

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION  
COMMITTEE (PTFC), HELD ON 24.04.2026**

A meeting of “PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)” was held at Custom House, Kandla, on 24.04.2026 at 4:00 P.M. under the Chairmanship of Shri Nitin Saini, Commissioner of Customs, Kandla. The following Customs Officers and representatives from the trade and other stakeholders were joined the meeting virtually through online mode:

| <b>Sr. No.</b> | <b>Name of the Representative (S/Shri/Ms.)</b> | <b>Designation of Officers / representatives of Members</b> |
|----------------|--|---|
| 1              | Vishwajeet Singh                               | Commissioner (In-situ) of Customs, C.H., Kandla             |
| 2              | Mukesh Rathore                                 | Additional Commissioner of Customs, C.H., Kandla            |
| 3              | B.V.S. Prasad                                  | Assistant Commissioner, C. H., Kandla                       |
| 4              | D. Srikanth                                    | Assistant Commissioner, C. H., Kandla                       |
| 5              | Haroon Rashid Khan                             | Assistant Commissioner, C. H., Kandla                       |
| 6              | Bindu Yadav Rohtagi                            | Assistant Commissioner, C. H., Kandla                       |
| 7              | Narendra Dawn                                  | Superintendent, Bond & SIIB Section, C.H., Kandla           |
| 8              | Hanuman Meena                                  | Superintendent, DE, C.H., Kandla                            |
| 9              | Bhavesh Kothiyari                              | Inspector, Adjudication Section, C.H., Kandla               |
| 10             | Akash Kumar                                    | Inspector, AG Section, C.H Kandla                           |
| 11             | Dinesh Gupta                                   | President, KCBA, Kandla                                     |
| 12             | Keyur Thakkar                                  | Secretary, KCBA, Kandla                                     |
| 13             | Ramendra P. Singh                              | Joint Secretary, Kandla Customs Brokers Association         |
| 14             | Rattan Bhawan                                  | Shantilal Shipping & Chartering                             |
| 15             | Prakash Danicha                                | D & J Shipping Services                                     |
| 16             | Jadeja Jagdish Sinh                            | Member  |
| 17             | Trishanku                                      | Member  |
| 18             | Atul   | Member  |

1.1 Further, as an initiative of the Board to include officers of DGTS Zonal Units as a Permanent Invitee in the PTFC and Open House Meetings conducted by the jurisdictional Commissionerates, following officers of the DGTS, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit Office, Ahmedabad also joined the meeting virtually through online mode:

| <b>Sr. No.</b> | <b>Name of the officer (Shri/Smt)</b> | <b>Designation of Officers / representatives of Members</b>           |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1              | Chanchal Kumar Tiwari                 | Joint Director, DGTS, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad.                |
| 2.             | Bhavesh P Kanaya                      | Additional Assistant Director, DGTS, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad. |
| 2.             | Sunita                                | Inspector, DGTS, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad                      |

2. At the outset, there was a brief introduction session of the officers as well as attendees and thereafter Chairman welcomed the members of Trade, Customs Broker Associations, Representatives of Shipping Line Associations and other stakeholders present for the meeting.

3. Thereafter, Shri Vishwajeet Singh, Commissioner (In-situ), C. H. Kandla outlined the agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17.03.2026 and provided an overview of the current state of trade facilitation and key challenges faced by stakeholders.

**[A] AGENDA POINTS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17.03.2026**

**01. In few cases waiver of sample test report at the time of filing of Warehouse Bill of entry and afterwards sample test report is required by FAG at the time of filing of Ex-Bond Bill of Entry causing delay in OOC.**

*{Point sponsored by Kandla Customs Brokers Association}*

In this regard, it is submitted that the matter has already been taken up with NAC in compliance with the directions issued by the Chairman during the meeting dated 17.03.2026. In the interim, and pending receipt of further guidelines from NAC, the following practice is being followed by this office to ensure expeditious clearance of cargo.

*(i) In case of cargo, where Testing has been done once, i.e. at the time of WH BoE or at the time of any of the Ex-Bond BoE, the OOC is being given on the basis of the earlier Test Report of the same cargo.*

*(ii) In cases, where no Testing has been done earlier, as per the Instructions of FAG, samples are drawn and sent to CRCL for obtaining the Test Report. In the meantime, if importer requests for early clearance of the cargo, the Ex-Bond BE is got provisionally assessed from the PAG and OOC is being given on the basis of Test Bond.*

**(Action: Issue may be closed)**

**[ B ] NEW AGENDA POINTS TO BE DISCUSSED IN THIS MEETING on 24.04.2026**

**1. Facilitation for Storage of OGL Cargo in Bonded Warehouses:**

At present, there are practical challenges being faced by trade in storing cargo under Open General Licence (OGL) in Customs Bonded Warehouses due to restrictions linked to specific HSN-based permissions.

In this regard, it was requested by KCBA that:

- All OGL cargo may be permitted to be stored in Customs Bonded Warehouses without the requirement of obtaining additional permissions, and not be restricted to pre-approved or specific HSN codes.
- The current process leads to multiple requests for permission amendments, resulting in delays, administrative burden, and loss of business opportunities, particularly in dynamic and uncertain scenarios (such as war or emergency-driven cargo diversions), where cargo arrival is often unplanned.
- Enabling such flexibility would significantly enhance the ease of doing business, improve port competitiveness, and allow trade to respond efficiently to evolving

global logistics situations.

This time no agenda points were received from Trade Representatives/Associations /Port Authority/Importers etc.

***{Point sponsored by Kandla Customs Brokers Association}***

In this regard, chairman directed the concerned section for their suggestion. In this regard, Shri Vishwajeet Singh, Commissioner (In-situ) in-charge of Bond Section informed that Custom Bonded Warehouses are meant for secure storage of dutiable goods with duty deferment under Section 61 of the Customs Act, 1962, and licences are granted only after verifying infrastructure, nature of goods, and storage compatibility. Further, as per Regulation 3(2)(e) of the Public/Private Bonded Warehouse Licensing Regulations, 2016, suitability of the premises for secure storage must be ensured before granting permission. This includes assessment of different types of goods (HSN-wise) to prevent contamination or deterioration. Therefore, storage of additional or different categories of goods without such verification may contravene the Regulations. Accordingly, prior approval of the competent authority is required for any addition or deletion of cargo categories.

The Chairman emphasized that blanket permission for storage of all HSN goods in all warehouses cannot be granted and only such goods in respect of which warehouse license was applied and granted will be allowed to be warehoused. He, however, stated that amendment request for allowing storage of goods which were not part of original license shall be expeditiously processed.

***(Action: Issue may be closed)***

## **2. Dynamic Adjustment of Insurance Cover for Bonded Warehouses**

Additionally, it was requested by KCBA that:

- Bonded warehouse operators may be allowed to dynamically increase or decrease insurance coverage based on actual cargo volumes handled.
- Such adjustments may be intimated to Customs for record purposes, instead of requiring prior approvals each time.
- This will help in optimizing insurance costs, aligning coverage with real-time inventory levels, and reducing unnecessary financial burden on warehouse operators.

***{Point sponsored by Kandla Customs Brokers Association}***

In this regard, it is submitted that any increase or decrease in insurance coverage is directly linked to the approved duty limit, which forms a part of licensing conditions under Sections 57/58 of the Customs Act, 1962, and can only be modified with the approval of the competent authority.

In this regard, the Chairman directed that dynamic adjustment of insurance coverage on a standalone basis, without corresponding revision of the duty limit and approval of the competent authority, is not feasible. The Chairman further observed that the matter involves a structural change in the existing regulatory framework, which may require consideration at the highest level. Accordingly, the Association was advised to submit a

detailed representation for consideration, which, after examination at this level, would be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner office for appropriate decision.

*(Action: Issue may be closed)*

Further, the Chairman enquired from the Associations and trade representatives whether there were any other issues to be discussed. In response, the members of the Association stated that there were no additional issues at present. However, they stated that in case any matter arises in future, the same would be submitted for consideration in the next PTFC meeting.

The Chairman expressed satisfaction on a productive discussion about the challenges being faced by the trade and need for more coordination being key to finding effective solutions. The Chairman has further expressed that, together, we can navigate the complexities of trade and customs and build a more efficient system for everyone involved.

The trade welcomed the positive attitude of the chair and assured of their cooperation at all times. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

This issues with the approval of Commissioner of Customs, Customs House, Kandla.

(Babu Venkata Subramania Prasad)  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER(AG)  
Custom House Kandla

**Copy to:**

1. P.A. to Commissioner, Customs House, Kandla
2. The Additional Commissioner of Customs, CCO, Gujarat Zone, Ahmedabad.
3. DGTS Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad.
4. All the Additional Commissioners, Custom House, Kandla.
5. All the Assistant/Deputy Commissioners, C.H., Kandla,
6. All the members of PTFC/CCFC/PGRC meeting.
7. The EDI Section, Custom House, Kandla for uploading on the website of the Commissionerate.
8. Notice Board.
9. Guard file.