

F.No. S/22-Gen-44 /2017-18 AM(I)

Date : 11.08.2017

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 27.07.2017.

The PTFC meeting held on 27.07.2017 was chaired by Shri Subhash Agarwal, Commissioner of Customs, NS-III, Shri Vijay Singh Chauhan, NS-V, Shri M.R. Mohanty, Commissioner of Customs, NS-II and Shri Utkaarsh Tiwaari, Commissioner of Customs, NS-G. The meeting was attended by the following Members/Participants of trade:-

Sr. No.	Names (Smt./Shri/Ms./Mrs.)	Organization/Association/Designation
1	Ganpat P. Korede	ВСНАА
2	Hiren Ruparel	ВСНАА
3	Paresh Shah	WISA
4	Nimish Desai	WISA
5	Omparkash Agrawal	MSWA
6	Mohan Nihalani	AIIEA
7	Shankar Shinde	RCCI
8	V. K. Agarwal	ONIDA
9	R. K. Rubin	AMTOI
10	Neelesh Datir	AILBIEA
11	Laksha Tadadikar	CFSAI
12	Umesh Grover	CFSAI
13	R. Rajasekhar	UPL Ltd.
14	Umesh Grover	CFSAI
15	Subhash Rajkumar	MANSA
16	Laksha Tadadikar	CFSAI

17	James Joseph	CFSA
18	Mrs Ganguly	AWCBA
19	Roshan Irani	AWCBA
20	Ashish Pednekar	BACA
21	Nirav Thakker	BACA
22	Raghav Uchil	AMTOI
23	Karunakar Shetty	ВСНАА
24	S C Mohanty	MSWC
25	Manish Kumar	MANSA
26	Subhash M Dongare	MCL
27	Jacab Thomas	ICTPL
28	Venkat Narayanan	CFSAI

Following Officers from department attended the meeting:-

Sr.	Names (Smt./Shri/Ms.)	Designation
No.		
1.	Dhirendra Lal	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
2.	R. P. Khandelwal	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
3.	Nikhil Meshram	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
4.	Shamshad Alam	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
5.	Pritee Chaudhary	Jt. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
6.	Kunal Kashyap	Jt. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
7.	Rohit Singla	Jt. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
8.	C.P.S. Chauhan	Dy. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
9.	D.S. Rana	Dy. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
10.	Ajay Gautam	Dy. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH

3) At the outset, Shri Vivek Johri, Chief Commissioner of Customs, JNCH welcomed the trade members and requested them to introduce themselves. Thereafter, he informed the trade of the initiative taken by the JNCH to promote 'Ease of Doing Business' and to reduce dwell time of cargo. He further

assured the trade representatives that the staff side will extend all possible assistance to the trade within the framework of the Customs Act, 1962. Thereafter, he advised that the meeting may proceed as per norm. He did not participate further in the meeting.

4) The Addl. Commissioner of Customs, Appraising Main (Import), thereafter, started the discussions related to the Agenda points of the meeting.

Old Points

<u>Point No. 1:-Difficulty faced by trade in CBEC Notification No.36/2017-</u> NT for payment of Amendment fee.

It is brought to notice that as per CBEC Notification No. 36/2017- NT all fees are being collected on manual basis. The cash section does not accept cash after 3:30 PM.

Action Taken:-

Public Notice No. 72/2017 dated 02.06.2017 has been issued facilitating the trade in payment of fees beyond working hours.

(Point Closed)

<u>Point No. 2:-Availability of Textile Committee Report to concerned</u> <u>Assessment Group Immediately.</u>

It is informed that Textile Committee report, once received is sent to DRT CFS instead of Assessing Group. It is requested that test report may be made available in the assessment group.

Action Taken:-

A meeting with representatives of the Textile committee is schedule to take place to solve the issue. In the meantime Dy. Commissioner of Customs, Group 7-H and Group III have forwarded Email Id to the Textile Committee requesting them to forward their NOC via email.

(Point Closed)

Point No. 3:- Opening of Bond department on Saturday for giving OOC.

It is informed that M/s. Mirc Electronics Ltd. is a private warehouse under Section 58 of the Customs Act and registered with JNCH. Their Bill of entry for de-bonding is getting assessed in RMS and after payment of duty they are not able to get OOC on Saturday as Bond department is closed on all Saturday. It was requested that arrangements for obtaining OOC on Saturday may be made.

<u>Action Taken:</u> One Superintendent of Customs (P) has been nominated to attend the office on Saturday for giving OOC.

(Point Closed)

Point No.4:- Centralization of KYC

The minutes correlated to this point are erroneous and do not reflect the true record of the discussion as they took place. Such important matters are to be decided by CBEC in order to induct legal considerations in the policy making apparatus and also to ensure uniformity all over the country.

Action Taken:-

ADC informed the trade that a PN in this regard is almost in advance stage of issuance. The Chairperson informed the trade that a PN was issued in this regard but it covers only import side and now a combined Public Notice for import and export shall be issued.

{Action: Appraising Main (I) }

Point No. 5:- Soft skills

The minutes have not taken the point properly. Proper and correct behavior of the staff is very important. This required intensive training and monitoring. A master plan is desired.

Action Taken:-

The issue has already been discussed. The importance of soft skills is fully acknowledged. It has been a continuous effort by JNCH to further develop and improve soft skill. Trade is also requested to submit proposal, if any in this matter.

{Action: Appraising Main (I) }

New Points:

Point No.1:- Invoicing problem with CFSs.

Exim trade is facing problems with majority of CFSs due to following:-

- a) Non- availability of Advance Invoice facility.
- b) Huge delay at the billing counter i.e., 3-5 hours.
- c) Lack of standardizing in invoicing and billing process.
- d) Raising of invoice by 3rd party in MSWC, DRT and All Cargo CFSs.

Action Taken:-

Members of the trade suggested that online as well as cheque facility should be acceptable. They informed the difficulties related to e-payment and suggested that e-payment mode should not be made mandatory. In reply, CFS' representative informed that online payment through payment Gateway ODEX is easy for payment and it is trade friendly and requested the trade to use this facility. They further informed that they are making constant effort to improve this online payment facility. By the next PTFC, they will resolve all the problems being faced by the Trade. CFS' representative informed that it will be convenient / transparent for the trade to stop cheque/cash payment facility in phased manner. They further requested the trade to submit their options in order of preference regarding mode of payment facility by the trade and mode of payment acceptance facilities in order of preference by the CFS' representative to the Joint Commissioner of Customs (Preventive General) by 10th August, 2017.

CHA Association was advised to solve the issue in meetings with CHA Associations. Members of the CFS Association informed that e-payment facility is available at all the CFSs but is being used by very few importers only. Chairman directed the Joint Commissioner (Preventive General) to visit some of the CFSs to look in to the issue. Both the Associations were also requested to submit their suggestion/ modalities to the Joint Commissioner (Preventive General) for working out a solution to the issue.

d) The matter related to raising of invoice by 3^{rd} party was discussed in the meeting. Trade informed the committee that third party is raising the invoice on behalf of CFS causing financial hardship to trade. The Chairperson told the trade to come up with couple of evidences where invoices were raised by 3^{rd} party and submit to the department for taking appropriate action.

{Action: DC/Appraising main (I) & JC/ (PG) }

Point No. 2:- SOP required for proper implementation of PN No. 68/2017

It is requested to issue SOP covering all stakeholders Terminals, Shipping Lines and CFS for proper implementation of PN No. 68/2017.

Action Taken:-

The matter discussed in the committee. As the PN itself provide the SOP. So, there is no need to issue separate SOP for proper implementation of PN No. 68/2017. None compliance of PN will be viewed seriously.

(Point Closed)

Point No. 3 :- Minor Amendments

Minor amendments like container number, i.e in digits or alphabets, amendments may be permitted at Docks, Supdt./ Appraiser level.

Action Taken:-

CBEC Circular No. 14/2017-Customs dated 11.04.2017 was already issued in this regard by the Board. Public Notice No. 95/2017 dated 20.07.2017 has also been issued by JNCH.

(Point Closed)

<u>Point No. 4:- Transaction wise billing to be raised by Terminals in order to</u> <u>promote DPD:</u>

At present, Terminals are unable to raise transaction wise invoice on importers/Customs Brokers. Hence Importers are facing difficulties in taking the delivery from the Terminals. Further, in GST environment, this will be even further important to become compliant as per GST laws.

<u>Action Taken:-</u>

The matter was discussed in the meeting. The Chairperson accepted that terminal should raise transaction-wise invoice. If they don't do the same, a PN will be issued in this regard.

(Point Closed)

Point No. 5:- Provision of PN No. 01/2017 need to be followed diligently by all shipping lines:

Trade informed that PN is not being taken seriously. Many Shipping lines are charging as per their terms for moving a container to the nominated CFS, asking for multiple documents and high security deposits in form of DDs which increase the cost.

Action Taken:-

The matter was discussed in the meeting. The chairperson informed the trade that all PN should be followed diligently and requested the trade to point out specific deviations, if any. Any deviation from the PNs will be viewed seriously.

<u>Point No.6:- Disputes arising at the time of returning empty container to the</u> <u>Shipping lines nominated storage yard.</u>

While returning the container to the Shipping Line empty yard, it is observed that the Shipping Lines are charging Damage Container Charges and deducting the same from the Security Deposit given to them earlier.

<u> Action Taken:-</u>

The matter was discussed and it was requested to BCBA to discuss the issue with CSLA/MANSA & if not resolved then to raise the issue in the next CCFC meeting.

(Point Closed)

<u>Point No.7:- Compliance to GST norms for Invoicing and Billing by all</u> <u>stakeholders:</u>

It is requested that all the stakeholders such as port terminals, CFSs, Shipping lines, NVOCCs, Services centers, DMS Coupon venders etc. should upgrade themselves and carry out billing as per the norms laid down in GST regime. Customs being the nodal agency for facilitating the smooth rollout of GST, a suitable PN/FN is to be issued.

<u> Action Taken:-</u>

No separate PN/FN is required. Compliance to GST regulations is mandatory for all. The issuing of GST invoice is a legal requirement which everyone has to follow.

(Point Closed)

<u>Point No. 8:-Mobile scanner are out of service and request is to re-look at</u> <u>the process of scanning:</u>

Mobile scanner has been out of services since more than a month now and still scanning lists are being generated for both mobile scanner as well as fixed scanner. The request is to re-look at the process of scanning till the time it is fixed and put in service.

Action Taken:-

The matter was discussed. In this connection, it is to mention that the mobile scanner was not operational from 11.06.2017 to 19.07.2017 due to major repair of transmission system. Presently, the mobile scanner is operational since 20.07.2017 and the containers selected for scanning by mobile scanner are being effectively scanned at mobile scanner.

(Point Closed)

Point No. 9:- Scanning of ICD Containers and TP Containers

Trade has represented that ICD Containers and TP containers are selected for scanning through the RMS automated system that causes delayed movement of containers and shipping agents/lines are incurring avoidable expenses. It is requested that procedure may be re-looked into and ICD Containers be exempted from scanning.

<u> Action Taken:-</u>

The matter was discussed. The chairperson informed that it is a policy matter. The scanning of container is related to security purpose rather than the other purposes. The best place for scanning the container in respect of security reasons is the point of entrance of container in the country. So, it is appropriate and we should accept this. As most of the ICDs don't have container scanning facility so it would be appropriate to scan these containers on point of entrance of the container in the country. The chairperson requested the trade to come up with specific suggestion regarding the same and forward it to the Jt. Commissioner (Preventive General). The Department will look into the suggestions.

(Point Closed)

Point No. 10:- ICEGATE Facility of Rotation Number of the vessels:

Some shipping lines/agents are facing problems across the country in generation of rotation number through the newly developed ICEGATE facility.

<u> Action Taken:-</u>

The matter was discussed. Facility Notice No. 70/2017 dated 05.06.2017 has already been issued in this regard. Trade informed that some of the shipping lines don't follow the Facility Notice. The chairperson asked the trade to come up with evidence with regard to deviation of the PN to the department. Department will definitely look into it.

(Point Closed)

6) The members of the meeting were informed that the next PTFC meeting shall be held on 31.08.2017 at 11:30 AM at Conference Hall, 7th Floor, JNCH. All the Association members were requested to forward their agenda points, if any, at least 07 working days in advance by e-mail to Appraising Main (Import) Section on <u>appraisingmain.jnch@gov.in</u> for taking up the issue in the upcoming PTFC meeting.

- 7) The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.
- 8) This issues with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs, NS-III.

-Sd/-(C.P.S. Chauhan) Deputy Commissioner of Customs Centralized Appraising main (Import) NS-I, III & V JNCH/022-27244779

Τo,

All the Members of PTFC.

Copy to:

- 1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II, JNCH, Sheva.
- The Principal Addl. Director General, Directorate General of Tax Payers Services, Mumbai Zonal Unit, Room No.138/139, New Custom House, Ballard Estate, Mumbai - 400 001 (<u>mzu-dqtps@qov.in</u>).
- 3. The Ombudsman, Indirect Taxes, Mumbai.
- 4. The Pr. Commissioner/All Commissioners of Customs, Zone-II, JNCH, Sheva.
- 5. All ADC/JC, DC/AC of Customs (I, III, V), JNCH, Sheva.
- 6. DC/EDI for uploading on JNCH website.
- 7. Office Copy.