भारत सरकार/Government of India
वित्त मंत्रालय/Ministry of Finance
कार्यालय/Office of the
प्रधान मुख्य आयुक्त सीमा शुल्क
Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs
मुंबईअंचल-I /Mumbai Zone-I
बैलार्ड एस्टेट/Ballard Estate
मुंबई/Mumbai -400 001
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F. No. CCCO/1092/2025-TECH Date:12-05-2026

Minutes of the Outreach Programme conducted by NAC (Automobile and Instruments & Miscellaneous Products) through hybrid mode chaired by NAC Convenor with Sectoral Associations, Trade members and Stakeholders on 05.05.2026 at 11.30 AM.

At the start of the outreach program, Additional Commissioner of Customs, Pr. Chief Commissioner's Office (PCCO), Mumbai Zone-I on behalf of Convener of NAC (Automobiles and Instruments & Miscellaneous Products) welcomed all attendees to the Second Sectoral Meeting of Financial Year 2026-27 held on 05.05.2026. To begin with the meeting, he requested the NAC Convenor for a few words of guidance and directions for the meeting.

2. Shri Mayank Kumar, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, NAC Convenor, welcomed all participants to the meeting and informed that Mumbai Customs, Zone-I, is regularly conducting Outreach meetings in hybrid mode with various departmental stake holders like NCTC etc., and other trade associations with the objective of ensuring uniformity in assessment and facilitation of trade with special focus of the MSMEs. The NAC Convenor addressed the issue of assessment queries and instructed all FAG formations to ensure that queries raised during assessment are clear, specific, and precise. He emphasized that such an approach would facilitate expeditious clearance of goods and significantly reduce dwell time. The Convenor further observed that long-standing practices should not be altered abruptly unless necessitated by fresh directions issued by the Board. He also stressed that all issues, whether pertaining to trade or departmental matters, should be discussed comprehensively with a view to achieving uniformity, consistency, and finality in decision-making.

3. Thereafter, the Convenor instructed the Additional Commissioner, PCCO to

commence the presentation. Thereafter, the Additional Commissioner, PCCO Mumbai Zone-I, presented the Action Taken Note pertaining to the issues raised during the previous outreach program.

4 . **Issue received from FFFAI regarding Clarification Required on Classification of High-Performance Liquid Chromatograph (HPLC) Systems:** An email was received from FFFAI, regarding classification dispute of High-Performance Liquid Chromatograph (HPLC) system under CTH 84212900 and CTH 90272000. FFFAI stated that, as per the Targeter's/Intervenor's instructions, the HPLC system should be classified under CTH 84212900, whereas chromatographs are specifically classified under CTH 9027. A copy of the query pertaining to the import of an HPLC system under Bill of Entry No. 796732 dated 09.03.2026 was also forwarded with the email. In the said Bill of Entry, the importer has declared the HPLC system under CTH 90272000.

4.1 In this regard, a reply from the Kolkata Commissionerate dated 28.04.2026 informed that a letter had been sent to NCTC, Mumbai seeking guidance on the classification of HPLC systems in light of these instructions, while in the interim, Bill of Entry No. 796732 dated 09.03.2026 was provisionally assessed by the Air Cargo Complex, Kolkata and the goods were released.

4.2 During the meeting, after deliberations on the issue, the NAC Convenor directed the NAC office to gather further details on the issue so as to enable the NAC to take an informed view on the matter.

(Action: NAC Convenor's Office)

5. Issue of IGST on electric vehicles in CKD/SKD condition: An email dated 04.05.2026 received from the FFFAI seeking clarification on the issue of IGST on import of the electric vehicle in CKD/SKD condition. During the earlier NAC Sectoral Meetings references were received from Chennai-II (Import) Commissionerate, wherein it was informed that the Director General of Audit (Central), Chennai had raised an audit objection regarding the alleged short levy of Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) on the import of "Electric scooter in CKD/SKD condition." The audit objection contends that IGST ought to have been levied at 28% under Sl. Nos. 165, 166, and 173 of Schedule IV of IGST Notification No. 01/2017-Integrated Tax (Rate), instead of 5% under Sl. No. 242A of Schedule I of the said notification.

5.1 The issue under consideration is whether e-scooters/e-bicycles imported in CKD/SKD condition without a motor or other essential parts are classifiable as complete vehicles under CTH 8711, thereby attracting IGST at the rate of 5%, or as parts and accessories under CTH 8714, attracting IGST at the rate of 28%. During the meeting, it was informed that this NAC had sought comments on the classification and related matters from the working group headed by Chennai. A response was subsequently received from the Chennai-II (Import) Commissionerate. Accordingly, this NAC addressed a letter dated 16.02.2026 to the Joint Secretary (Customs), CBIC, seeking clarification on the issue. Reply is still awaited. In this regard, the Additional Commissioner of Customs, PCCO, Mumbai Zone-I instructed NAC office to write a reminder letter to Board for the same.

(Action: NAC Convenor's office)

6. **Classification dispute of Car Seat Covers:** The issue concerns the classification of car seat covers considering the judgment in W.P.(C) No. 8778 of 2018, M/s. Autofit Car Interiors Pvt. Ltd. vs. Union of India & Ors., delivered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala. The dispute pertains to whether car seat covers should be classified under tariff heading 87089900, as contended by the party, or under Chapter 63 (made-up textile articles) or Chapter 42 (leather goods), depending on their constituent material.

6.1 In this regard, two communications dated 18.11.2025 and 16.03.2026 were sent to the Board, conveying the observations of this NAC. Subsequently, the Board, vide letter dated 29.04.2026, instructed the Convenor of this NAC to ensure uniformity in the classification of car seat covers under Chapter sub-heading 8708.00, by referring to Circular No. 541/37/2000-CX dated 16.08.2000.

6.2 In this regard, in compliance with the Board's directions, the NAC Convenor instructed all nodal FAG Commissionerates to classify car seat covers under Chapter sub-heading 8708.00 in accordance with the Circular No. 541/37/2000-CX dated 16.08.2000. The Additional Commissioner of Customs, PCCO, Mumbai Zone-I also instructed this Office to issue a letter to all nodal FAGs under this NAC to ensure compliance with the Board's instructions.

(Action: NAC Convenor's Office)

7. **Need for Clear, Comprehensive and Unambiguous Product Descriptions to Reduce Queries and Facilitate Expeditious Clearance:** During the meeting, the NAC Convenor requested the FAGs under this NAC to kindly consider instances where the description of goods is found to be unclear or insufficiently detailed, which may result in avoidable queries being raised. It was suggested by the NAC Convenor that this matter may also be suitably deliberated in the NAC meeting, with a view to encouraging that product descriptions are made more comprehensive, precise, and unambiguous. Such an approach would significantly help in reducing the number of

queries generated, thereby minimizing procedural delays. The NAC Convenor further proposed sensitizing trade members, Customs House Agents and other stakeholders that clear and detailed descriptions would not only facilitate expeditious clearance but also help avoid queries raised by the department.

(Action: All Nodal FAG Commissionerate under this NAC)

8. Issue regarding CCR instructions in SVB cases: During the meeting, Shri Hiren Ruprel, BCBA, raised an issue stating that, due to CCR instructions in Bills of Entry pertaining to SVB matters, automatic registration and automatic Out of Charge (OOC) processing are not taking place. He informed that, even in cases where the SVB proceedings have been finalized, the CCR instruction continues to reflect “Verify SVB,” resulting in non-processing of auto OOC. In this regard, Shri Balmukund, Additional Commissioner of Customs, PCCO, Mumbai Zone-I, requested the NCTC office to address the issue. In response, Shri Yogesh Loke, Additional Director, NCTT, informed that many cases, which had remained pending for long durations, have now been finalized by the respective SVB formations. He further stated that the matter is under discussion for necessary action, and appropriate action will be taken by NCTC, Mumbai, at the earliest. Further, Shri Balmukund, Additional Commissioner, PCCO, Mumbai Zone-I, also requested the trade to forward a copy of the SVB report to this office for taking necessary action.

(Action: Closed)

9. Shri Balmukund, ADC, PCCO on behalf of the Convener of NAC, thanked all the participants, Pr. Commissioners/Commissioners, Addl./Joint Commissioners, Officers of Customs, Customs Broker Associations, Trade partners and stakeholders for participating in the meeting.

10. The said meeting was attended by importers, sectoral associations, other members and various stakeholders detailed as per Annexure-1 attached herewith.

11. This issues with the approval of Convenor of NAC (Automobile and Instruments & Miscellaneous Products).

Digitally signed by Balmukund
Date: 12-05-2026 12:38:24

(BALMUKUND) ,

(ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER),

(O/o Chief Commissioner-Customs-Zone-I-Mumbai)

Encl.: Annexure-I (List of attendees)

Copy to:

1. Under Secretary, Customs IV, CBIC, New Delhi.
2. OSD, Customs IV, CBIC, New Delhi.
3. All Nodal Pr. Commissioners/Commissioners of NAC (Automobile and Instruments & Miscellaneous Product
4. All participating Associations/ Stakeholders.
5. EDI,NCH, for uploading the MoM on the website of Mumbai Customs Zone- I.
6. The Joint Director, NCTC.
7. Office copy