



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
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MINUTES OF THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (CCFC)
MEETING HELD ON 02.01.2020

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The meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) for Kolkata Customs Zone was held on 02.01.2020 at 3:00 P.M. in the Board Room of Custom House, Kolkata under the Chairmanship of Shri S.R.Baruah, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata Customs Zone .

The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:-

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Organisation
1.	Shri Deep Sekhar	Principal Commissioner of Customs (Airport)
2.	Shri Vishwanath	Additional Commissioner (CCO)
3.	Shri Amrendra Narayan	Additional Commissioner(Port)
4.	Shri M.A.Ansari	Additional Commissioner(CCP)
5.	Shri D Satish	Joint Commissioner(Port)
6.	Shri Sydney D Silva	Joint Commissioner(Airport & ACC)
7.	Shri Santosh Sharan	Deputy Commissioner of Customs(CCO)
8.	Shri M. K. Kachari	Deputy Commissioner of Customs(Port)
9.	Shri N. Zimik	Deputy Commissioner of Customs(Port)
10.	Shri Basant Kumar	Deputy Commissioner of Customs(Port)
11.	Shri J. Baidya Majumder	Asstt. Commissioner of Customs(Tech.,CCP)
12.	Shri Shyam Narayan Singh	O/o Assistant Drug Controller(India)
13.	Shri Faiz Ahmed	S.C.P.(Import Bond)
14.	Shri R. Gokul	Sr. Traffic Manager, KoPT
15.	Shri Kaushik Kumar Manna	Kolkata Port Trust
16.	Shri Suman Goswami	Textile Committee
17.	Shri Ashutosh Jaiswal	Century CFS

18.	Shri Mannu Choudhary	CCHAA
19.	Shri Debashis Dasgupta	A.L.L. CFS
20.	Shri Pramod Kumar Srivastava	V.P.,NACFS
21.	Shri Subhangkar Banik	Balmer Lawrie CFS
22.	Shri S. Chakraborty	BNCCI
23.	Shri Sanjib Saha	CONCOR
24.	Shri Arnab Chakraborty	FIEO
25.	Shri P C Pincha	GJEPC
26.	Shri Kaushik Ghosh	GJEPC

Some other officers of Customs and representative of various Organizations were also present.

The Chairman welcomed all the members and opened the floor for discussion.

Following issues were discussed in the meeting:

Issue 1	<p>Sponsored by National Association of Container Freight Station (NACFS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Delay in crediting the amount to the Exporters Account by United Bank of India, nominated banker for drawback disbursement:</u> Various exporters are not getting payment on time through United Bank of India even the scroll generated by ICD Durgapur. • <u>Renewal of BONDED WARE HOUSE Section 59 operated by Kolkata CFSs:</u> Under ease of doing business CFSs are to be looked into as value added services providers and to save the cost as per normal practice the bonded warehouses were built inside the CFSs. These facilities are there in many of the CFSs in India of different Commissionerate. Further requested for giving permission towards bonding under Section 49 and 59 without going to the Bond Department in Customs House, if the goods lying in same CFS. • <u>Part delivery of consignment from CFS and ICD:</u> Requested to raise the issue again for discussion as the part delivery of import containers/consignments at CFSs/ICD are required. • <u>UCC Software:</u> All new set of officer has joined so want more details on it
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Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The issue has already been intimated to the Bank and an e-mail was sent to the DG System (Kolkata). The issue was also intimated to the DG Systems, Delhi vide letter dated 11.12.2019. ➤ Matter has been discussed, trade has stated that Importers/CHAs have to approach Bond Department, Custom House for bonding of goods and requested if the same can be done at CFSs itself. The Chair has stated that the matter will be examined under the purview of warehousing regulations and relevant Board Instructions. ➤ Trade requested to reconsider the decision of part clearance and also informed that it become difficult to approach Jurisdictional Commissioner to seek permission for part clearance on case to case basis for rarest of rare cases. The Chair has stated that the matter has already attained the finality in the last CCFC Meeting dated 04.11.2019. Necessary Public Notice will be issued shortly and same may also be referred to Board. ➤ Matter has been discussed. It has been informed that UCC software for tracking of uncleared/unclaimed cargo lying with the Custodian/CFS, has started functioning and the CFSs have started uploading data using the said UCC software. Sometime it becomes difficult for Disposal Cell to identify the concerned sections/ authority to obtain the NOC. The Chair has stated to insert comment/alert in the system at the time of seizure/detention which can be further useful while obtaining the NOC. The Chair has also inquired whether all the NOCs from concerned sections have been received by the disposal cell on online basis or not.
Directions of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A letter addressed to Chief Regional Manager, United Bank of India, Kolkata to be issued under signature of the Commissioner of Customs (Prev.) with a request to resolve to issue at the earliest and the matter needs to be followed up. Also there is a need to look for alternatives in other banks for better services. Commissioner /Addl. Commissioner to personally speak to the Chief Regional Manager immediately and ensure solution within a week. ▪ DC/S.C.P. Import Bond to submit a report by 10.01.2020 to the Commissioner of Customs (Port) after reviewing entire issue in light of the relevant instructions from Board and Warehouse (Custody and Handling of Goods) Regulations, 2016.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decision has already been taken in the last CCFC Meeting dated 04.11.2019. Part Clearance permission i.e. Part Out of Charge (OOC) can only be given depending on urgency of the clearance on case to case basis under approval of competent authority who has to record reasons for giving such permission. This has to subsequently be entered in the system when final OOC is given online. Public Notice to be issued accordingly by the Commissioner. ▪ The UCC Software has to be made functional within one week and NOCs given in pending cases. Creation of UserID / Password (mapping) for UCC for new officers to be done within a week. At the time of seizure/detention of any cargo, necessary comment/alert to be inserted in the <u>system</u> specifying all the relevant details, which is to be utilized while obtaining NOC for disposal of the un-cleared cargo. SIB/Legal/Concerned Groups to ensure that NOC to be given online for disposal of un-cleared cargo. ADC (Port) to ensure compliance.
Action to be taken by	<p style="text-align: right;">Commissioner of Customs (Prev.) DC/SCP Import Bond Commissioner of Customs (Port) Additional Commissioner of Customs (Port)</p>
Issue 2	<p><u>Sponsored by Gem & Jewellery E.P.C –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CCTV Installation in examination / appraisal room:</u> CCTV camera, for proper and better vigilance, requires to be installed particularly in the room where precious metal parcels are opened and examined. • <u>Export consignments of Gold/Precious Jewellery Returned un-appraised:</u> Export consignments should not be returned from Airport on mere ground that XRF machine is not functioning, system is down or because of absence of some concerned official. This is particularly because each export consignment is highly valued and is insured for its journey from the place of exporter to Airport, Airport to destination Airport and from destination Airport to consignee. There is no insurance cover for return journey of the export shipment from Kolkata Airport back to exporter's office. • <u>Appraisal & examination of the export consignments:</u> The usual practice to commence examination of jewellery export

	<p>parcels is from 7 pm onwards. At times, the first consignment examination starts even at 8 pm. Naturally, the last exporter in the queue is released very late. We request the precious consignments should be treated differently and the appraiser (s) should be available in between fixed hours, may be 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. or as the department thinks it fit, but uncertain waiting period may please be ended. It is often found that "First in first serve" policy is not followed. The "first in first serve" policy should be adopted. Sometimes, it is willfully superseded by the Customs officials for unexplained reasons.</p>
<p>Remarks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All the examination areas related to import shed are covered under CCTV surveillance which includes space provided for examination of precious metals and jewellerys. Regarding the installation of CCTV in export shed, a letter dated 08.08.2019 was sent to Deputy General Manager AAICLAS (custodian). It has been informed by JC(ACC) that the installation of CCTV in the Export Shed will be completed by the Custodian by Jan,2020. ➤ Matter has been discussed. It has been informed by JC(ACC) that assessment of S/Bs related to Gold Jewellery is a complex and time taking task, as the value addition must be checked in addition to checking procurement certificate, calculation and conversion of Gold measurement. As the S/B are being filed at late office hours, in very rare cases the goods may returned un-appraised. The Chair has inquired about availability of Strong Room facility in the ACC so that the goods can be stored by the Custodian in the Strong room after examination. Thereafter examination, sealing and LEO are given till goods are released by Custodian for loading in aircraft. ➤ The registration, examination and LEO can only be done once the goods enter the cargo area. The gold consignments are assessed by the group and are needed to be examined 100% for ensuring the weight and purity of goods. In export shed, the goods (gold consignment) enter the cargo area quite late in the evening, even after several verbal requests made to the clearing agents and exporters for making the goods enter the cargo area by 4pm. However, the gold consignments, being precious ones, are given highest priority. After inspecting, examining the perishable consignments, the gold consignments are treated very carefully to

	ensure that the release of the goods is not delayed as the demurrage charges are very high.
Directions of the Chair	<p>a) JC (ACC) to follow up with AAICLAS so that the installation of CCTV in the Export Shed is completed by January, 2020.</p> <p>b) JC (ACC) to take up the issue with the custodian regarding the storage of precious goods in the Strong Room so that the consignments are not returned back after goods are allowed entry in the shed.</p> <p>c) Matter to be looked in by JC (ACC) and RMS instructions to be strictly followed at the time of examination of consignment.</p>
Action to be taken by	Joint Commissioner of Customs (ACC)
Issue 3	<p>Sponsored by the Regional Office of the Textiles Committee, Kolkata-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total amount of Rs. 1,81,779/- (One lack Eighty-one thousand Seven hundred Seventy-nine only incl 18% GST) is due for which test reports are ready but could not be sent for nonpayment. Payment will be made in the name of "Textiles Committee" only. Summary is mentioned below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Appraising Gr. 3- Rs. 77,113/- (B) Appraising Gr. 7- Rs.79,355/- (C) SIB-----Rs.25,311/-
Remarks	<p>➤ Efforts are being made to realize the testing fees. Correspondences to almost all the importers/CHAs have already been made. Further, correspondence shall be made as per the list of B/Es received from Regional Office of the Textile Committee for which test reports are ready but payment not done.</p>
Directions of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner of Customs (Port) to write to Regional Office of the Textiles Committee, Kolkata incorporating all the efforts which has been taken up by the Customs Department to realize the dues. Details of Importer/Exporter may also be shared with the Textiles Committee so that the matter can also be followed up by the Textiles Committee itself.
Action to be taken by	Commissioner of Customs (Port)

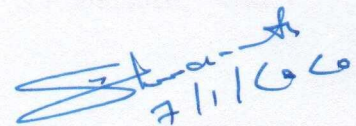
- **Animal Quarantine office at Airport complex:** As per present practice there is no permanent Animal quarantine facility at airport office , the Import of live animals get affected as we need to book them for inspection. Once the booking is done then Animal quarantine officer arrived . This increase the dwell time of airport import cargo.
- **Assistant Drug Controller (ADC) NOC need to simplify for import cargo particularly for AEO Importer:** The Asst Drug controller NOC on regular imported cargo take minimum 2 days to obtain "No Objection Certificate" from the drug department. This is so because once the cargo is imported we need to submit documents for NOC at Nizam Palace ADC, Headquarter morning by 11 AM. Once document is submitted, it is scrutinized by department and manual NOC is granted from Nizam Palace with an instruction to submit documents in Custom House ADC office for final NOC. The Custom House ADC office waits for online NOC on their portal which generally they receive next day after 11 AM. Hence this process increases the dwell time of clearance of cargo from PORT and some time may lead to incur extra cost due to transfer of Cargo in CFS.

Remarks

- Matter has been discussed. The Chair has asked Pr. Commissioner (A&A) to examine whether all Bills of Entry requiring clearance by Animal Quarantine are transmitted online to Animal Quarantine Authority through SWIFT or not. If it is not happening, then reasons have to be identified and addressed. The Pr. Commissioner (A&A) to also immediately write to concerned authority for providing the necessary man power/facility at the Airport to ensure speedy clearance.
- Matter has been discussed and it was informed by the trade that process of obtaining NOC from Assistant Drugs Controller (ADC) requires some manual submission as well as online submission. The Chair has stated that the existing procedure needs to be stream lined and such dual practice should not be continued for obtaining NOC and the same should be done through SWIFT only. Accordingly matter may be taken up with office of ADC.

Directions of the Chair	<p>a) Pr. Commissioner (A&A) and Commissioner (Port) to ensure that all the Bills of Entry which require clearance from AQ, should be routed through AQ in SWIFT. CCHAA to submit a detailed report to Customs Authority regarding the percentage of B/Es which requires AQ, processed through SWIFT and time taken for clearance of Bills of Entry from AQ Department so that the matter can be pursued further with Animal Quarantine Department.</p> <p>b) Commissioner of Customs(Port) to write a letter to the Deputy Drugs Controller, Nizam Palace, Kolkata Drug Controller, Nizam Palace to streamline the entire procedure and also to ensure that the process of obtaining NOC to be done through SWIFT.</p>
Action to be taken by	<p>Pr. Commissioner of Customs (A&A) Commissioner of Customs(Port)</p>

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.
This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


7/1/20

(Vishwanath)

Additional Commissioner of Customs,
Chief Commissioner's Office,
Kolkata Customs Zone.

F. No. VIII (48)-45/CCO/KOL/CUS/CCFC/2016 Pt.I

Dated: 07-01-2020.

Copy to:

1. The Principal Commissioner of Customs(A&A)
2. The Commissioner of Customs(Port)
3. The Commissioner of Customs(Prev.)W.B.
- 4.The Additional/Joint Commissioner of Customs(Port/A&A/CCP)
- 5.DC(EDI) for uploading in Kolkata Customs Web Page.
- 6.All Participants.