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भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

सीमा शुल्क मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय, कोलकाता क्षेत्र

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, KOLKATA CUSTOMS ZONE

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**MINUTES OF THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (CCFC)
MEETING HELD ON 23.01.2024**

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The meeting of the Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) of Kolkata Customs Zone was held on 23.01.2024 at 1500 Hrs. The Chief Commissioner authorised Shri Ataur Rahman, Commissioner of Customs (Port), Kolkata Customs Zone. to hold the meeting on his behalf The meeting was conducted via Web Conference.

The following officers/representatives attended the meeting:-

Sl. No.	Name & Designation (Shri/Ms)	Organisation
1.	Shri Ataur Rahman	Commissioner of Customs (Port)
2.	Shri Pawan Kumar	Additional Commissioner (CCO)
3.	Shri Sushil Kale	Additional Commissioner (AP & ACC)
4.	Shri Brajesh Kumar Singh	Additional Commissioner (Port)
5.	Shri Piyush Katiyar	Joint Commissioner (A&A)
6.	Shri S. Devrajan	Joint Commissioner (Port)
7.	Shri Abhijit Bhattacharya	Assistant Commissioner of Customs (AP & ACC)
8.	Shri Rajib Kumar Sinha	Assistant Commissioner of Customs (AP & ACC)
9.	Shri Anindita Nag	Assistant Commissioner of Customs (CCO)
10.	Shri Ranjeet Kumar Prasad	Superintendent of Customs (CCO)
11.	Shri Amarjeet Kumar	Preventive Officer (CCO)
12.	Shri Arghya Bhattacharyya	AC, PAD
13.	Shri Debdatta Nandwani	Regional Head, FIEO
14.	Shri Dibyabrata	Inspector, Foreign Post Office
15.	Shri Sushanta Sarkar	ADCI
16.	Shri R. Raghupathi	Balmer Lawrie & CO Ltd.
17.	Shri Sayantan Ghosh	Chairman, Airport Sub Committee

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18	Shri P.C. Maity	Chairman, Airport Sub Committee
19.	Shri Farid Jamal	President, CCHAA
Some other officials of various Organizations were also present.		

Shri Ataur Rahman, Commissioner of Customs (Port) welcomed all the members on behalf of the Chair and opened the conference for discussion with Agenda Points, which are as follows:

Sponsored by Shri Tanay Kumar Pal, Sr. Asst. Traffic Manager, SMP- Kolkata:

1. Presently only one Mobile X-ray Scanner machine (MXCS) is operating at Kolkata Dock System. Till recently, selection of containers to be scanned was given for the MXCS machine only and as per its capacity. However very recently, it is seen that selection of containers to be scanned is being given for the Drive Through Container Scanner machine (DTCS) also even though the same has not been operationalised yet. It is understood that the containers selected for both MXCS and DTCS are now being serviced by the MXCS machine alone. This has resulted in huge number of containers being selected for scanning which seems to be surpassing the capacity of the MXCS machine. As a result, there is always a backlog which is creating congestion both inside and outside the Port. Kolkata Police is also regularly complaining regarding the huge congestion being recently created on the roads due to additional flow of container trailers for scanning on the single machine. For smooth functioning in and around the port, it is kindly requested that till such time DTCS is operationalised, the selection of containers for scanning may please be limited to the capacity of MXCS only as was being done till recently or increase the timings for containers selected for scanning at MXCS scanning system.
2. Almost all IGMs are currently being entered manually by shed staff for the last few weeks as IGM data is not getting transmitted from Icegate. There is always the chance of wrong entry leading to erroneous consequences and due to manual entry, there is always a huge backlog and parties/CFS operators have to wait for long. Since the IGM is not showing on POMS, the parties also cannot file the on-line Import Applications (RIA) till such time manual entry is done by shed staff. There is obvious repercussions being felt by the port users who are regularly complaining about the delay in processing of import documents. The matter is being regularly highlighted to NLP-M, IPA and Kolkata Customs from port as well as by the users/trade. The NLP-M has written that "We have received the special character in most of the IGM file, Due to special character the same has not been shared to the respective ports, For rotation no we have not received the rotation no from the Icegate end from dated 21-12-2023 for all locations.". Submitted for taken up the matter with appropriate authority for favourable action please.

Discussion during the Meeting:-

As there was no representative from SMPK, hence the agenda points were not discussed during the Meeting.

Sponsored by Shri S.K. Ghosh, Chairman, Customs Sub Committee, CCHAA:

1. Scanning of all containers (more than 5/7 containers in Single BL) for DPD AEO customers are creating problems as scanners are already blocked with CFS bound containers. These CFS bound containers are given preference and after that DPD/AEO

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containers are permitted for scanning. This is escalating time and cost exponentially and importers are getting badly affected. It is therefore requested that there be a Priority Scanning for DPD/AEO Container Scan lots for Importer containers without having to wait - in line with facilitation for DPD & AEO clients taking delivery from Port.

2. With reference to Port Trade Circular No T.O(Sh & CH) 10/Pt-1/2211 dt 28.11.23 (copy enclosed), For DPD Importers - in cases where examination/inspection/scan is marked for part consignment Importers at Haldia have been allowed for part delivery from CFS (for the examination/inspection/scan container(s) without moving the entire consignment to CFS. such part delivery should be allowed from CFS & part from the Haldia dock. However, Haldia Customs is not allowing the same citing lack of manpower. Further it is requested that similar Order should be issued by Kolkata Customs for Kolkata Port DPD Users for facilitation of trade.

Discussion during the Meeting (Point wise):-

1. During the discussion, Shri Ataur Rahaman, Commissioner of Customs (Port) stated that the matter has been taken up with NCTC Mumbai from where targeting of selection of containers for scanning is done based on various criteria that they have built in to the system. As to sequencing of scanning issue, he stated that it is based on first come first serve basis hence, nothing much can be done from Customs side. As to capacity of scanning is concerned, he informed that new DTCS container is expected to go online soon which will resolve the present issue of delay in scanning.
2. During the discussion Shri Ataur Rahaman, Commissioner of Customs (Port) stated that the matter has been examined from Customs side and further clarified that as the Out of Charge is given through system hence, giving it from two places is not possible. In regard to the said Port Trade Circular, he mentioned that Port has been requested to withdraw the said Circular as it is not permissible for Customs to give clearance from two places for single consignment.

Sponsored by Superintendent, Foreign Post Office:

Items detained by customs are kept un-disposed indefinitely resulting in piling up in numbers cumulatively. A time frame in decision making by customs may kindly be informed for reduction in the number of pendency, especially for items which are neither restricted nor prohibited.

Discussion during the Meeting:-

During the discussion Shri Ataur Rahaman, Commissioner of Customs (Port) in response to the agenda point sponsored by the Foreign Post Office stated that last time the Chair had clearly mentioned that the points relating to FPO first be taken up at Commissionerate level and if not resolved then only it should be brought to CCFC Meeting.

The representative of FPO stated that full efforts are being made to dispose of the items lying for many years at FPO with the support of Customs and that they want the clearance process to be more expedited so that sufficient space can be generated to create a hygienic atmosphere with FPO. He further informed that previously items were taken over by customs and sold through the Customs House and some revenues were generated. Out of which 10% of the revenue generated was shared with the Post

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Office.

On this, AC, PAD stated the present status of the pending items at FPO. In this regard, he informed about the all 350 DNK parcels have been cleared within 10 days. He further informed that the average time being taken by PAD for clearance of goods for the month of December and January has been brought down to the level of 16 to 25 hours from 238 hours compared to October and November which is almost a reduction of 95% . Regarding the list of 264 detained import parcels he informed that out of 264, more than 240 have already been cleared. Call memos have been issued. PH have been issued. Process of inventory of drones is going on for transfer to Airport Authority. Steps are being taken with respect to disposal of consignments of food items and tobacco items.

On this, Shri Ataur Rahman, Commissioner of Customs suggested the FPO to take the remaining issues to the Commissionerate level and not bring it to CCFC meeting as stated earlier.

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

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(ANINDITA NAG)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
Chief Commissioner's Office
Kolkata Customs Zone

Dated: 30-01-2024

Copy to:

1. The Principal Commissioner of Customs (A&A)
2. The Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port)
3. The Principal Commissioner of Customs (Prev.), West Bengal
4. The Additional/Joint Commissioner of Customs (Port/A&A/CCP)
5. All Concerned.
6. DC(EDI) for uploading in Kolkata Customs Web Page.

Signed by Anindita Nag
Date: 30-01-2024 11:24:27
Reason: Approved