

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, MUMBAI ZONE-II,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, NHAVA SHEVA, TALUKA: URAN,
DISTRICT: RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA-400707.**

Phone No. 022-27242401 // FAX No. 022-27243242 // email- ccojnch2@gmail.com

F.No.S/V-30/Misc.-194/2015 CCO M-II

Date: 06.11.2015.

**MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 05.11.2015 AT JNCH**

The 6th Meeting of Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee was held on 05.11.2015 at Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House with the members of Committee and representatives of regulatory agencies and from Trade. Shri Sanjeev Behari, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II chaired the meeting. The Agenda points for the discussions had been circulated to the members, alongwith the invite to the meeting.

2. Following persons attended the Meeting.

Sr. No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the Representative & Designation (S/Shri)
1	Customs	Rajeev Tandon, Pr. Commissioner of Customs.
2	Customs	Subhash Agrawal, Commissioner of Customs
3	Customs	D K Srinivas, Commissioner of Customs
4	Customs	Aseem Kumar, Addl. Commissioner of Customs.
5	Customs	Nilkanth Shelke , Addl. Commissioner of Customs.
6	Customs	Dr. R. C. Chetan, Dy. Commissioner
7	Customs	Srikant G Awachar, Dy. Commr, Disposal Section
8	Customs	Sudhakar Pandey Asst. Commr., Group-I
9	MPCB	Kiran Malbhave, Field Officer
10	FSSAI	Dr D.V. Aghav, Technical Officer

11	FSSAI	Shailesh Nimbalkar
12	RPQS, Mumbai	O.P. Verma Dy. Director
13	Textile Committee	Ms. Vimal A Oval , Asst. Director
14	Textile Committee	Kartikey Dhanda, Director (Lab.)
15	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau	M Maranko, Regional Dy. Director
16	Drug Controller, JNPT	Dr. K Bangarurajan, Dy Drug Controller West Zone Mumbai
17	Drug Controller, JNPT	Gulshan Taneja ADC
18	Drug Controller, JNPT	Arvind Hiwale, Drug Inspector
19	Animal Quarantine	Dr T K Sahu
20	Mumbai Waste Management Ltd. (MWML)	Dinkar N Adhav, Director
21	MWML	Chetan Wajekar
22	MWML	Somnath Malgar, AGM
23	GDL CFS	Jacob Thomas
24	Balmer Lawrie CFS	Dinesh Ingle
25	Balmer Lawrie CFS	Chandrakant Gaikwad
26	Punjab Conware CFS	Ashwin Jadhav
27	All Cargo CFS	Subhash Bangar
28	Ameya CFS	Prashant Pote

3. The Chair welcomed all the members and requested the Addl Commissioner, Shri Aseem Kumar to update the members on the matters discussed in the meeting chaired by Revenue Secretary held at JNCH on 24.10.2015. The Addl Commr. briefed the members on the issues that had been discussed during the meeting, decisions regarding the various step taken and actions initiated for reducing the evacuation time of containers at JN Port. It was stressed that the focus was on the need for extending the facility of 24 x 7 services and facilities to the trade and a reduction in dwell time by all regulatory agencies under the aegis of ease of doing business.

4. Shri Rajeev Tandon, Pr. Chief Commissioner informed that during an earlier meeting with CFSs, Shipping Lines and Custom Broker, the issue of 24 x 7 was discussed and they had been asked to intimate the timelines in which they could provide infrastructure facilities such as crane operation, labour, Canteen, lights etc. to start 24 x 7 operations. The CFSs had agreed in principle and it was decided that to start with, the facility may be introduced in 5 selected/identified CFSs. The Shipping lines had also been asked to make suitable arrangements to work on 24 x 7 basis. The Shipping lines had informed that they were already working till 8.00 to 8.30 p.m, and would respond to the suggestion shortly. The Custom Brokers Association were positive to the suggestion and were ready to work 24 x 7. It was pointed out by some members that the facility had been extended to the trade on earlier occasions also but the same had failed to take off due to poor response. It was suggested that that the facilities are being introduced in 5 CFSs to start with, and the further modalities would be finalized after gauging the response.

5. Thereafter the following agenda points were taken up :

(1) **Introduction of providing 24 x 7 facility to trade by all regulatory agencies.**

The responses of various agencies were as under:

- (i) **Drug Controller of India:** The Dy Director informed that at present they are working on Saturdays but it has been noticed that very few persons/custom brokers were availing the services on Saturdays. However, they are agreeable for providing 24 x 7 facilities to the trade.
- (ii) **Textile Committee :** TC representative informed that they are not equipped to work on night, however as the samples were being drawn by Customs, they will make arrangements to receive samples at night also.
- (iii) **Plant & Quarantine – PQ** representative informed that they are presently working 06 days a week from 2.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. and no purpose will be served by working in night as only samples will be received at night and testing will be done

only on the next day as they do not have sufficient staff to work 24 x 7. They are having different set of officers/staff for drawing, sealing and testing of samples and presently the office is understaffed. The introduction of 24 x 7 facility may adversely affect the quality of service. However, at ACC, they are working in night shifts as they have full set up there.

The Chair asked the status of the proposal of Customs officers to be imparted training for drawl of samples and that of list of 168 items/commodities which was to be provided to RMD, Customs.

The PQ representative informed that they are ready to impart the training and the schedule may be finalized after 3rd week of November as some of the staff are on leave during the intervening period. He also confirmed that the list of 168 items will be provided shortly.

- (iv) **FSSAI** – The representatives informed that they did not have sufficient staff strength to cater to the numerous CFSs as they were drawing the samples themselves and the same technical officers were also doing the testing in the laboratories. The process to appoint 150 persons to make arrangements for working 24 x 7 had already started and the new appointments are likely to join in December 2015. However, they will make efforts to do it earlier.
- (v) **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau** – WCCB representative informed that they are having only two inspectors and are presently not in a position to work on 24 x 7 basis.
- (vi) **Animal Quarantine** : AQ representative informed that they were clearing most consignments on the same day and they do not have staff strength to operate on 24 x 7 basis.

The Chair directed that it had been decided to introduce the 24 x 7 facility at certain selected CFSs shortly and all the regulatory agencies must gear up to ensure that suitable arrangements are made by them accordingly. The Chair informed that the facilities of transport, canteen and safety of all personnel will be ensured.

(2) **All agencies should have office and laboratory/ testing facility at JNPT.**

It was informed to the members that JNPT had agreed to provide the land/office space to all agencies and this opportunity may be used by all agencies to set up their facilities at JNP area.

The responses of various agencies were as under:

- (i) **Drug Controller of India:** It was informed they had applied to JNPT authorities for allotment of 1000 Sq. fts. space to set up Office and Laboratory. Although they have been informed by the JNPT authorities that their proposal has been considered and approved but nothing heard thereafter.
The Chair directed that the matter may be taken up with the concerned department of JNPT in the next CCFC Meeting.
- (ii) **Textile Committee:** TC representative informed that their Board had not agreed to the proposal of having another office at JNP area. The Chair suggested that the matter be taken up with the Textile Ministry.
- (iii) **Plant & Quarantine:** PQ representative informed that MSWC had agreed to provide them 1000sq ft of space and discussions with them were in progress.
- (iv) **FSSAI:** The representatives informed that they had been allotted 2500 sq mtrs land and the implementation of project; budget allocation etc was being done at their office.
- (v) **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau:** WCCB representative informed that presently there was no proposal to set up office at JN Port area.
- (vi) **Animal Quarantine:** AQ representative informed that they had been allotted 90 sq meters office space by JNPT but the rentals were very high at Rs 72,000/- and a security deposit of Rs 7.5 lakh deposit amount had also been sought. However, the proposal had been forwarded to their Ministry for approval.

It was brought to the notice of the member that they were required to press the JNPT authorities for Govt. rates and not the commercial rates. The Chair requested them to approach Addl Commissioner Shri Nilkanth N. Shelke for assistance in the matter.

(3) **Reduction in dwell time taken by all agencies.**

It was informed to the members that sample data of Bills of Entry for one week had been analyzed to study the actual time taken by FSSAI, PQ, AQ and TC to issue NoC/ clearance for the purpose of identifying the stages which were taking more time than that prescribed in the SOPs and to reduce the dwell time.

The responses of various agencies in respect of the data were as under:

- (i) **Drug Controller of India:** The data reflected that most of the import consignments were granted NoC on the same day except one consignment of perfumes where the NoC was given in 4 days. It was informed by the Dy Drug Controller that they normally issue NoC on the same day unless the product/ item requires some specific test/ check.
- (ii) **Textile Committee :** The sample data reflected an average time of 5-6 days for submission of Test report. The TC representative informed that they take 04 days to do the testing. However, the sample is received at their laboratory on the next day and the transmission of report to JNCH also takes 1 or 2 days. The Chair suggested that 02 days delay in forwarding the report can be avoided if the same is sent by e-mail, the TC representative was open to suggestion and assured that they will take up the matter with their department to implement the suggestion at the earliest.
- (iii) **Plant & Quarantine –** The sample data reflected an average time of 5-6 days and upto 15 days for submission of grant of NoC. The PQ representative stated that some of the BE figuring in the sample data were not found in their system, and there appeared to be some discrepancy with regard to the date of sampling. The Chair directed D.C., Gr. I and PQ to recheck and co-relate the data and analyze the same again.
- (iv) **FSSAI –** The sample data reflected an average time of 5-6 days and upto 15 days for submission of grant of NoC. The FSSAI representative informed that the samples are forwarded to different accredited laboratories and some labs take more time to test

and issue reports. It was also stated that some of the BE figuring in the sample data were not found in their system, and there appeared to be some discrepancy with regard to date of filing of application and date of sampling. The Chair suggested that FSSAI may sensitize the lax laboratories, and directed D.C., Gr. I and FSSAI to recheck and co-relate the data and analyze the same again.

The Chair enquired about Food Prioritization System to which the representative informed that the matter is dealt by Head Quarter at Delhi. The Chair requested them to give the present status in the next CCFC meeting.

It was pointed out that certain issues like change or amendment in CFS name in FSSAI (computer data) needed to be streamlined as the same were found to be contributing to increase of dwell time. It was informed that the amendment was approved by the officer situated at Delhi and hence the delay. It was suggested that delegation of some of the functions to local officers would go a long way in reducing the dwell time in such cases, and FSSAI may consider exploring this option.

The Addl. Commissioner suggested that the number of Technical Officers may be increased and each one may be allotted them only 04 CFSs for effective functioning. The FSSAI informed that they are in the process of appointing 150 persons and acquiring new vehicles to strengthen the process of collecting samples from various CFSs.

- (v) **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau** – There was no issue regarding dwell time as NoC were issued on same day by WCCB.

- (vi) **Animal Quarantine** : The Chair enquired about Negative list to be provided by AQ authorities to reduce dwell time. The AQ representative informed that list of 75-80 items which do not require AQ NoC/ Sanitary certificate is at final stage and will be provided shortly.

6. The officers of MPCB and MWML gave a presentation on various aspects of waste management including the the options available fo disposal by way of landfill and incineration. It was informed that the location is required to be scientifically chosen, safe & secure technologies used, availability of suitable land and the economic viability of the project. The Chair desired that the inputs given may be considered for further discussions on the proposal of setting up of disposal facility by the CFSAI and JNPT. The CFS representative were directed to approach the MPCB immediately and not later than 15 days for obtaining NoC for destruction by incineration in respect of consignment of fire crackers pending for disposal. The other consignments may be got tested by CFSs from MWML who may forward their recommendations to the MPCB regarding the hazardous/ non-hazardous nature of the goods. Thereafter, the concerned CFS/ parties may approach the MPCB for obtaining NoC for destruction.

7. M/s ODeX India Solutions gave a presentation on e-Form 13, highlighting details of the present situation where a number of NVOCCs have started using the electronic form and dispensed with the need of human interface. It was observed that presently most of the major stakeholders were in process of shifting to the electronic mode. The Chair expressed satisfaction on the developments and expressed confidence that the shift to electronic mode will result in reduction in cost to the trade and also the overall dwell time.

This issues with the approval of Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone – II.

Sd/-
06.11.2015
(Dr. R. C. Chetan)
Deputy Commissioner of Customs,
Nhava Sheva

Copy to :

1. Member (Customs), Member (Zone), CBEC, New Delhi
2. DC/EDI with a request to upload the minutes on website
3. All members of CCFC Meeting by e-mail
4. Officers concerned
5. Office Copy