

From : Prashant Kumar Rohit (kolcus-airport@gov.in)

To : prashantkr.c061601@gov.in

Cc :

Subject : Fwd: Forwarding of Minutes of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) Meeting held on 26.11.2021 (Through WEB conferencing)

Date : Dec 03 2021 16:50 PM

From: "CCU Customs Kolkata Zone" <ccu-cuskoa@nic.in>

To: info@asickolkata.com, infocfs@centuryply.com, asic@bsnl.net, kolkata@gjepcindia.com, bncci@bncci.com, capexil@capexil.in, sepc@bsnl.net, ceo@indianchamber.net, ctkr@concorindia.com, mails@epch.com, gmtmkol@aai.aero, subufssai@gmail.com, sisir@wbpcb.gov.in, pcpmanikarn@gmail.com, suman@fio.org, anusree@alliedicd.com, edp@pdpgrp-india.com, kaushik@gjepcindia.com, kallolc@phonexgroup.com, "kolkata tc" <kolkata.tc@gmail.com>, bnccikol@gmail.com, sanjibsaha@concorindia.com, jaiswal@centuryply.com, "snmisra dop" <snmisra.dop@gmail.com>, "wb circle" <wb.circle@gmail.com>, dibyabrata@gmail.com, dpnkry@gmail.com, "Regional Deputy Director, Eastern Region" <rdder@wccb.gov.in>, "shahnawaz 2008" <shahnawaz.2008@gmail.com>, "Prasant Basu" <basu.prasant@balmerlawrie.com>, "R. GOKUL" <r.gokul@kolkataporttrust.gov.in>, "Dy Chairman KDS" <dy.chairman.kds@kolkataporttrust.gov.in>, secretarycchaa@gmail.com, cchaakolkata@gmail.com, wbpcbnet@wbpcb.gov.in, pramod@pdpgrp-india.com, secretary1@alliedicd.com, "foreignpostkolkata wb" <foreignpostkolkata.wb@indiapost.gov.in>, "aqcs cal" <aqcs_cal@yahoo.in>, "cpmg wb" <cpmg_wb@indiapost.gov.in>, "Biswajit Sai kia" <ta-er@wccb.gov.in>, "Artatrana Mishra" <roez.bsr-mef@nic.in>, "CPCB RD Kolkata" <zokolkatta.cpcb@nic.in>, "ABHIJIT CHATTOPADHYAY" <achattopadhyay.cpcb@nic.in>, wbchas@gmail.com, "Dr GNAN" <rpqfsk@nic.in>, "Dr JIMLEE SARMAH" <roaqcser.kol-dadf@gov.in>, "AO Kolkata" <aokolkata@fssai.gov.in>, "CDSCO East Zone Kolkata" <cdscoez@cdsco.nic.in>, "kolcfs tagging" <kolcfs.tagging@allcargologistics.com>, "arun sharma" <arun.sharma@allcargologistics.com>, "CDL Kolkata" <cdlkol@cdsco.nic.in>, "sumitendukumar dutt" <sumitendukumar.dutt@hpl.co.in>, "rajesh sinha" <rajesh.sinha@mcpi-pta.com>, dduutta70@yahoo.co.in, sd17364@gmail.com, diptiaarka2010@gmail.com, "TANAY KR PAL" <tanay@kolkataporttrust.gov.in>, acaaikol@gmail.com, kolfgnpost@gmail.com

Cc: "CUSTOMS PREVENTIVE WB" <commrprev-cuswb@nic.in>, "PR. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS PORT" <prcommr-port-cuskol@gov.in>, "KOLKATA(AP&ACC) KOLKATA(AP&ACC)" <commrapacc-cuskoa@nic.in>, "scp edi" <scp.edi@gmail.com>, reportkolcusap@gmail.com, "Appraiser General ACC Kolkata" <accadm-n-apkolcus@gov.in>, ccpwbtech@rediffmail.com, "Appraiser General Port" <agunit-kolcusport@gov.in>, appraisinggeneral@gmail.com, "Prashant Kumar Rohit" <kolcus-airport@gov.in>, "NIMA PAKHRIN" <kolcus-port@gov.in>

Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:41:52 PM

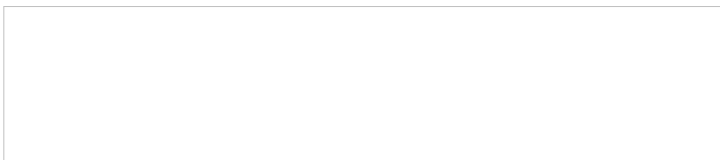
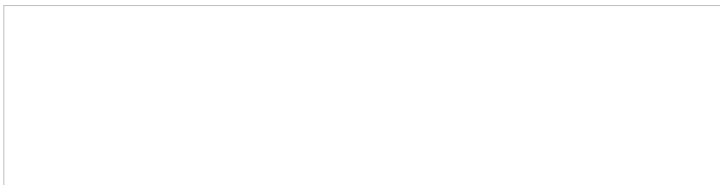
Subject: Forwarding of Minutes of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) Meeting held on 26.11.2021 (Through WEB conferencing)

Madams/ Sirs

Please find enclosed Minutes of the **CCFC** Meeting which was held on 26.11.2021.
This is for your kind information and necessary action please.

Sincerely

Chief Commissioner's Office
Kolkata Customs Zone





भारतसरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

सीमाशुल्कमुख्यआयुक्तकाकार्यालय, कोलकाताक्षेत्र
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, KOLKATA CUSTOMS
ZONE

सीमाशुल्कसदन, 15/1 स्ट्रैंडरोड, कोलकाता- 700001
CUSTOM HOUSE, 15/1 STRAND ROAD, KOLKATA- 700001
Fax No. 91-33-2231-3289; E-mail: ccu-cuskoa@nic.in

**MINUTES OF THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE
(CCFC) MEETING HELD ON 26.11.2021 (THROUGH WEB CONFERENCING)**

.....

The meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) of Kolkata Customs Zone was held on 26.11.2021 at 11:00am under the Chairmanship of Shri Anil Kumar Gupta, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata Customs Zone. In view of the Government directives on account of the threat of COVID-19, the meeting was conducted via Web-Conference.

The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:-

Sl. No.	Name & Designation (Shri/ Ms)	Organisation
1.	Shri Deep Shekhar	Principal Commissioner of Customs (AP & ACC)
2.	Shri Rajesh Jindal	Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) and (CCP), West Bengal.
3.	Shri Ranjan Khanna	Commissioner of Customs (Preventive)WB
4.	Shri Vishwanath	Additional Commissioner (CCO & Port)
5.	Shri Rajesh Tripathi	JointCommissioner of Customs (CCO&CCP)
6.	Shri Shaikh Amin Khan	JointCommissioner of Customs (AP&ACC)
7.	Shri Bheem Ratna Rawat	JointCommissioner of Customs (AP&ACC)
8.	Shri Piyush Katiyar	JointCommissioner of Customs (Port)
9.	Shri Naveen Rana	Deputy Commissioner of Customs (ACC)
10.	Smt. Anindita Nag	AssistantCommissioner of Customs (CCO)
11.	Shri Rajesh Kamble	AssistantCommissioner of Customs(ACC)
12.	Shri Ayan Sadhu	Superintendent of Customs (CCO)

13.	Shri Ranjeet Kumar Prasad	Preventive Officer (CCO)
14.	Shri Subburaj M	Deputy Director,FSSAI
15.	Shri S. N. Lall	Plant Protection Officer, RPQS Kolkata
16.	Shri Shovondeev Sadhukhan	Assistant Superintendent of Post, FPO
17.	Shri Subrata Dutta	Foreign Post Office
18.	Dy Chairman	KDS
19.	Shri Ali Haider	CCHAA
20.	Shri Sudip Kumar Dey	CCHAA
21.	Shri Gautam Mukherjee	MCPI
22.	Shri Pramod Kumar Shrivastava	National President, (NACFS)
23.	Shri Tanay Kumar Pal	SMPK
Some other officials of various Organizations were also present.		

Shri Rajesh Tripathi, Joint Commissioner of Customs, CCO welcomed all the members present in the conference on behalf of the Chairman, Shri Anil Kumar Gupta, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata Customs Zone. He further added that the country is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) and 26.11.2021 was also being celebrated as the Indian Constitution Day. Thus, he requested the Chair to address all present on the auspicious occasion of the Indian Constitution Day.

The Chair extended a warm welcome to all the members and stakeholders of CCFC Meeting. On the occasion of the Constitution day the Chair delivered the following speech:

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements & is an embodiment of all that is progressive about India's socio-cultural, political and economic identity. The official journey of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" commenced on 12th March, 2021 with a 75 weeks countdown to our 75th anniversary of Independence and shall end on 15th August, 2022. As part of AKAM's celebration, Kolkata Customs Zone is also organizing various events & is celebrating the occasion of Indian Constitution Day or Samvidhan Diwas, which commemorates the adoption of the Constitution of India on 26th November 1949. The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, which came into effect from 26th January 1950, which is celebrated as the Republic Day, while the Indian Constitution Day is celebrated on 26th November every year thereafter.

As per the Preamble of the Constitution, the India is a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic** and to secure to all its citizens **LIBERTY** of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship and **EQUALITY** of status and of opportunity. The Chair emphasized that

by their sheer wisdom, prudence, foresight and diligence, the makers of our Constitution, prepared a futuristic and vibrant document that reflects our ideals and aspirations on the one hand, and protects the future of all Indians on the other. The 'Constitution of India' lies at the foundation of the world's largest democracy being the supreme law in the country's democratic framework and it continuously guides in endeavours ,being the fountainhead of the Indian democratic system of governance as a guiding light by adopting the best practices from several other Constitutions of other countries. In addition, the imprint of the age-old values and the ideals from the freedom struggle can also be seen in Indian Constitution which is of the people of India, by the people of India, and for the people of India. Indian democracy finds its resonance in the Constitution& to maintain it's relevance over time, the makers of the Constitution also incorporated provisions allowing future generations to make necessary amendments, as may be deemed necessary.

The spirit of AKAM being“Atmanirbhar Bharat”, CBIC and its field formations are organizing many events on every iconic and non-iconic days to educate the visiting members of the trade and public about various aspects of Customs and GST such as Talk cum Live event on Manufacture-In-Bond, as a flagship program for Atmanirbhar Bharat. Several schemes like Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty Rules (IGCR) 2017, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme, Cross Border E-Commerce through Foreign Post Office & International Courier Terminals etc. are being initiated by the CBIC. He also emphasized on the proactive approach to resolve citizen grievances on tax matters, if any; educate and provide requisite facilitation at their door steps and bridge to carry their suggestion on to the high table of policy deliberation. He seized the great opportunity to convey gratitude to the makers of our Constitution for providing a system to bring about revolutionary changes peacefully & expressed his strong belief that India would earn its rightful place in the world as an ideal democracy being mindful of this constitutional touchstone and consistent with the constitutional ideals.

Thereafter ,the Chair allowed the JC, CCO to proceed with the meeting where the action taken reports in respect of Minutes of the last CCFC Meeting and agenda points of the ongoing CCFC Meeting were taken up for discussion.

Shri Rajesh Tripathi, Joint Commissioner of Customs, CCO proceeded with the meeting for discussion & drew attention on the matter of huge pendency of cases related to provisional assessments raised by the Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) in the last CCFC meeting dated 22.10.21.

I/336639/2021(2)

Comments of Department	<p>1. Shri Piyush Katiyar, JC (Port) informed that the pendency on the onset of October month were around 8000 bills of entry, pending for finalization. In the end of the month of October 531 bills of entry could be finalized and pendency in the beginning of November month stood at around 7500 which admittedly was a huge pendency. Further he clarified that around 4,000 provisional assessment cases were pending for above two years. The concerned CHA, Customs Brokers and Importers were all informed & CHAs were requested to pursue the concerned importers for finalization of the pending bills of entry. The progress being very slow, the CHA Association members are requested to put forth action plan(s), if any and difficulties as well, they are facing while pursuing the importers for finalization of the provisionally assessed bills of entry. The matter is brought to the knowledge of the Honble Chair for formulation of corrective actions to be taken, if any.</p>
Comments of CHA	<p>1. Mr Ali Haider, has informed that they had visited the Haldia Port and collected the data for updating the present pendency position. They have appointed a person to expedite the matter and requested most of the importers and CHAs for faster disposal of the matter.</p> <p>2. Mr. Gautam Mukherjee of MCPI, Haldia informed that they were regularly importing Paraxylene for more than 20 years and their concern is about the provisional assessment issues, which is valid for one year, but typical negotiation with the overseas suppliers requires six to eight months time at the least, for which payment of demurrage has to be incurred. The contract with overseas suppliers is on CNF basis, but the shippers are different agency who provides the bill for demurrage, if any, due to over stay of the vessel at the berth. And after such receipt of the bills, the negotiation begins. Despite giving bond for one year for finalization of provisional assessment, the department (Customs) asks for submission of documents within the three months for finalization of the provisional assessment of the bills. The matter being an international issue, Mr. Mukherjee requested the Chair to kindly advise the concerned officials to allow some more time as there is already existent bond for one year period to submit the relevant documents.</p>
Comments of Department	<p>Shri Piyush Katiyar, JC (Port) informed that the matter was already in the notice of the officials apart from the pending 3,600 above cases which are already due for finalization in excess of two years. The said B/Es needs to be finalized immediately.</p>
Direction of the Chair	<p>1. Reiterating the emphasis laid on provisional assessment in the previous meeting, the Chair urged for early finalisation of provisional assessment as an important area including pendency at Air Cargo. The Chair requested the members of the CHA Association to press upon all the importers to submit all the documents for finalization of the provisional</p>

I/336639/2021(2)

	<p>assessment cases. He directed about initiation of a special drive during the month of December, with the focus area being finalization of all the provisional assessments.</p> <p>2. The Chair emphasized that the matter is not concerned to any individual issue in particular, but, all pendency beyond the applicable time limit of a year is not acceptable by the department .The matter of pendency beyond a year should be discussed with the concerned JCs and DCs and the same should be finalized immediately. And that all other cases which are pending for over six months and within one year time limit and due for final assessment, should be finalized within time with the full understanding of the causes of such delay by the department.</p>
--	---

After completion of the discussion on Action Taken Report on Minutes of CCFCMeeting dated 31.08.2021, the meeting proceeded with the discussion of the Agenda Points of the ongoing CCFCMeeting, which are as follows:

<p>Issue 1</p>	<p><u>Sponsored by Superintendent, Foreign Post, Department of Posts Kolkata:</u></p> <p>1. It is requested to speed up the pace of assessment of parcels, both Import and Export. As on 12-11-2021 evening, 1035 parcels are awaiting assessment by the Customs. Delay in assessment is causing customer discontent and accumulation is eating up working space of the office.</p> <p>2. The X-ray Baggage Inspection System (XBIS), used for assessment of EMS items, is lying non-functional since 3 November afternoon. As EMS is a time-sensitive item, delayed processing and consequent hold up of an EMS item invites financial liabilities for the Indian postal Department from foreign postal administrations. Expeditious repair of the XBIS is requested.</p>
<p>Comments of Department</p>	<p>The matter was discussed during the meeting and Shri Vishwanath, Additional Commissioner of Customs (Port) informed that reply received from PAD states the following:</p> <p>One of the X-ray Baggage Inspection System (XBIS) is lying non functional since 03.11.2021. Despite best efforts, Rapiscan is not able to set the machine. It is likely to be get rectified in 2-3 days.</p>

	<p>It is also informed that as on date no export parcel is pending for customs clearance.</p> <p>In case of EMS import article (Speed post and registered), this office has cleared parcels upto 08.11.21 using other XBIS machine installed at FPO.</p> <p>In case of Import Parcel (other than Speed post and registered), the present status is as follows-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 544 1396 696"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 544 772 622">AIR</th> <th data-bbox="772 544 1160 622">SAL</th> <th data-bbox="1160 544 1396 622">EASTERN</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 622 772 696">Cleared upto 26.10.21</td> <td data-bbox="772 622 1160 696">Cleared upto 31.10.21</td> <td data-bbox="1160 622 1396 696">No pendency</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AIR	SAL	EASTERN	Cleared upto 26.10.21	Cleared upto 31.10.21	No pendency
AIR	SAL	EASTERN					
Cleared upto 26.10.21	Cleared upto 31.10.21	No pendency					
<p>Comments of PGA during the Meeting</p>	<p>The matter was again discussed in the Meeting and Shri Shovondey Sadhukhan, Assistant Superintendent of Post, Foreign Post Office informed that main issue relates to the accumulation of long pending parcels; about 1038 parcels are yet to be assessed and EMS bags were also pending which according to his opinion is due to to slow assessment by the department. The x-ray machine was out of order from 3rd November and the same needs to be rectified .He also complained about the slow pace of the assessment by the departmental officers and demanded for their attendance regularity to cut down the staggering of the pending assessment parcels.</p>						
<p>Comments of Department during the meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shri Vishwanath, ADC, Port, reiterated that he had spoken to AC, PAD and assured that all the Consignments upto 17th November had been cleared; the x-ray machine would be rectified within 2-3 days and there would be no problem after that. ○ Shri Rajesh Tripathi, Joint Commissioner of Customs, CCO stated that the problem was being faced mainly because of non functional X-ray machine and that too for the time being. Once the system is rectified the assessment pace is going to pick up & the matter would be sorted out duly; since there was no problem before the technical faults, another 2-3 days wait or a maximum of a week's time would clear the impasse. 						
<p>Direction of Chair</p>	<p>The Chair passed the direction to the departmental higher officials i.e. ADC / JC s to monitor the progress of rectification and opined that the matter would be rectified within 2/3 days, after which the pace of assessment and clearance would definitely pick up and normalcy would be restored.</p>						

Action to be taken	Additional Commissioner of Customs (Port)
Issue 2	<p><u>Sponsored by Shri Ali Haider, Chairman-CCHAA:</u></p> <p>We are in receipt of Trade Facilitation notice 79/21. A similar kind of facilitation centre should also be constituted at Custom House during the day. This is further to our request made in the TFC meeting in August 2020.</p>
Comments of Department	<p>The matter was discussed during the meeting and Shri Rajesh Jindal, Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) informed that a Trade Facilitation Centre is already functional at Custom House, Kolkata during night from 10.00 pm to 06.00 am at all days. During daytime on working days, the facilitated bills of entry are handled and given out of charge at respective CFSs.</p> <p>Due to staff constraints and low volume of work it is not pragmatic to give clearance during day time at the Facilitation Centre at Customs house as well as at the respective CFS also.</p> <p>But if CCHAA wants that during day time also the facilitated BEs should be given clearance only from the Facilitation centre at Customs House, then proposal can be considered subject to , that for such case clearance of facilitated BEs shall not be done at CFSs.</p>
Comments of Department During the discussion of the Meeting	<p>The matter was discussed during the meeting and Shri Rajesh Jindal, Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) informed that during the daytime all clearance is done at the respective CFS and during the night time facilitation is done by the centralized facilitation centres between 10 pm & 6 am. He said that the demand of the CCHAA implied that the fully facilitated bills of entry would be cleared from the centralized facilitation Centre i.e. clearance of all fully facilitated bills of entry would be completely stopped from the CFSs, instead they would be cleared by the facilitation centre .He also informed that since from the 1st December all physical registration of goods would be totally stopped, if the above is implemented, the importer and CHA would not have to visit CFSs at all for fully facilitated bills of entry.</p>
Direction of Chair	<p>The Chair reflecting the concern of the Government on the matter reiterated that Nhava Sheva Port in Mumbai is already having the facility there and Kolkata could also implement the same as well. Hence the modalities need to be worked out as online registration now is being mandatorily introduced from December onwards. The Chair mentioned the fact that the facility of online registration was already</p>

I/336639/2021(2)

	<p>available for last one and a half year or two years but somehow the same was not being followed in Kolkata as all concerned were used to the physical mode of registration. However the Chair is in the favour of centralized RMS fully facilitated centre in Customs House which was welcomed by all the stake holders .</p>
Action to be taken	Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port)
Issue 3	<p><u>Sponsored by Shri Ali Haider, Chairman, CCHAA:</u></p> <p>We have had a very successful interactive meeting between FSSAI and our members who deal with clearance of food cargo. They have also offered to do a training programme, with all our members. We request the Chair to direct other PGAs to come forward and do the same.</p>
Comments of FSSAI	<p>Subburaj M, Deputy Director, FSSAI has informed that they would be arranging a training with all the PGAs along with the importers and CHAs. In the month of December FSSAI is planning training programme jointly with the Plant quarantine and animal quarantine for imparting training to t importers and CHAs.. They are planning to work in tandem with all for facilitation of trade. He also called for suggestions from all concerned for better improvement of the existent system and expressed his readiness to implement everything for facilitation of trade. He thanked Rajesh Jindal Sir is for his whole hearted cooperation and informed the effectiveness of the last custodian meeting as well. He also proclaimed FSSAI as the prime revenue generator PGA and reiterated that they would be exploring alternate disposal avenues in lieu of destruction so that there is monetary benefit related to revenue generation of Customs in such endeavours. Instead of simple disposal, he mentioned that olive oil and canola oil can be utilized for biodiesel manufacture or in the soap industry which would make up for the revenue loss due to destruction of expired goods.</p>
Comments of Department	<p>Shri Rajesh Jindal, Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) informed that a video conference was held with the custodians of the some CFSs wherein the disposal of long pending goods were discussed. Accordingly, he requested Mr. Subburaj M. to hold video conference with the custodians and issue prompt NOCs wherever the custodian requires from FSSAI in respect of uncleared long pending uncleared cargo. He urged Shri Subburaj M to be proactive in the matter so that the containers can be released to shipping lines by disposing of the long pending goods wherein NOCs from FSSAI is</p>

	necessary.
Misc. Issue raised in the Meeting	<p><u>Sponsored by Shri Sudip Dey, President, CCHAA</u></p> <p>Shri Sudip Dey, President, CCHAA informed that there are two kinds of berths in Kolkata Port. When the Vessel comes on Working berth then the containers are discharged without delay. But in the other case when the Vessel comes on non-working berth, the Preventive Officer boards the vessel at that point and the final entry in respect of the vessel is made. After the final entry in the system, the dwell time starts but the containers are still not offloaded / landed at the port. As a result there is an excess of dwell time of 24 to 36 hours</p> <p>Their suggestion: Boarding should be done only after the vessel comes on the working berth & not on the non-working berth.</p>
Comments of Department	<p>Shri Rajesh Jindal, Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) informed that he was unaware of this issue and requested Shri Sudip Dey of CCHAA to discuss the matter over VC with him personally after the conclusion of the Meeting.</p>

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Date: 02/12/2021

(Rajesh Tripathi)
 Joint Commissioner
 Chief Commissioner's Office
 Custom House, Kolkata - 700 001

Copyto:

1. ThePrincipalCommissionerofCustoms(AP&ACC)
2. ThePrincipalCommissionerofCustoms(Port)
3. ThePrincipalCommissionerofCustoms(Prev.),WestBengal
4. TheAdditional/JointCommissionerofCustoms (Port/A&A/CCP)
5. AllConcerned.
6. DC(EDI)foruploading inKolkataCustomsWebPage.