

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

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

Date: 21.09.2017

MINUTES OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
08.09.2017

The monthly meeting of the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) was held on 08.09.2017 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 Sukhjit Kumar, Addl. Commissioner (Import)	Customs, ACC
Shri Raju Sakthivel, Addl. Commissioner (Export)	Customs, ACC
Shri P. K. Agrawal, Addl. Commissioner (General)	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, Kaushal Thakker, Paresh R. Sangani, Ketan Desai, Sorab P. Engineer	BCBA (formely known as BCHAA)
Nitin Desai, Paresh Shah	WISA
Bala Ayer, Mohnish G. Charania, Arvind Dikshit	ACAAI
Jyotsna Patil, Ryan Dabreo, Bhaskar Thirumala	Jet Airways
Vishwanathan Nair	Air France
Harish Zade	Lufthansa Cargo AG.
Ajay Sharma	Newgen
Sunil Kumar Singh	SBI

None from Air India attended the meeting and it was decided to seek reason from Air India.

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

A. 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.

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.

In the instant meeting, 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.

[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 assured the installation will be done within one month's time. He informed the house that delay in installation of printer caused to change in specification of printer.

The Chairman directed MIAL to install the printer as soon as possible.

[ACTION: MIAL]

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]

F. DMS Coupons not pasted on SB and B/E files:

In the previous meeting, the representative of M/s Newgen Software Technologies Ltd. intimated that most often the importers/CHAs do not paste the mandatory DMS coupons on the

Shipping Bill and Bills of Entry files. The DC(CHS) and BCHAA were updated about the issue. With the efforts of DC(CHS) approx. 8000 coupons were submitted. However, 50,000 documents are still pending for want of DMS coupons. It has been requested that the importers/CHAs may be directed to submit the pending DMS coupons at the earliest.

The representative of BCBA intimated that many a time coupons are not available at the service center of Newgen and suggested that DMS coupons should be made available in advance so that the same could be pasted on each and every document. Alternatively booklets containing the coupons may be sold or digital payment system may be made available.

In the instant meeting the representative of M/s. Newgen stated that it is facilitated that Customs Broker may purchase booklets containing the coupons in advance as per their requirement.

[ACTION: Point Closed]

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.

The Chairman directed to the AC/MCD (I) and AC/MCD(X) to take immediate action to weed out the documents of 2011.

[ACTION: DC/MCD(I) & DC/MCD(X)]

H. Elimination of signature in final printout on SBs in line as per PN No. 14/2017-18 dated 12.05.2017 for import.

In the previous meeting, the representative of BCHAA requested that, as the requirements of signatures by the shed officers on final print out of the Bills of Entry has been eliminated vide PN No. 14/2017-18 dated 12.05.2017, accordingly, the same be made applicable for the S/Bs.

The representative of BCBA intimated that some of the Banks do not accept the Shipping Bills without sign of the Customs official on final printout.

In the instant meeting, JC(Export) informed that PN No. 31/2017 dated 16.08.2017 in this regard has already been issued.

[Point Closed]

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.

None from Air India attended the meeting.

[ACTION: M/s AIR INDIA]

K. No Storage and Testing Facility for Fresh Chilled Fish /Frozen Meat

For Perishable Cargo, when the drawback is more than Rs. 10,000/- sample is drawn for TEST purpose for items like FRESH CHILLED FISH /FROZEN MEAT. Customs Broker and shipper have no objection. But there is no chill facility to store at ACC to keep sample till it is sent for testing. Also the examiner insists that the drawback shipping bill be converted to Free shipping bill because there is no test facility available for such items.

In the instant meeting the representative of MIAL informed the house that space has been provided for setting-up of test lab within the premises of Air Cargo Complex.

The chairman directed the AC/Export Shed to instruct the officials not to insist on drawing samples till the lab is set-up. The Joint Commissioner of Customs(Export-Shed) is directed to look the space provided for Lab and to set-up the lab soon.

[Point Closed]

2. New Point for discussion in this PTFC Meeting:

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.

[Action: JC/AC/Export]

B. Submission of Negative Report from the Exporter

In the instant meeting the representative of ACCAI referred ACC Mumbai PN 24/2016 dated 15.07.2016 regarding integration of RBI-BRC module. Wherein it is stated that after 01.04.2014, exporters need not submit negative statements. As per exporter's banker, the integration between banks an RBI is not taking place. Till this integration is confirmed, kindly accept the negative statements from the exporters' or ensure they are not served with SCN or their IEC is not blocked.

The Joint Commissioner of Customs (Export) in this regard informed that negative statements are accepted.

[Point Closed]

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 Chairman suggested two course of action for the persisting problem. First, additional staff should be posted to monitor the transshipment of each and every Shipping Bill/LEO. Second, it may be written to DG (System) for reflection of all transshipped Shipping Bill/LEO. It is better to resolve the issue through Systems Directorate.

[Action: JC/ EDI]

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.

The Chairman suggested that the matter will be examined and the same will be taken up with Director, DG(System).

[Action: AC/EDI]

E. Supply Of Computers And Printers:-

In this context it is informed only 25 computer system have been provided by MIAL till date, however remaining 55 computers systems with printers (Laser jet HP) are still awaited, which may kindly be provided to this office urgently

Further, the 25 printers provided by MIAL are not compatible with regular office work and the same has been brought to the notice of the MIAL and they had agreed to change and supply (Laser Jet HP) to this office. MIAL was, therefore, requested to take immediate step to change the printer and supply (Laser jet printer HP P1108 or other series) where 88A cartridge can be used

F. Master Plan For Renovation Of Appraising Hall :-

Recently the MCD area and the Export Shed Area have been renovated by MIAL. Further master plan for renovation of appraising hall required to be received from MIAL same may please be intimated at the earliest. Also renovation work may be started urgently as the same has been informed to the Ministry regarding the project/activities planned by this office under the Swachh Abhiyan (Swachhta Action Plan). Since the Ministry and Chief Commissioner's office is monitoring the action, MIAL was requested to take immediate action to start the renovation of Appraising Hall urgently.

G. Providing Of 15 Photocopier Machines:-

As agreed by the Sr. Vice President, MIAL in the meeting held on 18.05.2017 in the chamber of Commissioner of Customs (Gen) for providing minimum 05 photocopier by the end of May 2017 however, till date no Photocopier machines has been provided by the MIAL. Therefore, it is requested to provide 08 photocopier at the earliest. Same may be provided at the earliest

H White Washing At Air Cargo Complex Viz. (I) Mazzanine Floor (II) 1st Floor:-

Government of India has initiated the task of Swachha Bharat Abhiyan to achieve the said aim, proper cleanliness is required to be maintained in the office areas by cleaning the office area regularly. Apart from cleaning the office area it needs to be kept tidy by "White Washing" at least once in every year. Hence it is requested to initiate the white washing of offices and compliance report may be submitted to this office so as to enable this office to inform the same to the competent authority.

I. Provision Of 05 Vehicles And Transport Facility For Staff:-

Transport facilities from Metro Station to ACC and vice versa was requested taking into consideration the great hardship being faced by the staff while commuting to office and vice versa. Further, non-availability of proper transport for quite a long time, inforce of the erratic and excessive monsoon only aggravates the condition. Therefore, transport facility needs to be started in a more organized manner staging between 9.00 am to 10.30am morning and 5.30 pm to 07.00 pm evening. Earlier this point was also accepted by the Sr. Vice President, MIAL

J. Replacing Of Visiting Chairs:-

Visiting chairs in the cabins of Commissioner's office as well JC/ADC office required to be changed and wherever necessary sofa as well as office decorum required to be changed. Same may please be initiated at the earliest.

K. Provision Of Infrastructure Facilities In Import Shed:

As intimated by the Joint Commissioner of Customs, Import Shed, ACC vide their letter dated 23.08.17 addressed to ADC/Gen and copy to MIAL attention is drawn to the present scenario of Import Shed, wherein, officers are working in a very deplorable state due to lack of basis infrastructure facilities. As a result, the work in import shed is getting hampered to a great extent. Therefore, the following amenities to Import Shed is required on urgent basis:-

1. Installation of at least 3 additional nodes with proper seating arrangement for three Examiners in Heavy shed.
2. Provision of two telephones/Intercom connectivity in Import Shed.
3. Proper seating arrangement of 3 officers in Light Shed.
4. Provision of Wi-Fi for getting access to Net for seeking important information related to examination.
5. Provision of a system printer for scanning of important document Test Reports etc. at regular intervals.

The representative of MIAL informed the house that the Commissioner of Customs (General) holds monthly meeting with custodians on points related to infrastructure development and other amenities and facilities and requested that these points should be taken up in the meeting hold by the Commissioner of Customs (General) instead of this meeting.

The Chairman agreed and suggested the DG(PG) to take up the issues in the monthly meeting hold by the Commissioner of Customs (General).

[Action: Point Closed (E to K to be submitted before Cargo Facilitation Committee Meeting)]

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.

[Action: AC/EDI]

M. Posting of Additional officers in Export Shed

In the instant meeting the representative of BCBA requested to post additional officers are required in export Shed at Examiner & Supdt. Level.

The JC/Export stated that officials are being posted in additional manner as and when requirement is noticed.

[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.

[Action: JC/Shed (I)]

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.

[Action: MIAL, Air India & AC/EDI]

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.

Q. More Manpower and Forklift at Night

[Action: MIAL/Air India]

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.

R. Gate Pass

[Action: MIAL]

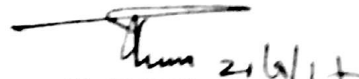
In the instant meeting the representative of BCBA requested that Manual Gate Pass Facilitation Center for exports working only after 2 PM.

The representative of MIAL informed that Gate Pass System completely online and it remains available all the day.

[Action: Point Closed]

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