



सीमा शुल्क के प्रधान आयुक्त का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
हवाई अड्डा एवं एअर कार्गो आयुक्तालय/ AIR PORT & AIR CARGO COMMISSIONERATE,
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MINUTES OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE
(PTFC) MEETING HELD ON 30.04.2024

The Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee (PTFC) Meeting for the trade partners/ members of the Bengaluru Airport and Air Cargo Complex Commissionerate was convened on 30th April at 16.30 Hours. The meeting was held in virtual mode using Webex portal. Smt. Kajal Singh, Pr. Commissioner of Customs, AP & ACC Commissionerate, chaired the Meeting. The following officers and representatives of various stakeholders participated in the meeting.

Sl. No.	Name S/ Shri/ Smt/ Ms.	Designation
1.	P. Santhi Sudha	Additional Commissioner
2.	Devasish Paul	Deputy Commissioner
3.	Sanjay Kakkar	Deputy Commissioner
4.	Animesh Garg	Deputy Commissioner
5.	Shashi Kiran S	Deputy Commissioner
6.	Namrata Singh	Deputy Commissioner
7.	Sunil Kumar Singh	Assistant Commissioner
8.	Gaurav Jain	Superintendent
9.	Sangitha	Steno
10.	Dr. T K Sahu	Regional Officer, AQCS
11.	D K Nagraj	PPO, PQIS
12.	Indira Mynampati	PQIS
13.	Shanthi Prasanna	ADCI, (CDSCO)
14.	Soma Chaudhary	ADC, FIEO
15.	Adarsh K	Assistant DGFT
16.	Girish Narayan	Representative From CHA Association
17.	Tej Singh	Representative from Thai Airways
18.	V Chandru	Representative from ACFI
19.	Aldrick D'souza	Representative from WFS
20.	M. Kusumakar	Representative from WFS
21.	Hari Prasad	Representative from Menzies
22.	Tessy Mathew	Representative from Fedex
23.	Pavan Mruthyunjaya	Representative from Fedex
24.	Mayank Puri	Representative from DHL
25.	Prem	Representative from DHL

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members of the PTFC and officials present in the virtual meeting and updated all stakeholders that the AP & ACC Commissionerate, Bengaluru, has achieved revenue target and exceeded the target by around 1000 crores. The Chairperson thanked all the stakeholders for their cooperation in the clearance process which helped in achieving the target. The following agenda points scheduled for the meeting were received and discussed during the meeting.

(i) Shri Animesh Garg, Deputy Commissioner, explained the agenda point submitted by Shri Pavan Mruthyunjaya from FedEx Express raising a request to simplified and expedited approval process for Section 48 auction/destruction, advocating for the reinstatement of the previous NOC process instead of involving an inspection committee. In response, the Chairperson acknowledged the challenges arising from incomplete information regarding consignments, often lacking detailed item descriptions. She emphasized that as the majority of imports were personal imports under CTH 9804, they were important for the individual and destruction of the same due to some technicalities could impact the individual adversely. The Chairperson expressed concerns over delays or non-clearance caused due to discrepancies in KYC processes or other NOCs that may not be relevant and said that attention to details should be there especially regarding clearance of essential/important documents and items for individuals. She proposed continuing the inspection process for the next two months while issuing NOCs and prioritizing clearance. The Chairperson urged the Custodians for escalating issues to customs when encountering difficulties in filing the bill of entry instead of pushing the same to Section 48 process. Shri Pavan Mruthyunjaya from FedEx reassured that the team is already working on filing the bill of entry for consignments and highlighted improvements in the KYC process. The Chairperson reiterated that filing the bill of entry for each consignment is important and emphasized the need for efficiency in clearance processes.

(ii) Shri Animesh Garg, Deputy Commissioner, explained the agenda points submitted by Shri Tej Singh, representative from Thai Airways, outlining the following requests:

- a. Request for a second gate at WFS warehouse to prevent clashes between import and export cargo and to improve access to aircraft taxiing in T2. Shri Aldrick D'Souza, representative from WFS, provided an update, stating that permissions have been sought for cool port expansion and the opening of a second gate, with approvals obtained from the customs department. However, final approval from Delhi is pending, as it requires CISF manpower deployment. The Chairperson expressed concerns over the mixing of import and export cargo, to which Shri Aldrick D'Souza, representative from WFS, assured that the problems would not arise. He emphasized that the current situation leads to congestion and requires careful traffic management.
- b. Installation of x-ray machines at the cool port in WFS warehouse. Shri Aldrick D'Souza, a representative from WFS, explained that two x-ray machines purchased earlier are yet to be installed in the cool port, and renovation activities are underway to facilitate their installation within the next ten to fifteen days

(iii) Ms. Soma Chaudhary, ADC, FIEO, raised a request for simplified and expedited approval regarding Nicomatic India Electronics Private Limited's inability to avail import duty exemption, despite having advanced authorization, due to a customs glitch as informed by their CHA. They emphasized the need to resolve this issue to utilize the entitled benefits. The Chairperson acknowledged the issue and assured that they would investigate the glitch in the system promptly and provide a solution.

Also, Ms. Soma Chaudhary, ADC, FIEO, also expressed gratitude towards Bangalore Customs, particularly ACC, for their outstanding service over the past year. She commended the department for its efficiency and responsiveness in addressing grievances, noting a significant reduction in complaints. She conveyed appreciation for the Chairperson's leadership and expressed anticipation for continued cooperation in the future. The Chairperson attributed the success to the diligent efforts of the officers at the operational level and their role in facilitating compliant trade

(iv) Shri Girish Narayan, representative From CHA Association raised requests as below:

- a. **System Glitches** : Shri Girish Narayan, a representative from the CHA Association, highlighted recurring technical glitches in the system, particularly in the evenings and late nights. The Chairperson acknowledged the issue, noting that Shri Sunil Kumar Singh, Assistant Commissioner, had briefed them on it, and mentioned the process of flagging it to the ICEGATE/ICES team for resolution.
- b. **ACL and RTGS Issues** : Shri Girish Narayan, a representative from the CHA Association, reported issues with ECL functioning only on net banking mode and RTGS facility, as well as difficulties with mandate forms. The Chairperson assured to follow up on the matter with the concerned teams.
- c. **IGM Linking Issue** : Shri Girish Narayan, a representative from the CHA Association, raised concerns about the inability to link master and house IGMs internally, requiring external assistance from the EDI Centre. The Chairperson acknowledged the issue and assured prompt attention to it. They also informed that this is an All-India issue and the team is actively working on resolving it.
- d. **IGCR Bills Issue** : Shri Girish Narayan, a representative from the CHA Association, pointed out ongoing issues with GR not occurring from their end, necessitating actions from the shed. He expressed concern that as more bills are lined up, more workload will accrue to the SHED AC as the responsibility lies solely with the Shed DC/AC. The Chairperson assured to escalate the matter for resolution to ICEGATE/ICES teams.
- e. **Levy of Fines for Multiple IGMs** : Shri Girish Narayan, a representative from the CHA Association, highlighted concerns regarding fines imposed on importers due to issues with forwarders or airlines

carrying cargo under multiple IGMs. He informed that due to the Red Sea issue, airlines are cancelling bookings at the last moment, and fines are being levied by Customs for shutouts. The Chairperson assured to examine the situation, particularly the fines imposed on genuine errors by exporters.

(v) Shri Pavan Mruthyunjaya from FedEx Express raised the issue regarding office space allocation and the need for additional office space. The Chairperson replied that they will speak with the custodian to identify and allocate some area.

(vi) Additionally, the Chairperson welcomed Shri Adarsh K, Assistant DGFT, Bengaluru, to his first PTFC meeting. The Chairperson also acknowledged the gratitude expressed by Shri V Chandru, representative from ACFI.

3. The Chairperson thanked everyone for their contributions that enabled the AP & ACC Commissionerate, Bengaluru, to achieve its revenue target. The meeting concluded with a formal vote of thanks.

4. The minutes are issued with the approval of the Pr. Commissioner of Customs.

**(जी वामशी कृष्णा रेड्डी / G Vamshi Krishna Reddy)
अपर आयुक्त/ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER**

Copy submitted to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone, Bengaluru.
2. All PTFC Members. (as per the mailing list)