments received during the last month were very less and due to manpower shortage, they were unable to depute officer. However, he had informed that the samples are now being picked up on random basis. Chairman has requested the AQ officers to depute the officers to ICD, Bangalore as and when the need arises.

[Status: Action by AQI]

Present status: Issue now resolved.

2. A meeting of NCTF was held under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary. One of the major findings which emerged from National Time Release Study 2022 is that the time taken in payment of duty after assessment takes the maximum amount of time in the overall release time cycle. The Cabinet Secretary has directed to analyse the issue in detail and suggest suitable measures for time bound implementation; that it was requested to take up the matter with all the stakeholders involved in Customs clearance in the CCFC Meeting of December 2022 and accordingly the three agenda points were discussed.

- a) The reasons for high time taken for payment of duty after assessment
- b) Measures to be taken to reduce the time taken by the importers for payment of duty
- c) Deliberation on other matters as mentioned in Annexure II of the minutes of 6th NCTF meeting.

2.1 On the agenda point relating to high time taken for payment of duty of assessment, the Chairman made following observations:

- a) The average payment time for the period from April 2022 to November 2022 in respect of ACC, Bangalore is 43.89 hours, ICD, Bangalore is 43.17 Hours and NMPT, Mangalore is 36.18 Hours.
- b) The time taken appears to be too high, considering that interest is calculated by the system within one day (excluding holidays) from the date on which the bill of entry is returned to importer by the proper officer for payment of duty.
- c) That one of the reasons for non-payment of duty may be because the importer has not been informed of completion of assessment.

The Chairman enquired the reasons for high time taken for payment of duty and for suggestions/measures to be taken to reduce the time taken by the importers for payment of duty.

2.2 The Commissioner, City Customs, Bengaluru informed that as per Section 51A (2) of Customs Act, 1962 provision for payment from the amount available in the electronic cash ledger payment towards duty, interest, penalty, fees or any other sum payable under the provisions of this Act or under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) or under any other law is available. The concept of Electronic cash ledger may be utilized and the importer may be asked to keep sufficient balance in the ledger to enable immediate payment of duty after assessment. However, the said provision is not implemented. **Chairman has asked Commissioner, City Customs, Bengaluru to send a detailed write-up on the suggestion as a measure towards reducing payment time.**

[Action: Commissioner, City Customs]

Present status: Reply awaited.

2.3 Chairman asked all the Committee members present to provide comments/inputs on the reasons for high time taken for payment of duty after assessment and measures to be taken to reduce the time taken by the importers for payment of duty by 7th January 2022.

Present status: Reply awaited

3. The Chairman informed all the members that during the NCTF meeting, the representatives from trade expressed their appreciation for the work done by all the ministries for trade facilitation and to further enhance the trade facilitation. The suggestions from the trade shared in Annexure II of the minutes of the NCTF meeting as detailed below were also taken up for discussion during the meeting.

Sl.	Representations from Trade
1	Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) scheme may be extended and aligned with similar schemes of other countries with whom India has entered into Free Trade Agreements
2	Shipments of AEOs are being examined on frequent basis and CBIC is requested to look into the matter to accord enhanced facilitation levels to the AEO clients.
3	Publishing of confidential trade data in public domain by companies should be checked and penal provisions may be invoked as per law against the defaulters.
4	The frequency of scroll generation of Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RODTEP) and Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL) should be increased.
5	There is inordinate delay in uploading shipping bills for exporters at Land Customs Stations.
6	Create a paperless and faceless trading ecosystem and strengthen the effectiveness of the online grievance redressal mechanism for trade facilitation related matters.
7	All the PGAs should set defined timelines for clearances of goods/issuance of NOC.
8	Uniformity should be brought in Customs procedures at different ports.
9	Re-examine and review the current provisions related to rejection of AEO applications / renewals based on 'current assets' and 'Show Cause Notice invoking limitation'.
10	Difficulties are faced by trade due to difference in use of Harmonised System of Nomenclature (HSN) code between the Customs and GST regime.
11	The process of issuance of Certificates of Origin should be fully digitised to overcome the signature mismatch issue in the manual process.
12	BIS standards are not accessible digitally to Customs for adherence by exporters.
13	The PGAs should accord enhanced facilitation to the AEO clients in order to reduce the average release time of cargo.
14	Efforts should be made to reduce cost of doing business and minor offences should be decriminalized.
15	Scope of the RoDTEP scheme should be reviewed to include more sectors and the rates of RoDTEP should be reviewed.
16	Data privacy and data sharing laws should be strictly implemented to maintain industry competitiveness.
17	Standardised examination order should be issued to field formations by CBIC.
18	Currently the cargo handling, shipping and logistics cost is very high in India which needs to be regulated by the Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways to reduce the overall cost of doing Business and make Indian exports globally competitive.

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19	Bring more transparency regarding charges levied by shipping lines by creating a common dashboard.
20	The exercise of PGAs integration in Single Window should not lead to creation of parallel systems by both Customs and PGAs resulting in duplication of efforts/time at the end of traders.

3.1 Chairman has requested all the members and Pr. Commissioners/Commissioners to go through the points (refer table above) and provide detailed comments by 7th January 2022.

[Action: All stakeholders including PGAs]

Present status: Reply awaited

4. P Dorababu, Asst. Director, AEPC raised that 100% examination for AEO T3 client for imports were being faced by one importer at ACC, Bengaluru. Pr. Commissioner, AP & ACC, Bangalore requested the details of the Bill of Entry of the instance. Further, she also stated that no examination is being done unless there are specific RMS instructions or in certain cases with the approval of the Additional Commissioner.

[Action: P Dorababu, Asst. Director, AEPC]

Present status: Issue now resolved

6. The Chairman thanked the participants and concluded the meeting.

(B Konthoujam)
Additional Commissioner

1. All Members of CCFC
2. Others - as per Mailing List.

Copy to:

1. The Pr. Commissioner of Customs, Airport & ACC Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru.
2. The Commissioner of Customs, City Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru.
3. The Commissioner of Mangalore Customs, Mangalore.