

MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 09.07.2015 AT JNCH

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, MUMBAI ZONE-II,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, NHAVA SHEVA, TALUKA: URAN,
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Fourth meeting of Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee was held on 9.07.2015 at Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House with the members of the committee and representatives from various agencies operating at Port and trade. Shri Sanjeev Behari, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Customs Zone-II chaired the meeting. Agenda points for discussion were circulated to all members alongwith 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	S H Hasan, Pr. Commissioner of Customs.
2	Customs	Seema Jere Bisht, Commissioner of Customs.
3	Customs	Subhash Agrawal, Commissioner of Customs
4	Customs	Aseem Kumar, Addl. Commissioner of Customs.
5	Preventive General, JNCH	Dr. Vishal Chowdhary, Dy. Commissioner
6	Gr. III, JNCH	Anoop Kumar Sharma, Dy. Commissioner
7	Gr. I, JNCH	Sachin Sawant, Dy. Commissioner
8	Gr.II (C-F), JNCH	Deepak Devrani, Dy. Commissioner
9	CC Office	Ravindra Kumar, Asstt Commissioner
10	CONCOR	Rajib Bhowal, General Manager
11	NSICT	Capt. Barrington Fernandes
12	APM Terminals	Capt. Mrityunjay Dhawal
13	JNPT	A.K. Bose, CM(T)
14	CIDCO	Dr. P.T. Gedan, Sr. Planner
15	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau	M. Maranko, Regional Deputy Director
16	RPQS, Mumbai	Dr. J.P. Singh, Joint Director
17	RPQS, Mumbai	O.P. Varma, Deputy Director
18	Textile Committee	S.G. Pathy, Joint Director (Laboratory)
19	AQCS, Mumbai	Dr. T.K. Sahu, Deputy Director

20	ADC, JNPT	Arvind R. Hiwale, Drug Inspector
21	FSSAI	Ais Kumar, Authorized Officer
22	MANSA	Capt. Dhananjay
23	CSLA	Capt Deepak Tewary
24	GDL CFS	Jacob Thomas, Sr. Vice President
25	CFSI Continental	Anwar Javed , Vice President
26	CFSAI Ameya	Laksha Tadadikar, COO
27	Hind Terminals	Santosh Shetty
28	APMT CFS	Salim Shikalgar, Head Operation
29	Maratha Chamber of Commerce, Pune	R.D. Bhargava

3. Following Issues were discussed in the meeting.

Infrastructure issues

Issue ID		Issue
NSA-01	Issue	Parking facilities at JNPT
	Response from Stake-holder	JNPT representative assured that second parking is expected to be operational by September 2015. It was also informed that JNPT authorities have been renegotiating the terms and conditions for operating the two parkings to be handled by GTI and NSICT and progress will be reported by next CCFC meeting.
	Decision taken	Chair directed that work on operationalization of two parkings by terminal operators should be completed in a time-bound manner.
NSA-02	Issue	Easing of Road Congestion around Port: Y-junction.
	Response from Stake-holder	JNPT Representative informed that pursuant to the meeting taken by Secretary (Revenue) they have started study/ deliberations on the proposal of Flyover at Y-junction. He informed that progress made and timeline for completion will be intimated before soon. He also informed that the road from Karal Village to 'Y' junction is being widened for light vehicles which is expected to be completed by November 2015. He also stated that there is a temporary reduction in traffic congestion on account of dumpers not plying for the last 1 month and they will not be plying for next one and a half months on account of monsoon.
	Decision taken	Chair directed to the stakeholders to strictly adhere to time-lines and stated that progress will be reviewed on a continuous basis. Chair also observed that in the earlier meeting JNPT had agreed to explore possibility of setting up of a Control room jointly by Port Terminal Operators, CFSs and Customs Brokers and to hold meeting with all concerned bodies on Monday/Tuesday to discuss all above said issues. He advised CM(T), JNPT to do the needful and present the proposal in the

		Next CCFC Meeting. Chair also advised CM (T), JNPT to convene a meeting of Customs, CSLA, MANSA, Port Terminal Operators to study the gate procedures, to see if any streamlining of procedure at Gate is possible.
NSA-04	Issue	Movement of container through rail
	Response from Stake-holder	As on date, pendency of rail rakes with CONCOR for ICD movement is more than 5,000 TEU's and an average of 15 trains per day are in operation. CONCOR assured that as requested by CSLA, no Mix-trains would be operated so as to reduce dwell-time. He also stated that CONCOR will be running two additional trains daily to handle the additional volumes. Trade representative from Pune stated that it would be immensely beneficial to exports originating from Pune regions, if CONCOR can operate dedicated trains from Chichwad to JNPT.
	Decision taken	Chair directed that dedicated train service by CONCOR between Pune and JNPT would be discussed with CONCOR officials and trade in the CCFC meeting at Pun/ Mumbai on 23 rd July 2015. He also informed that issue of under utilization of ICD at Dadri has been taken up with jurisdictional Chief Commissioner/ CONCOR Dadri.
NSA-05	Issue	All agencies under one roof
	Response from Stake-holder	JNPT informed that all regulatory agencies can apply for space allotment at PUB building. It was noted that while long term solution would require acquisition of land from JNPT/CIDCO and construction of office building thereupon by each agency, short term solution must be availed by all agencies. All agencies agreed to write to JNPT for space at PUB. JNPT agreed to allot space to each agency.
	Decision taken	Chair directed all agencies to apply for space/land to JNPT so that they can have their offices/labs in JNPT area itself. He also advised the agencies to mark a copy of requisition letter to Customs for follow up and expeditious allotment.
NSA-06	Issue	Dwell time study for each regulatory agency.
	Response from Stake-holder	One best case and one worst case for each agency was taken up for discussion and the factors adversely affecting dwell-time was analysed. It was noted that movement of samples to the Textile Committee facility at Worli takes about 2 days and if they can have an office in JNPT area itself, the dwell time taken on account of movement of samples can be eliminated. FSSAI stated that there are delays on account of payment of test fees and trade should be sensitized to expedite the same. FSSAI also stated that broker representative is invariably not available when the FSSAI official visits the CFS for drawl of sample.
	Decision taken	Chair asked all regulatory agencies to analyze the events

		adding up to the dwell time in grant of NOC by them for reduction in dwell time.
NSA-07	Issue	Provisional release pending NOC
	Response from Stake-holder	FSSAI informed that provisional release is possible only for perishables and any decision to include more items can only be taken by their Headquarters. ADC informed that provisional release is operational for limited no. of products. PQ reported that provisional release facility is available. Textile Committee informed that NOC is being issued within 48 Hrs and the goods cans release directly on the basis of pre-shipment testing certificate.AQ informed that the facility is available.
	Decision taken	Chair noted that FSSAI can explore possibilities of expanding the provisional release for more category of goods specially low risk category and those which belong to central excise registered. It was decided that this issue shall be taken up at the Ministry level.
NSA-08	Issue	Negative list of items
	Response from Stake-holder	ADC informed that the negative list for large number of products is already made available and is being updated. FSSAI reported that list is under preparation. Plant Quarantine informed that the list is provided to the RMD.
	Decision taken	Chair observed that integration of Negative List of items is part of the integration exercise under Customs Single Window Project. He directed that complete list of “not a drug item” be displayed on JNCH website.
NSA-09	Issue	SOP and timeline.
	Response from Stake-holder	FSSAI reported draft SOP is available and website. ADC informed that draft SOP is available and is being finalized. PQ informed that draft SOP is available on website. Textile Committee also made available draft copy of SOP. Wild Life Authorities also furnished the copy of SOP. Animal Quarantine also informed that the draft of SOP is available.
	Decision taken	Chair observed that SOPs given to CCFC do not contain the specific time-line commitments for grant of NOC. It would be essential to give specific timelines in the proforma discussed during the meeting(to be mailed separately) by each agency by next meeting so that CCFC can analyze the ways to reduce the dwell time currently being taken on account of grant of NOC by way of simplification of procedure for grant of NOC.
NSA-11	Issue	Sample drawl by Customs.
	Response from Stake-holder	FSSAI informed that the proposal is not agreed owing to technical expertise required in the matter and any decision can only be taken by Headquarters.
	Decision taken	Chair observed that drawl of samples by customs for FSSAI items shall be taken at the Ministry level, and if required after proper training and to begin with, the low risk commodities

NSA-12	Issue Response from Stake-holder Decision taken	<p>can be assigned for drawl of samples by customs.</p> <p>Message exchange system with customs.</p> <p>FSSAI & PQ reported that it is functional, however there have been delays in receipt of BE at their end.</p> <p>Chair informed the stakeholders that department is aware of the teething problems relating to the Message Exchange System and has taken up the matter with the Systems Directorate of CBEC.</p>
NSA-13	Issue Response from Stake-holder Decision taken	<p>Risk based Inspection</p> <p>It was noted that FASSAI is working towards a Food Inspection Prioritization System is being developed.</p> <p>Chair directed all agencies to work towards CTH based risk-based system so that it can be aligned with Customs Risk Management System. It was noted that Customs Single Window Project may take up this issue.</p>

4. Following are the key areas where the CCFC has made progress:

Issue ID	Issue	Progress made
NSA-05	Issue Response from Stake-holder Decision taken	<p>All agencies under one roof</p> <p>JNPT informed that all regulatory agencies can apply for space allotment at PUB building. It was noted that while long term solution would require acquisition of land from JNPT/CIDCO and construction of office building thereupon by each agency, short term solution must be availed by all agencies. All agencies agreed to write to JNPT for space at PUB. JNPT agreed to allot space to each agency.</p> <p>Chair directed all agencies to apply for space/land to JNPT so that they can have their offices/labs in JNPT area itself. He also advised the agencies to mark a copy of requisition letter to Customs for follow up and expeditious allotment.</p>
NSA-01	Issue Response from Stake-holder Decision taken	<p>Reduction in Parking Charges at CIDCO Parking</p> <p>CIDCO representative informed that the parking rates have been reduced by 25% at the existing parking. It was also informed by CFS representatives that there has been a visible increase in use of the said parking after rates reduction.</p> <p>CCFC expressed satisfaction on the reduction of parking rates by CIDCO.</p>
O-1	Inter-terminal movement of trailers	<p>It has been reported by JNPT that one-side Inter-terminal movement of containers/ trailers between the three port operators has begun. This has been enabled by initiation of virtual gates at the point of thorough-fare. JNPT also stated that inter-terminal movement across three terminals, the trailers need to cross '22 nodes' at their terminal which is not possible due to design restrictions as it would lead to more congestion inside the port.</p>

O-2	Difficulty faced by Customs Brokers in getting Form-13	JNPT authorities were asked to work towards setting up of Service Centre for Brokers as per the directions given during the meeting taken by Secretary (Revenue). JNPT informed that they would be informing the timeline for the same.
O-3	Implementation of E-Delivery Order	CSLA representative informed that at present 19 out of 34 Shipping lines have started E-D.O. He also stated that by August end, all lines will start E-D.O. Chair observed that earlier, CSLA had stated that all lines will start E-D.O. by July end, and the timelines commitments have not been kept by Shipping lines.

5. Other issues:

CCFC also discussed two important issues relating to uncleared/unclaimed containers of Hazardous Waste and fire Crackers.

5.1. Hazardous Cargo pending for disposal

All CFS custodians were asked to provide data on hazardous cargo pending for disposal. Container Task force as well as Disposal section shall be asked to follow up on expeditious disposal of such long-standing containers kept in CFSs. All CFSs were asked to submit their first report by 13th July followed up with as monthly to Addl. Commissioner (Disposal) on 1st of each month. Progress of disposal action will be monitored by CCFC as such cargo is not only hazardous but also occupies storage space in CFS thereby adversely affecting operational efficiency.

5.2. Fire Cracker Cargo pending for disposal:

All CFS custodians were asked to provide data on fire cracker consignments pending with them on hold. Container Task force as well as Disposal section shall be asked to follow up on expeditious disposal of such containers kept in CFSs. All CFSs were asked to submit their first report by 13th July followed up with as monthly to Addl. Commissioner (CIU) on 1st of each month. Progress of disposal action will be monitored by CCFC as such cargo is not only a fire-hazard but also occupies storage space in CFS thereby adversely affecting operational efficiency.

6. Issues raised by CSLA:

Capt Deepak Tewari from CSLA stated that there is a need to regulate Forwarders and NVOCCs who are currently operating without MTO license. He requested CCFC to take up the issue with concerned ministries so that all service providers viz. CHAs, Forwarders, NVOCCs, Brokers and Transporters, etc. should be asked to display their charges on the websites of the port. His suggestion to CONCOR to minimize mix trains was agreed to by CONCOR. He also stated that increase in Rail Haulage Charges last November, has resulted in huge cost for trade. It was felt that issues raised by CSLA should be escalated for appropriate redressal.

This issues with the approval of the Chief Commissioner of Customs.

—sd—

(10/07/2015)

(Aseem Kumar)

Addl. Commissioner of Customs

Nhava Sheva

Copy to:

1. Shri Pawan Khetan, OSD, (Cus-IV), CBEC, New Delhi.
2. AC/EDI with request to upload the minutes on website.
3. All members of CCFC Meeting by email.
4. Officers concerned.
5. Office copy.