



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

सीमा शुल्क मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय, कोलकाता क्षेत्र

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, KOLKATA ZONE

सीमा शुल्कसदन, 15/1 स्ट्रैंड रोड, कोलकाता- 700001

CUSTOM HOUSE, 15/1 STRAND ROAD, KOLKATA- 700001

Fax No. 91-33-2231-3289; E-mail: ccu-cuskoa@nic.in

Date: 12-01-2026

**MINUTES OF THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE
(CCFC) MEETING HELD ON 29.12.2025**

The meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) of Kolkata Customs Zone was held on 29.12.2025 (Monday) from 3.00 P.M. onwards in Hybrid Mode through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Shri Ramavath Srinivasa Naik, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata Customs Zone.

The following departmental officers attended the meeting in the Board Room, Custom House, Kolkata:

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS		
Sl. No.	Name of the Attendees (S/Sh)	Designation & Commissionerate/Organisation
1	Vinayak Azaad	Pr. Commissioner (CCP, WB)
2	Atul Saxena	Pr. Commissioner (Port)
3	Gautam Kumar	ADC (Port)
4	Sashikant Singh	ADC (Port)
5	Mohsina Tabassum	ADC (Port)
6	Sukhbir Singh Ahuja	ADC (Port)
7	Annu Darin	ADC (AP & ACC)
8	Amit Bhardwaj	ADC (AP & ACC)
9	Ajeet Kumar	ADC (AP & ACC)
10	Nitin Chand Negi	ADC (CCO)
11	Shilpi Srivastav	JC (AP & ACC)
12	Debashis Mukhopadhyay	AC (EDI, PORT)
13	Ujjal Roy	AC (CCO)
14	Argo Bhattacharya	AC (CCO)
15	Manoj Kumar Chaudhary	Superintendent of Customs (CCO)
16	C S Pathak	Preventive Officer (CCO)
17	Dr. Mrityunjoy Maity	CE-II, CRCL, Custom House, Kolkata

The following stakeholder representatives attended the meeting in virtual mode through Video Conferencing.

PGA/TRADE REPRESENTATIVES/IMPORTER'S REPRESENTATIVES		
Sl. No.	Name of the Attendees (S/Sh)	Designation & Commissionerate/Organisation
1	Juin Choudhury	FIEO ER
2	*Name Not Available*	RPQS, Kolkata
3	Dr Jimlee Sarmah	JC, AQCS, Kolkata
4	Avinash Bhardwaj	BDM, APEDA Kolkata
5	Ankur Mukherjee	All Cargo CFS
6	Tanay Kr. Pal	Sr. Asst. Traffic Manager, SMPK
7	Arindam Sen	RBI
8	Subhankar Moni	Technical Officer, ERO, FSSAI-Kolkata
9	Mannu Choudhary	President, CCHAA
10	Sayantan Ghosh	Hony, Secretary, CCHAA
11	Suman Chowdhury	MSC
12	Pramod Kr. Srivastava	President, NACFS
13	Jayanta Sen	ASIC
14	Atanu Ghosh	MSC

LIST OF ABSENTEES

No representative from the following organisations attended the meeting despite being invited to join.

1	O/o Textile Commissioner, Kolkata	7	Wild Life Crime Control Bureau, Kolkata.
2	Pollution Control Board, WB	8	GJEPC, Kolkata
3	Port Health Authority, Kolkata	9	CONCOR India, Kolkata
4	Central Leather Research Institute, Kolkata	10	Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, Eastern Zone
5	Foreign Post Office, Kolkata	11	Airport Authority of India, Kolkata
6	DGTS, Kolkata	12	NCTC, Mumbai

1. The meeting commenced with a welcome address by Shri Nitin Chand Negi, Additional Commissioner (CCO) followed by a brief self-introduction by all the participants. This was followed by a presentation on some of the trade facilitation initiatives of Kolkata Customs through issuance of Public Notices. Thereafter, a brief status report on the action taken pursuant to minutes of the last CCFC meeting held on 24.10.2025 was provided. The issues raised, directions issued and corresponding the action taken are as follows:

Issue No. 1 (Sponsored by CCHAA)	• Issue: Late Filing of IGMs IGMs are often filed on the day of the vessel arrival or late on the previous day. Filing of advance B/E before filing of IGM leads to discrepancies between B/E data and IGM data resulting in amendment. Therefore, late filing of IGM delays filing of B/E which leads penalization of the trade. • Direction of the Chair: CCHAA representative was asked to provide specific instance where such delayed IGM filing is being done and Pr. Commissioner (Port) was instructed to act accordingly. • Action Taken: No such instance was reported by CCHAA. Mr. Mannu Chaudhary confirmed that following the previous CCFC meeting, shipping lines have begun notifying them of such matters. The Chair reiterating the previous directive stated that action will be taken if specific IGM numbers regarding delayed filings are provided. The matter was closed with the sponsor's concurrence.
Issue No. 2 (Sponsored by CCHAA)	• Issue: Delayed Grant of Entry Inward Discrepancies regarding the timing and backdating of Entry Inward relative to vessel boarding leads to confusion and penalties in some cases. • Direction of the Chair: The CCHAA was directed to submit specific details of instance where irregularities with Entry Inward dates occurred so that instructions could be issued to officers to ensure procedural compliance. • Action Taken: CCHAA reported no such instances. However, Mr. Mannu Chaudhary highlighted a concern where vessels complete boarding formalities and receive Entry Inward at non-working berths, but discharge is delayed until the vessel shifts to a working berth. The Chair acknowledged the issue and assured that boarding officers would be sensitized to minimize these grievances. Action Owner: Port Commissionerate

2. The Additional Commissioner (CCO) then outlined the agenda items scheduled for the present CCFC meeting. The agenda points, the discussions held thereon and the directions issued by the Chair are detailed below.

Agenda Point No. 1 (Sponsored By CCHAA, Kolkata)	
Issue Description	<u>Haldia Port Road & Infrastructure Issues</u> Ongoing road construction near Haldia Port lacks proper planning and coordination, causing severe traffic congestion, stranding heavy vehicles, delaying cargo movement, and resulting in financial losses. There is a need for phased execution, proper traffic diversion, signage, and coordination with port and traffic authorities. Refusal to accept empty import containers is worsening the situation.

Discussion during the meeting	Mr. Mannu Chaudhary highlighted that ongoing road construction at Haldia Port is causing severe congestion outside the port area. With trailers stuck in queues for days and trade operations being severely hampered, he requested the Chair to take up the matter with the Port Authority (SMPK) for resolution.
Direction of the Chair	The Chair assured that the matter would be taken up with the Chairman, SMPK for suitable redressal. <i>Action Owner: Port Commissionerate</i>
Agenda Point No. 2 (Sponsored By CCHAA, Kolkata)	
Issue Description	<u>Unjust Detention Charges at Nominated Yards</u> Empty import containers are often not accepted at nominated yards due to space constraints, despite prior allocation by shipping lines. This leads to trailers waiting for days, delayed acceptance (4–5 days), and unjust detention and trailer charges imposed on importers and customs brokers due to poor coordination. This coordination gap between shipping lines and container yard is leading to financial burden in addition to delay and avoidable congestion inside port.
Discussion during the meeting	- Mr. Mannu Chaudhary highlighted that inadequate infrastructure and space constraints at empty container yards are causing delays, with containers being refused despite valid slot allotments. He attributed this to a coordination gap between shipping lines and yards, noting that vehicles are often stranded for 3-4 days, inflating trade costs. - Mr. Jayant Sen (ASIC) requested specific details regarding non-compliant lines or yards to facilitate action. Mr. Atanu Ghosh (MSC) clarified that these are exceptional circumstances; however, reporting times are recorded to ensure containers are diverted without additional cost to the importer. The CCHAA representative confirmed that following a recent meeting with SMPK and stakeholders, assurances were given that detention charges would not be levied in such cases, and the situation has since improved. - The SMPK representative reported that a new yard is currently under development on specifically earmarked land to address these constraints. The Port Authority will operate this facility, which is expected to significantly mitigate the current issues.
Direction of the Chair	- The Chair noted that neither the Department nor the Port Authority exercises direct control over such independently operated yards. The Chair welcomed the Port Authority's infrastructural initiative to develop a dedicated facility. - He noted that this measure would not only alleviate congestion and space constraints faced at container yards but also enforce market discipline by curbing unfair practices through increased competition. He urged all stakeholders to maintain mutual coordination to resolve these issues.
Agenda Point No. 3 (Sponsored By CCHAA, Kolkata)	
Issue Description	<u>Delays at Allcargo CFS</u> Allcargo CFS is consistently delaying cargo delivery by at least three days due to inadequate infrastructure to handle nominated volumes. This issue has

	persisted for the last 2–3 months, adversely impacting trade.
Discussion during the meeting	• Mr. Sayantan Ghosh (CCHAA) highlighted the concern over the delays persisting for the past few months in swift processing of Indian and Nepal bound cargo at All Cargo CFS owing to some construction/infrastructural modification happening there. • Mr. Ankur (Allcargo CFS) acknowledged the congestion issue and reported that corrective measures are currently underway. These include creating additional space and allocating equipment to clear empty container inventories. Additionally, gate entry timings are being regulated and extra security personnel have been deployed to marshal traffic, ensuring smooth movement and minimal disruption during rush hours.
Direction of the Chair	The Chair took note of the issue as well as efforts undertaken by the Allcargo CFS to minimise inconvenience to trade operations. He instructed the Pr. Commissioner (Port) and AC (Allcargo CFS) to conduct a site inspection of the CFS to verify the adequacy of infrastructure and equipment required for proper handling of cargo and further directed to issue show cause notice, should any deficiencies be found. <i>Action Owner: Port Commissionerate</i>
Agenda Point No. 4 (Sponsored By CCHAA, Kolkata)	
Issue Description	<u>Issues with FSSAI Applications at SWIFT</u> Members are facing system-related issues between SWIFT and FICS, including non-visibility of documents, mismatched query status, delayed acknowledgements and payment reflections, inability to edit mandatory details, and non-generation of PNOC—leading to repeated submissions and increased dwell time.
Discussion during the meeting	• Mr. Mannu Chaudhary attributed the recent issues to the implementation of SWIFT 2.0. He reported that during a meeting with DG Systems and ICEGATE, officials acknowledged specific challenges but suggested they could be resolved through joint training for stakeholders and Customs officials. • Consequently, he requested the Chair to arrange such a session with DG Systems and sought an expeditious update to alleviate the burden on the trade. • Mr. Subhankar Moni (FSSAI) concurred that the difficulties arose following the SWIFT 2.0 implementation. He noted specific technical glitches on the ICEGATE side, such as FSSAI instructions for visual inspection not being reflected. He further informed that their HQ IT team is collaborating with ICEGATE for a swift resolution and that, in the meantime, full support is being extended to CHAs to facilitate clearances.
Direction of the	The Chair assured that the ICEGATE issues would be taken up with DG Systems upon receipt of a written report from the FSSAI. He also directed the FSSAI representative to share a copy of their communication to their HQ with

Chair	this office, detailing the exact nature of the technical glitches, to facilitate accurate escalation to DG Systems.
Agenda Point No. 5 (Sponsored By President, NACFS) <i>Action Owner: Port Commissionerate & FSSAI</i>	
Issue Description	<u>NCLT-related Issues Affecting Ease of Doing Business</u> Companies acquired through NCLT-approved insolvency resolutions are facing delays in customs clearance due to legacy system alerts in ICES linked to previous management defaults (such as BRC non-submission, unrealised export proceeds, drawback recovery and other defaults). Despite clear NCLT and Supreme Court rulings extinguishing past liabilities, these alerts continue to block or delay export and import consignments of the new acquiring entity, causing operational delays and losses. A uniform CBIC policy is required for automatic removal of such alerts upon submission of certified NCLT orders to ensure smooth trade facilitation and consistency across Customs formations. The matter may therefore be considered and flagged to CBIC (Policy Wing)/ DG Systems for formulation of standardised national policy ensuring neutralisation of system alerts/legacy data linked to earlier managements of NCLT-acquired entities for smooth and seamless trade facilitation.
Direction of the Chair	The Chair acknowledged the policy level intervention required to address the issue and agreed to refer this to CBIC (Policy Wing) / DG System upon receipt of a written representation from the sponsor. <i>Action Owner: Port Commissionerate</i>
Agenda Point No. 6 (Sponsored By Port and Preventive Commissionerates)	
Issue Description	<u>National Time Release Study (NTRS-2026)</u> National Time Release Study 2026 for analysis of dwell time at various levels or stages in clearance of EXIM cargo on pan India basis. This is being done as per the initiative of WC World Customs Organization. This year, the B/Es and SBs filed from 1st to 7th January 2026 will be considered for the study.
Discussion during the meeting	• Sh. Gautam Kumar, ADC (Port), apprised the forum of the upcoming Time Release Study (TRS) to be undertaken at Calcutta Port and Petrapole LCS. The study will cover a sampling period from January 1st to January 7th, 2026, with the objective of assessing collective performance in trade facilitation and measuring the dwell time for both import and export cargo. It will also identify specific bottlenecks contributing to delays, enabling targeted improvements to reduce overall dwell time. • He also urged other stakeholders, including Port Authorities and CFS operators, to actively coordinate during the study, emphasizing that the Customs clearance process involves multiple interdependent entities. • He announced the nomination of Ms. Mohsina Tabassum, ADC (Port), and Mr. Shiv Pratap Singh, ADC (CCP), as the nodal officers for this exercise. He requested that stakeholders similarly appoint their own nodal persons to ensure effective liaison during the process. • The scope of the Time Release Study shall cover the analysis of the following key parameters:

	◦ Time taken for generation of NOC by PGAs ◦ Time taken by the importer/exporter for replying to the queries ◦ Time difference for clearance of the first and last container of the same IGM ◦ Time taken from entry at CFS to OOC and gate out as well as analysis of local movement of goods from OOC to gate out ◦ For the Port side, there shall be time analysis of the first and last container of the same EGM • He requested stakeholders to remain sensitized to the importance of timelines, ensuring that processing efficiency at both the Port and Petrapole can be improved.
Direction of the Chair	• The Chair sought the cooperation of all stakeholders—including CHAs, importers, exporters, PGAs, and CFSs—to expedite cargo clearance and improve time efficiency, noting that reduced dwell time is vital for global competitiveness. • CCHAA welcomed the study as a key tool for analyzing logistics scenarios and pledged their full support.

The meeting concluded with the Chair extending New Year wishes to all the members and thanking all attendees for their contributions.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Digitally signed by

Ujjal Roy

Date: 12-01-2026

22:13:40

UJJAL ROY

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Chief Commissioner's Office,

Custom House, Kolkata.

Copy to:

1. Sr. PS to Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata.
2. P.S. to Pr. Commissioner of Customs (A&A)/ Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Port)/ Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Prev.), West Bengal.
3. All Additional/Joint Commissioner of Customs (Port/A&A/CCP)
4. All the Stakeholders
5. DC(EDI) for uploading on Kolkata Customs Web Page.