



सीमा शुल्क मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय ,बेंगलुरु अञ्चल

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS BENGALURU CUSTOMS ZONE;

केंद्रीय राजस्व भवन , क्वीन्स रोड बेंगलुरु -560001

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F. No. CCCO/TECH/TGRV/CCFC/1/2020-S AND I

Date: as e-Signed

MINUTES OF THE 2nd SPECIAL CCFC MEETING

A Special Meeting of the 2nd Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee (CCFC) was convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner of Customs, Bengaluru Zone on 20.03.2026 at 03:00 PM in hybrid mode at the Conference Hall, C.R. Building, Bengaluru to review issues relating to movement and clearance of import and export consignments in light of the evolving global situation arising from disruptions in the Gulf region, as directed by the Board vide letter F. No. 520/05/2026-Cus. VI dated 17.03.2026.

02. The Meeting was attended by Commissioners of Customs of the Zone-AP&ACC, BCC and MCC, representatives from Partner Government Agencies (PGAs), Custodians, Port authorities, Airline and Courier operators, Steamer agents, Postal authorities, Trade representatives, associations and other stakeholders as appended in the Annexure to the Minutes.

03. The Chief Commissioner welcomed all participants and informed that in view of the evolving global geopolitical situation affecting imports and exports, the Special CCFC Meetings will henceforth be conducted on a weekly basis. The Chief Commissioner emphasized that stakeholders should not wait for formal meetings to raise issues and were encouraged to proactively bring to notice any matter requiring facilitation, especially where procedural relaxations or expeditious interventions by the department could ease trade operations.

04. **Review of Trade Facilitation Circulars:** At the outset, the Chief Commissioner apprised the participants of the Trade facilitation measures undertaken by the CBIC and explained the salient features of Circulars issued in March 2026. Circular Nos. 09/2026 and 12/2026 were issued to facilitate the return (back-to-town) of export cargo either to the same port or to a different port, including provisions relating to International transshipment. Circular No. 10/2026 provides for waiver of amendment and cancellation fees for export documents under specified conditions. Circular No. 11/2026 deals with simplified import of pet cats and dogs. The Chief Commissioner encouraged the exporters and passengers to avail the benefits of these Circulars, wherever applicable.

Review of Cargo Operations (Sea, Air and Land)

A. Sea Cargo

05. Sea Imports: Many significant and positive developments were reported at Mangaluru Port by the Commissioner. Three vessels, namely Pyxis Pioneer, Apollo Ocean, and Hellas Voyager, carrying app. **57,000 MT of LPG**, had managed to overcome the regional disruptions and were scheduled to arrive at Mangaluru Port between 22nd and 29th of March 2026. Another vessel LPG/C SHIVALIK, a very large gas carrier (VLGC), had reached Mundra Port from Qatar, out of which app. **17,600 MT of LPG** was being transhipped to Mangalore Port by vessel LPG/C APOLLO OCEAN based on ship-to-ship transfer. The vessel is expected to arrive at Mangaluru Port on 22.03.2026. **These developments are expected to provide significant relief to industries dependent on LPG supplies.**

06. Sea Exports: It was reported that as on 17.03.2026, 19 containers had returned to Mangaluru Port, while 21 containers bound for Middle East were present at the Terminals for which LEO has been already granted and these will be shipped on arrival of the feeder vessels at Mangaluru Port. Further, no vessel which had sailed from Mangaluru for Middle East has reverted to Mangaluru Port.

07. Decongestion at Port: As a result of proactive measures taken by Customs officers in co-ordination with Custodian, **463.88 MT cargo had been allowed Back-to-Town from the Port:**

Details of SBs cancelled and Cargo taken Back- To-Town					
Sl. No.	Shipping Bill No. and date	Exporter Name	SB cancellation/ approval date	Commodity	Qty (Kgs)
1	1090566 dated 27.02.2026	M/s Rushil Decor Limited	10.03.2026	GREEN MDF BOARD EX E2 GRADE	85500
2	1098964 dated 27.02.2026	M/s Adhi Kalpa Exports	10.03.2026	Coco Peat or Coir Pith Coco Peat Powder	114060
3	1102508 dated 27.02.2026	M/s N. Ranga Rao & Sons Pvt Ltd	10.03.2026	Indian Perfume Incense Sticks Rhythm Amber Rectangle	13714.9
4	1206384 dated 04.03.2026	M/s NKG India Coffee Pvt Ltd	10.03.2026	INDIAN GREEN COFFEE ROBUSTA CHERRY AB	19424
5	9961343 dated 24.02.2026	M/s Varsha Aggrotech	10.03.2026	Pickled Gherkins in Acetic Acid Grade:3	52600
6	1152684 dated 02.03.2026	M/s Blueline Foods India Pvt Ltd	10.03.2026	Fish Meal (Fish Meal is unfit for human)	27929

7	1014690 dated 25.02.2026	M/s Bharathi Associates	10.03.2026	Gherkins Preserved in Vinegar	20830
8	1135087 dated 28.02.2026		10.03.2026	Gherkins Preserved in Vinegar	20937
9	1173160 dated 02.03.2026		10.03.2026	Gherkins Preserved in Vinegar	41796
10	1010030 dated 25.02.2026	M/s Munnujii Foods International Pvt Ltd	10.03.2026	Mackerel In Natural Oil	21195
11	9977294 dated 24.02.2026	M/s ITC limited	11.03.2026	INDIAN GREEN COFFEE ROBUSTA CHERRY	38942.4
12	1135272 dated 28.02.2026	M/s Precot Limited	11.03.2026	Cotton Balls and Pads	6951.2

08. Coordination with LPG Importers: On the issue of LPG supplies, it was informed that continuous coordination was being maintained with importers. The vessel MT Pine Gas carrying app. 23,000 MT of LPG remained stranded near the Strait of Hormuz, with no further updates. However, additional vessels were expected to arrive to partially offset the LPG shortfall.

During the Meeting, Industry representatives expressed serious concern regarding LPG shortages, stating that industrial activity had been adversely affected, with reports of 30 to 45 percent reduction in operations and price increases of around 15 percent. The Chief Commissioner clarified that the focus of Customs was on facilitating clearances once the goods arrived in the Customs areas and issues relating to supply, pricing and sourcing of LPG were within the domain of the Line Ministries, which were already conducting regular briefings on the evolving situation.

B. Land Cargo

09. Imports: Heavy shortfall in imports was reported at the ICDs in the jurisdiction of the Zone:

IMPORTS COMPARISON				
	Imports from Gulf Region (Last Week of February 2026)	Imports from Gulf Region (from 13.03.2026 to 19.03.2026)	Change in Imports	% Change
Value of Imports (in Rs. Crores)	24.13	9.01	-15.12	-62.66
Number of Bills of Entry	23	10	-13.00	-56.52

The imports comparison shows a **sharp contraction in imports from the Gulf Region** during the period 13.03.2026 to 19.03.2026 compared to the last week of February 2026.

Overall Trend: Both the value of imports and the number of Bills of Entry (BEs) have **declined** significantly, indicating a substantial slowdown in import activity during the second period.

Value of Imports: The import value dropped from ₹24.13 crore to ₹9.01 crore, reflecting a decrease of ₹15.12 crore, which translates to a 62.66% decline.

Number of Bills of Entry: The number of BEs decreased from 23 to 10, a reduction of 13 BEs, corresponding to a 56.52% decline. This indicates fewer consignments being processed, reinforcing the trend of reduced trade activity.

10. Exports: There was a heavy shortfall in exports at the ICDs in the jurisdiction of the Zone:

EXPORTS COMPARISON				
	Exports to Gulf Region (Last Week of February 2026)	Exports to Gulf Region (from 13.03.2026 to 19.03.2026)	Change in Exports	% Change
Value of Exports (in Rs. Crores)	97.18	11.96	-85.22	-87.69
Number of Shipping Bills	228	36	-192	-84.21

The export comparison indicates an extremely **sharp decline in exports to the Gulf Region** during the period 13.03.2026 to 19.03.2026 compared to the last week of February 2026.

Overall Trend: There is a severe contraction in both export value and volume, pointing to a significant slowdown in outbound trade.

Value of Exports: Export value has fallen drastically from ₹97.18 crore to ₹11.96 crore, a decline of ₹85.22 crore, representing an 87.69% decrease.

Number of Shipping Bills: The number of shipping bills reduced from 228 to 36, a decrease of 192 bills, corresponding to an 84.21% decline.

Exports comparison with Imports: The export decline (~85–88%) is even steeper than the import decline (~56–63%), suggesting that the slowdown is more pronounced on the export side, possibly due to demand-side issues in Gulf markets or shipment scheduling gaps.

11. Decongestion at ICDs: Substantial progress was reported in the ABC analysis of stuck cargo, particularly regarding perishables and pharmaceutical consignments. It was stated that proactive coordination with Custodians enabled rerouting, rail-out and grant of back-to-town permissions, thereby ensuring that cargo did not remain stuck at export points and deterioration was avoided. As on date, **45 TEUs had been shut out**, consignments of M/s Griffith Foods had been **railed out** and **gate-out** had been completed for the consignments of M/s Kalyani Polymers and M/s OTIS.

12. Postal Operations: It was reported that there was a significant decline in EXIM volumes during the first week of March 2026 as compared to both the first and last weeks of February 2026, with import consignments dropping from **16,842 and 13,620 to 7,345** and export consignments from **10,981 and 15,663 to 5,627**, primarily due to the prevailing situation.

13. Decongestion at FPO: Export pendency has been reduced significantly from **598 consignments to 176 consignments** due to proactive re-routing and coordination with the Airlines.

C. Air Cargo

14. It was reported that between 01.03.2026 and 17.03.2026, a total of **32 cargo flights and 229 passenger flights had been cancelled**, significantly impacting the cargo movement. The export loss due to these cancellations was estimated at **app. 2,606 shipments**, while the import loss was **app. 1,587 shipments**.

	1 st Feb-7 th Feb	22 nd Feb-28 th Feb	1 st Mar-7 th Mar	1 st Mar-17 th Mar
Exports (MT)	3299	3362	2616	6871
Imports (MT)	2943	2483	2257	6112
Total EXIM (MT)	6242	5845	4873	12983

Steady decline in EXIM volume: EXIM movement fell from 6,242 MT (Feb 1–7) → 5,845 MT (Feb 22–28) → 4,873 MT (Mar 1–7), a cumulative drop of ~22% over 03 weeks. The Feb 22–28 week held relatively well (~6.4%), but Mar 1–7 saw a sharper fall (~16.6%), suggesting a more pronounced slowdown entering March 2026.

Exports were holding up better than imports — until now: Exports ticked up slightly during the week 22nd Feb-28th Feb compared to the week 1st Feb-7th Feb (3,299 → 3,362 MT), while imports fell. However, during the week 1st Mar-7th Mar, both exports as well as imports declined, with imports showing a steeper drop overall.

D. Air Cargo (Courier)

15. It was reported that Courier consignments were similarly affected, with nearly one lakh shipments impacted, divided almost equally between exports and imports. However, it was stated that there was **no pending cargo at the terminals, as shipments had either been rerouted or returned**.

	1 st Feb-7 th Feb	22 nd Feb-28 th Feb	1 st Mar-7 th Mar	1 st Mar-17 th Mar
Exports (Consignments)	48664	49913	37535	100136
Imports (Consignments)	35107	22129	22129	52549
Total EXIM (Consignments)	83771	72042	59664	152685

Steady decline in EXIM volume: Total EXIM movement fell from 83,771 consignments (Feb 1–7) → 72,042 consignments (Feb 22–28) → 59,664 consignments (Mar 1–7), a cumulative drop of ~29% over three weeks.

Exports held up better than imports in W4 of Feb: Exports increased slightly during the week 22nd Feb-28th Feb as compared to the week 1st Feb-7th Feb (48664→49913), while imports fell.

Imports held up better than exports in W1 of Mar: Imports held steady during the week 1st Mar-7th Mar as compared to the week 22nd Feb-28th Feb (22129→ 22129), while exports fell sharply.

16. International Transshipment at Bengaluru: It was informed that on the request from M/s FedEx to undertake international-to-international transshipment operations at Bengaluru had been examined **and approved**. However, due to prevailing disruptions, no flights had commenced such operations so far, though necessary preparations were in place and operations were expected to commence shortly. On a specific query by the Chief Commissioner, it was confirmed by the representative of M/s FedEx that flights are expected to arrive at Bengaluru soon.

17. Operational Readiness and Customs Staffing: Customs Functioning on Holidays and Off-Hours: All formations reported operations round the clock to ensure smooth cargo clearance despite reduced volumes and officers were being made available immediately for urgent clearances/ diversions, despite the fact that EXIM movement was low. The Chief Commissioner reiterated that the focus should be on handling unscheduled or urgent cargo movements arising from disrupted supply chains rather than routine clearances and the flexible deployment on demand helps optimize resources during the current EXIM slowdown.

18. Coordination Between Customs and Stakeholders: The Commissioners acknowledged the importance of clear communication with importers/exporters to identify and prioritize critical shipments and diversions/transshipments. This approach balances readiness with operational efficiency in a period of reduced trade activity. The Chief Commissioner emphasized that given the reduced volume of routine cargo, the focus should shift towards addressing urgent and unforeseen requirements arising out of disruptions rather than maintaining excess staffing without demand. Customs formations maintain 24/7 availability but emphasize dynamic deployment based on actual cargo movements and urgent needs.

19. Communication and Information Sharing Mechanism: A detailed discussion was held on the proposal for creating a real-time dashboard for cargo movement. While industry representatives highlighted the need for transparency and real-time information, the Commissioners pointed out that such data was already available through existing systems maintained by custodians, port authorities, and courier operators. It was observed that creating a separate dashboard would merely be duplication of effort expending significant manpower and would result in ambiguities in interpreting second-hand data. Accordingly, it was decided that Customs would publish on its website, the web links to the relevant tracking platforms and explore the feasibility of indicating the number of impacted cargo flights and vessels, with appropriate disclaimers regarding the data sources.

20. Implementation of Trade Facilitation Circulars

- **Eight requests** for waiver of export-related charges had been received by ACC and all had been promptly approved.
- Back-to-town permissions had been granted for containers that were not loaded onto vessels, including **19 containers at Mangaluru**, while a larger number of containers had been facilitated overall.
- No cases relating to the import of pets have been received so far.
- It was also intimated during the Meeting that **Custodians had expressed willingness to waive detention charges on their own initiative**, thereby reducing the need for intervention by Customs.

21. Any Other Points with the Permission of the Chair: It was intimated by the representative of M/s NMPA that through a Trade Circular issued on 14.03.2026, they had waived cargo-related charges for LPG and crude vessels up to 31.03.2026, resulting in substantial financial relief estimated at around **₹50 lakh per LPG vessel and ₹34 lakh per crude vessel**. It was further informed that LPG consumption had increased significantly, and efforts were being made to augment supply through transshipment arrangements.

It was clarified that LPG received through daughter vessels from ports such as Mundra or Hazira would be treated as fresh imports at Mangaluru, with duty payable accordingly. Additionally, opportunities for enhancing bunkering activities at Mangaluru and Cochin ports were discussed, with plans to offer competitive pricing in coordination with Indian Oil Corporation to match International benchmarks such as Colombo and Fujairah.

Summation

22. Overall Assessment

Despite significant global disruptions, the Bengaluru Customs Zone has ensured that:

- **No significant cargo congestion persists across air, sea, or land segments**
- **All facilitation measures are implemented effectively and promptly**
- **Stakeholder concerns are addressed in real time through coordinated efforts**
- **Critical imports, particularly LPG, are being closely monitored and facilitated**

23. Key Decisions & Action Points

- Weekly Special CCFC meetings to be convened with all stakeholders *(ADC-CCO)*
- Commissioners should continue to submit updated data regarding decongestion of stuck cargo, vessels/flights/TEUs impacted, EXIM volumes, implementation of Trade facilitation Circulars etc. *(All Commissioners)*
- Trade to utilize the Facilitation Circulars proactively and report gaps immediately
- Continuous monitoring of Postal EXIM and data consolidation *(Commissioner BCC)*
- Monitoring of LPG vessels *(Commissioner MCC)*
- Explore consignment-wise reconciliation in Postal systems *(Postal Department)*
- Explore public data dissemination (flights) *(Commissioner ACC)*
- Publish tracking source links on Customs website *(All Commissioners)*
- The Chief Commissioner emphasized: *(All Commissioners)*
 - Proactive communication
 - Real-time issue escalation
 - Continued facilitation despite reduced cargo volumes

24. The Chief Commissioner concluded the Meeting by reiterating that while Customs would continue to facilitate trade within its mandate, stakeholders should rely on appropriate channels for sector-specific information, particularly in relation to inward and outward supply chains. It was emphasized that all stakeholders should maintain close coordination and immediately escalate any issues requiring urgent intervention.

25. The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks.

This issues with the approval of the Chief Commissioner.

भवदीय,

संलग्न: ऊपरोक्त अनुसार

(परशिवमूर्ति एम. के. / Parashivamurthy M.K.)
अपर आयुक्त / Additional Commissioner (CCO / मु.आ.का.)

1. All Members of CCFC
2. Others as per Mailing

list Copy to:

1. Commissioner of Customs, Airport & ACC Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru.
2. Commissioner of Customs, City Customs Commissionerate, Bengaluru.
3. Commissioner of Mangalore Customs, Mangalore.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sl.	Participants Shri/Smt.	Designation	Organization
1	S P Singh	Commissioner	BCC
2	Sucheta Sreejesh	Commissioner	AP&ACC
3	P. Vinitha Sekhar	Commissioner	MCC
4	Parashivamurthy M.K	Addl. Commr	BCZ
5	Biju Thomas	Addl. Commr	MCC
6	Sandeep Gunjal	Jt. Commr	ACC
7	Nitish Karnatak	Jt. Commr	ICD
8	Zahed Ali	Dy Commr	ACC
9	N Jayaram	Asst. Commr.	CCO
10	K. Anuradha	Asst. Commr	ACC
11	Chandrashekhar B Palekar	Dy. Manager	NMPA
12	Balachander	Terminal Manager	CONCOR
13	P Dorababu	Asst. Director	AEPC
14	Dr. T K Sahu	Jt. Commr	AQCS
15	Girish Narayan	Secretary	BACHAAL
16	H S Prakash	Additional director	DGTS
17	K. Preetha	Technical officer	FSSAI
18	K. Anuradha	Asst. Commr	COURIER
19	Lokesh B.K	Import Manager	DHL
20	M. Kusumakar	Sr. Manager	WFS
21	Mahadeva	Vice President	MENZIES
22	Manjunatha	Asst. Commr	MCC
23	Manu P.	PPO	PQS MANGALORE
24	Pavan Mruthyunjaya	Manager	FEDEX
25	Philip C. C.	President	CHA ASSN. MCC
26	Prabhu	Post Master	FPO
27	Praveen B.	Chairman	KASSIA
28	Prem Kumar	Manager	DHL
29	R. Srinivas	Asst. Manager	MENZIES
30	Ramachandra	Manager	FEDEX
31	Rathod Rahul	Manager	FEDEX
32	Satish Kujur	Manager	HPCL
33	Sumit	Manager	PEPC
34	Thulasiram B.V.	Manager	SATTVA ICD
35	V. Chandru	Vice President	ACFI
36	Vyshakh Krishnan	Manager	UPS