



भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
वित्त मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
राजस्व विभाग DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

सीमाशुल्क आयुक्त का कार्यालय  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS  
सीमाशुल्क गृह, विल्लिंग्टन आईलैंड, कोचिन-682009  
CUSTOM HOUSE, WILLINGDON ISLAND, COCHIN-682009

Sevottam Compliant



An IS 15700 certified Custom House

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परिपत्र CIRCULAR. No. 05/2018

**Sub: Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee - Minutes of the meeting held on 23.01.2018 Reg.**

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The 143<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee was held at 15:15 hrs on 23.01.2018 in the Conference Hall of Custom House, Cochin. Shri. Sumit Kumar, Commissioner chaired the meeting.

The following officers of Customs were present. S/Shri/Smt

1. Amreeta Titus, Dy. Commissioner
2. S. V. Prakash, Asst. Commissioner
3. M.S.Suresh, Asst. Commissioner
4. M.R.Hajong, Asst. Commissioner
5. V A Moideen Naina, Asst. Commissioner
6. Bhuvanachandran P., Scientist 'E', NIC
7. A.L.Sajeeb Hussain, Superintendent of Customs
8. Vijayan Pillai, Superintendent of Customs
9. Baiju Daniel, Appraiser
10. V.Usha Superintendent of Customs

The Trade and other Govt. Organizations related to trade were represented by S/Shri:

1. Raj Vinod, Cochin Port Trust
2. T Chandrasekharan, Coir Board
3. V T Jadhav, Textile Committee
4. S S Sidhu, Plant Quarantine
5. B N Jha, DD, Spices Board
6. S S Das, Export Inspection Agency
7. Paul J Kocheril, DGM, CIAL
8. Biju R, CFS, Pettah

9. A A Fernandez, CCBA
10. Prakash Iyer, CSAA
11. Mohan Kumar, Consolidators Association of India
12. P S Selvaraj, Consolidators Association of India
13. Abraham Philip, ICCI
14. Priya N, CEPCI
15. Rajeev, CFS, CONCOR
16. S S Das, Export Inspection Agency
17. Dipin K, India Gateway Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
18. V. Veeraraghav, CFS GDKL
19. A K Vijayakumar, Federation of Indian Export Organisation
20. N N Menon, Consultant

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting and the action taken in respect of points thereon was taken for consideration after which fresh points were taken up.

#### **Action on minutes of Last Meeting**

**Point No. 1 – Manual Filings of Bills of Entry in case of LCL Transshipments from Chennai** – Consolidators Association of India had raised the issue of Customs insisting on EDI filing of Bills of Entry for LCL Transshipments from Chennai. The Chair had stated that since there was a technical issue in filing EDI Bills of Entry for such Transshipments, the present system would continue. He had further stated that the issue would be taken up with Directorate of Systems, New Delhi.

*The Chair stated that issue has been taken up and the results awaited.*

**Point No. 2 – Delay in Arrival of Vessel to Beginning of Operations at Terminal** – IGTPL had stated that Office of Commissioner of Customs, Chennai had issued a public Notice informing that Entry Inwards shall be advanced to point of reporting of Vessel at Pilot Station so that Vessels can start discharging immediately on berthing of Vessel. He further requested that a Public Notice on similar lines may be issued at Cochin as well.

*The Chair stated that this issue is under consideration.*

**Point No. 3 – Verification of documents by Boarding Officer doing away with bringing the documents to Import & Bond Section on arrival of Vessel.** – Shri Santhosh, CSAA had stated that on arrival of Vessel, Ship documents are brought to Import and Bond Section everytime causing delay for verification. He requested that Instructions may be issued so that Boarding Officer may be directed to verify the documents and attest the copies thereby doing away with the practice of verification of documents at Custom House.

*The Chair stated Instructions would be issued in this regard so the practice of verification of documents at Custom House could be discontinued.*

## **FRESH POINTS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Point No. 1 – Daily List of exports for the month of July 2017** – Coir Board raised the issue of non-receipt of daily list for the month of July 2017.

*The Chair stated that the data has been collected and will be given after the meeting was over.*

**Point No. 2- Validation of Bank Accounts** – ICCI stated that as per Trade Facility No. 17/2017 dated 06.11.2017, about 350 exporters have not validated their Bank Accounts with Customs. ICCI requested that a Trade Facility Notice may be issued informing the procedure to be followed for validation of Bank Accounts.

*The Chair stated that a Trade Facility Notice will be issued in this regard.*

### **Assistant Commissioner (Refunds)**

**Point No. 3 – Empanelment of Chartered Engineer** – CCBA pointed out that trade was facing difficulty due to shortage of Chartered Engineers as only one Chartered Engineer was available.

*The Chair stated the process for empanelment of Chartered Engineer has already been initiated.*

### **Tariff Unit/Assistant Commissioner (SIIB)**

**Point No 4 – Exemption from FSSAI for raw cashewnuts** – CCBA pointed out that order from FSSAI dated 27.10.2017 had exempted raw cashewnuts from FSSAI inspection. He further stated that there were still cases where raw cashewnuts were referred to FSSAI. Shri Jestto George, FSSAI stated that Bills of Entry are referred to FICS through Single Window and for grant of Out of Scope Certificate (as per the FSSAI order dated 27.10.2017) required a registration under FSSAI Rules. He further added that the issue being referred is a solitary case. The systems in FSSAI have now been amended to give Out of Scope Certificate without a FSSAI Registration. He further added that standards of raw cashewnuts may be notified in near future and subsequent to the same, consignments shall be subject to FSSAI inspections.

*The Chair thanked Shri Jestto George for the update.*

**Point No. 5 – Valuation of Imported Fruits** – CCBA stated that minimum base value at Cochin was at par with Mumbai Customs and not Chennai Customs. The rates at Chennai are less and therefore volume of fruit imports is being diverted to Chennai. Assistant Commissioner (Imports) stated that there were no valuation alerts being issued at Chennai but valuation alerts are being issued at Mumbai, which is used as a guideline.

*The Chair stated that valuation of goods are governed by Valuation Rules and valuation alerts issued by DGOV & other Custom Houses are used as guidelines by assessing officers.*

**Point No. 6 – Charging Extra Duty for excess weight – Reefer Containers** – CCBA pointed out that Customs was charging extra duty on excess weight of reefer containers. He further added that quantity of ice cannot be quantified and weight variations are always

there for reefer cargo. He further added that the sensitivity of weigh bridge also has to be taken up for consideration. He further added that CCBA had sought issue of instructions in cases of weight differences on the lines issued at Nhava Sheva. Assistant Commissioner (Imports) pointed out that there was no statutory backing for issue of such instructions.

*The Chair stated that instructions without statutory backing cannot be issued as they are bad in law.*

**Point No. 7 - Valuation under Notification No. 91/2017** – CCBA pointed out that importers are getting notices for payment of short levy of duty subsequent to issue of Notification No. 91/2017.

*The Chair stated that notices are issued in the interest of protection of revenue. He further added that issue of landing cost raised in Notification No. 91/2017 has been taken up with CBEC and is being followed up.*

Since no other points came up for discussion, the Chair declared the meeting with a word of thanks to the members. The date for next meeting of the Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee will be intimated through the Custom House website [www.cochincustoms.nic.in](http://www.cochincustoms.nic.in). Points for discussion, if any, may be sent on or before 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Enquiries if any may be made at the telephone number 0484-2667040 or by email at [ccu@cochincustoms.gov.in](mailto:ccu@cochincustoms.gov.in) or [ccucochin@gmail.com](mailto:ccucochin@gmail.com)



**(Sumit Kumar)**  
**Commissioner**

**S.No. S 65/11/2015 – CCU Cus. Pt II**  
**Dated 30.01.2018.**

**Submitted to:**

**The Chief Commissioner of Central Excise, Customs & Service Tax, Kerala  
Zone, Cochin.**

**The Additional Director General, Directorate of Tax Payer Service, Bangalore  
Zonal Unit, 4th Floor TTMC Building , Above BMTC Bus Stand, Domlur,  
Bangalore-560071.**

**Copy to : Additional Commissioner**

**All D.Cs & A.Cs  
All members**