

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (IMPORT)
AIR CARGO COMPLEX, SAHAR, ANDHERI (EAST), MUMBAI - 99

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No. S/3-MISC-PRO-516/2013 ACC(I) Part III

Date: .10.2017

MINUTES OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
13.10.2017

The monthly meeting of the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) was held on 13.10.2017 at 11.30 A.M. and was presided over by the Chairman, Shri S. Anantha Krishnan, Commissioner of Customs (Export), ACC, Sahar. Following officers and representatives from the stakeholder organizations participated in the meeting:

Name & designation of departmental attendees	Organization
Shri Raju Sakthivel, Addl. Commissioner (Export)	Customs, ACC
Shir Pawan Khetan, Jt. Commissioner (Import)	Customs, ACC
Shri Tapan Kumar, Jt. Commissioner (Export)	Customs, ACC
Shri Parag Singh, DC(PG)	Customs, ACC
Shri Kailash Vinayak Karkhile, AC(Import)	Customs, ACC
Shri M. C. Shaik, AC(Import)	Customs, ACC
Shri Prasath J., AC (Import)	Customs, ACC

Name of attendees from stakeholder organizations (Sh./ Ms.)	Organization
Kailash Meena	ADC
Manoj Singh, Cdr. Lokesh (Retd.), Mayilvanan T., Mohamed Nasir, Nandan Kanchan, Ashok Satavase	MIAL (Custodian)
Sanjeev Harale, Paresh R. Sangani, Ketan Desai, Dushyant Mulani	BCBA (formely known as BCHAA)
Nitin Desai, Paresh Shah	WISA
Mohnish G. Charania, Vineet Agrawal	ACAAI
Jyotsna Patil, Ryan Dabreo, Bhasker Thirumala	Jet Airways
Vishwanathan Nair	Air France
Vaishali Kulkarni	COSIA
Harish Zade	Lufthansa Cargo AG.
Sunil Kumar Singh	SBI

1. Points from the previous PTFC meetings which were taken up for discussion:

A.

B. Use of diesel forklifts towards late evening is causing increase of pollution levels in Import Shed.

In the previous meeting, ADC(Import) informed the house that as an initiative to promote green customs, both the custodians were requested to replace the existing diesel operated forklifts with battery operated forklifts. He informed that MIAL has shown noteworthy enhancement by bringing in 58 battery operated forklifts. However, Air India is yet to bring about the much required change in the working conditions.

In the instant meeting, the representative of Air India informed the house that the Tender procedure has been initiated for battery operated forklifts and the existing diesel operated forklifts will be replaced with battery operated forklifts within couple of months.

The Chairman directed Air India to expedite the process of procurement of the much required battery operated forklifts.

[Action: Point dropped for 4 months i.e. Oct,2017]

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B. Import on personal IEC allowed only upto 50,000/-

In the previous meeting, ADC (Import) informed that a draft Public Notice on the issue has been forwarded to the Chief Commissioner's Office for approval. Final decision on the issue will be taken shortly. The Jt. Commr.(Import) informed that the issue has been escalated to Chief Commissioner's Office, Zone-II and the same is under consideration with consultation of DGFT and the final decision will be taken in due course.

The Chairman directed to take up the issue again with CCO, Zone-III.

[ACTION: ADC/IMPORT]

C. Printing of TR Memo

In the previous meeting, DC(EDI) informed that the necessary specifications of the printer to be installed at Import Shed will be provided to MIAL. The representative of MIAL assured to install the requisite printer at the earliest.

In the instant meeting, the representative of MIAL informed that the specified Laser Jet Black and White network printer for printing of TR Memo has been procured and installed in the import light shed customs counter.

[POINT CLOSED]

D. Temperature controlled facility for Meat, Fish, Frozen foods:

In the previous meeting, the representative of MIAL intimated that the process of modifying an additional temperature control unit to -25°C is in progress. As the technical parts for this conversion needs to be imported, the whole process will take about 6-7 months time.

In the instant meeting, the representative of MIAL reiterated that the conversion needs to be imported and whole process will take 6-7 months time.

The Chairman took note of the development and directed that the facility may be made operational at the earliest and directed that the matter will again be discussed after two months

[ACTION: MIAL (Review after two months)i.e. upto Sept,2017]

E. Augmentation of import infrastructure:

In the previous meeting, the representative of MIAL informed that they are in the process of enhancement of import infrastructure in a phased manner. As for Block-C, the development plan is under process and the same will be shared within couple of months. Further, MIAL informed that as a part of Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) they had given contract to an outside agency to clear Air Cargo Complex of the stray animals and now there is marked improvement in the situation.

In the instant meeting, the DC(PG) informed that the plans are submitted to department. However, no progress has been noticed so far in the matter.

The Chairman felt that the action and output-result in the matter is time taking in nature. Hence, the matter may be dropped for 6 months time. Also directed to conduct a quarterly meeting with Customs and other stakeholders.

[ACTION: Dropped for 6 months i.e. upto Dec,2017]

G. Weeding out old Dockets

The representative of M/s Newgen intimated that after scanning, the files/dockets are stored in the boxes and placed at the Pipeline Warehouse. However as the storage space at the warehouse is fully occupied, these dockets are lying in the Shed. The documents of 2011 are already available in soft copy, they may be permitted to weed out the documents of 2011, thus creating storage space for the documents of the current year.

In the instant meeting MCD(I) Section informed that they have sent a letter to Document Management Systems M/s. Newgen Software Technology permitting them to weed out the dockets of export of the year 2011 also to Cargo(Admn), GVK, MIAL, Air Cargo Complex, Mumbai.

The Chairman directed M/s. Newgen Software Technology and MIAL to weed out the old records as soon as possible in co-ordination with M/s. MIAL.

[Action: M/s. Newgen, MIAL]

J. Point from MACCAI, Agricultural Committee for discussion in PTFC meeting

In the previous meeting the representative of MACCIA informed about instances when their consignment of perishable cargo was offloaded due to non availability of trolleys and insufficient man power (loader) at Air India, custodian for APEDA. This inadequacy has caused them loss of revenue, business and goodwill. It was requested that necessary action be initiated to avoid such losses in future.

In the instant meeting the representative of trade bodies reiterated the hardship being face in the Air India Shed and also informed the chairman that they have communicated the same to the Chairman of Air India.

The chairman directed Air India that a concrete action should be taken to resolve the issue.

[Action: Air India (Point dropped for 4 months i.e. upto Feb, 2018)]

A. Instead of Examination Pharma Products should be X-Rayed.

In the instant meeting, the representative of ACCAI requested that India is one of the major exporters of "Pharma" products mainly to the USA and Europe. At time of export, we request that these pharma products should not be opened for examination but instead they should be X-Rayed. The x-ray machines in the Perishable Cargo Terminal (PCT) is located immediately after examination area hence the Examining Officer can have easy access to the area. When pharma products are opened, the consignee rejects the entire consignment for fear of contamination. The pharma products are packed under special climatic conditions in the factory. When pharma product packaging is opened the medicine gets contaminated.

The Joint Commissioner of Customs(Export) informed that the examination of the Pharma Products are done as per the guidelines given by the system i.e. ICES 1.5 to the officer. If the CCR instructs to open examination then open examination is carried out by the officer. In the case where it is felt pharma products should not be opened for fear of contamination and any chemical changes in product, the exporter should produce a certificate issued by the labs to this context and the AC/DC of respective Export-Shed will take a decision in this regard.

The chairman directed to the Joint Commissioner of Customs (Export) to examine the matter and issue instructions accordingly.

[Point dropped]

C. LEO are not reflecting in DGFT

In the instant meeting the representatives of ACCAI informed that many shipping bills which are given LEO in the ACC, Mumbai, are not reflecting in DGFT website with the result, it requires re-transmission. They further they informed that submit the Shipping Bill/LEO to SEVOTTAM Desk and the officer at SEVOTTAM Desk transships the Shipping Bill/LEO to DGFT.

The Joint Commissioner of Customs (Import) informed that matter has been taken up with DG(System) and issue will be resolved according to the guidelines of the DG(System).

[Point dropped]

D. ICEGATE Segregation

In the instant meeting the representatives of ACCAI informed that in ICEGATE Segregation Time and Date is still showing as 'NA'. However, ICEGATE notification says that segregation time and date is now available in ICEGATE.

In the instant meeting, the AC(EDI) informed that matter has been taken up with DG (Systems) to resolve the issue of the S/Bs not reflecting in DGFT website. The matter is also been taken up with Shri Ananth R, JSM for rectification of the same. The matter is being looked into by DG System for rectifying the same. The same is being pursued by this office for early resolution in the matter.

The Chairman informed the house that the matter has been taken up with Director, DG(System) and asked the member of trade that if the still persists the same should brought to his notice.

[Point closed]

L. Uploading of contact details on ACC website

In the instant meeting the representative of BCBA requested that contact details of the officials with telephone number be available at ACC website.

The AC/EDI informed the house that cabin and intercom line are being allocated to the officials. On completion of the task the contact details of official website will be updated accordingly.

[Point closed]

N. Posting of officers with regular charge in RMS Cell

In the instant meeting the representatives of BCBA informed the additional charge of RMS Cell is given officers of Import Shed. Due to which RMS Bill of Entry gets undue delay and the trade suffers a lot. They requested that sufficient no. of officials should be posted in RMS Cell with regular charge.

The chairman directed that 2 officers may be posted in RMS Cell with the regular Charge.

[Point closed]

O. Waiver of late Charge/Demurrage

In the instant meeting the representative of BCBA requested that erratic functioning of the EDI System is resulting in delayed processing of documents and resulting in increased transaction cost due to excessive demurrage. Trade requires upfront waiver of demurrage charged alongwith waiver of late submission charge.

The representative of MIAL stated that they allow for waiver of demurrage on case to case basis. None from Air India attended the meeting.

The Chairman stated that Customs JC/ADC are empowered to allow waiver on case to case basis.

[Point closed]

P. Forwarding of Cargo for examination without ADC, AQ, PQ

During EDI system failure, MIAL/AI should forward the package for customs examination without goods registered for compliance of ADC, AQ, PQ etc. to minimize delay in obtaining NOC when system are down. Presently, all consignments are kept on hold until the system is restarted.

The chairman welcomed the suggestion and requested the custodians to do the needful.

[Point closed]

Q. More Manpower and Forklift at Night

In the instant meeting the representative of BCBA requested that MIAL to arrange more manpower and forklift as only one fork lift available after 11 PM.

The representatives of MIAL informed that they are providing sufficient no. of forklift for faster clearance of cargo.

[Point closed]

2. New points for discussion in this meeting:

A. Poor handling services at Air India Import and Export Shed

The representative of BCBA informed that timely clearance of import cargo has been adversely affected at Air India Import and Export shed due to non-traceability, non-availability of fork lift, lack of manpower / loaders, shortage of staff at the billing counters etc. They also informed that matter has also been taken up addressed the matter with Chairman, Air India. In larger interest of timely clearance of Air Import and Export consignments and to improve the

dwelling time, we kindly request Customs to intervene and address the issue with Civil Aviation Ministry for immediate improvement. The entire EXIM trade is suffering due to the lackadaisical approach of Air India.

The Chairman stated that the issue has been raised in every PTFC Meeting and the Chairman of Air India was also informed during his visit to Air Cargo Complex, Sahar. Since, Air India is improving the facilities and manpower, the point may be taken after 3 months.

[Action: Air India (Point dropped for 3 months i.e. upto Jan, 2018)]

B. Requirement of No Signature – PN No 14/2017 dated 12.5.2017

In the instant, meeting the representative of BCBA submitted that the efforts of ACC by issuance of PN No 14/2017 dated 12.5.2017 thus withdrawing the requirement of signature at the time of OOC.

Since, the OOC message is now being transmitted online on Customs EDI System to the Custodian, only after receipt of such OOC message, the gate-pass is generated by the Custodian. Hence as per the spirit of the above PN, the requirement of separate signature of the officers on the gate-pass should be eliminated as per the provision of the above PN.

The Chairman stated that the matter will be examined and decision will be taken accordingly.

[Action: AC (EDI)/ MIAL/ AIR INDIA]

C. Examination orders by the Group AO

In the instant, meeting the representative of BCBA informed that Members of trade have reported that on certain occasions, timely examination of import cargo is delay due to examination order and special comment given such as "Verify PCB", "Verify SVB", "Check Group Attested Invoice" etc.

They requested that for sake of transparency, whatever requirements are sought should be demanded at the time of Assessment itself. This will help to avoid the delay at the time of examination and clearance.

The Chairman stated the officer would be sensitized.

[Action: AC (Import Shed)]

D. Transaction value for Assessment

In the instant, meeting the representative of BCBA that transaction value is being disputed by the Assessment group even in case of commercial invoices produced by the Importers. They requested that transaction value should not be rejected without sufficient reason. The queries being raised for putting up value evidence in case of commercial invoices, should be avoided.

The Chairman stated that the issue will be examined in the light of Board's guidelines.

[Action: AC/ All Groups]

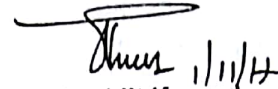
E. Processing of perishable export consignment during instance of Customs EDI System breakdown

In the instant, meeting the representative of BCBA that during instances of Customs EDI System breakdown, the processing of export perishable consignments should be permitted on checklist on manual basis in order to ensure timely flight connection.

The Chairman stated that manual LEO will be allowed if Shipping Bill Number is generated in the ICES 1.5 system subject to regularization within the following day.

3. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chairman.

This issues with the approval of the Chairman of the PTFC, Commissioner of Customs (Export), Mumbai Customs Zone-III.


(Sukhjot Kumar)

Addl. Commissioner of Customs,
Air Cargo Complex, Mumbai

COPY TO:

1. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Zone-III, Mumbai - For kind information, please.
2. Pr. Commissioner / Commissioner of Customs, Import / Export / General, ACC.
3. All Addl./Jt./DC/AC Commissioner of Customs, Import / Export / General, ACC.
4. All members of PTFC meeting (via E-mail)
5. E & T Section/PSO Section for circulation in Export/General Commissionerate.
6. EDI Section- For uploading on ACC Website.
7. Office copy.