



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (PORT)**  
**CUSTOM HOUSE, 15/1, STRAND ROAD, KOLKATA 700001**

**Minutes of the Trade Facilitation Committee Meeting (TFC) held on**  
**21.08.2019 at 12:00 Hrs in the Board Room of Custom House, Kolkata**

The Trade Facilitation Committee Meeting was held in the Board Room of Custom House, Kolkata on 21.08.2019. The Meeting was presided over by the Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Port).

The Chair welcomed all the members present in the meeting.

Following issues were discussed in the meeting:

**A. Agenda Points submitted by CCHAA:**

1. The representative of CCHAA informed that with reference to processing of Shipping Bills of ship stores, P.N. 100/2018 DT 29.10.2018 had been issued. The representations were made from the Trade and certain exemptions were allowed. However, the same exemptions are not being allowed as of now and EDI Shipping Bill is being asked to be filed instead of manual Shipping Bill. We request that the same should be continued as there are certain practical difficulties, in filing documents through EDI system. They argued that certain data like requirement of IGM details and destination port etc which are required for filing Shipping Bills generates lots technical as well as practical problems. Further, there is requirement of foreign exchange remittance for export demanded by the banks. Moreover for perishable goods, all this rigmarole causes loss to the suppliers.

The SCP, Export informed that as per para 9 of Public Notice 100/2018, Manual Shipping Bill procedure in respect of Export of Ship Stores had been discontinued. Henceforth, all such Shipping Bills are required to be filed electronically in EDI system only under scheme code 99 (sample and others). However, in January 2019, filing of Manual Shipping Bills for Export of Ship Stores were allowed as the Ship Stores Shipping Bills could not be filed in system due to some difficulties like declaration of consignee name, Port of Destination etc. From April 2019, JNCH started filing Ship Stores Shipping Bills in System. Accordingly, this Port has also started filing all Ship Stores Shipping Bills in system.

Pr. Commissioner accepted that problem is being faced by the suppliers appear to be genuine, but at one stage automation has to be implemented by sorting out all such bottlenecks. But meanwhile in view of difficulties manual filing of Shipping Bills for perishable goods supplied as Ship Stores is permitted to be continued for

the time being. After manual filing all the data must be captured in EDI system within two days of such manual filing. Suppliers must provide the essential data in manual Shipping Bills required for such capturing. Officer at Haldia too may be allowed such role by EDI.

[Action- DC/Export, Haldia]

2. The representative of CCHAA informed that in case of transshipment from Vizag, ETP is to be filed at CMC against payment of Rs. 100. This is a time taking process and especially on Saturdays/Holidays. They requested if the CMC formalities may be done at Port/CFS.

The Pr. Commissioner stated that the facility of Service Centre at M/s Balmer Lawrie CFS may be availed. However, he instructed CMC representative that the service should be available on Sundays/holidays also. He asked DC, EDI to examine what are the terms of contract with CMC.

[Action- DC/EDI]

3. The representative of CCHAA informed that clarification is sought as to whether RFID seal can be affixed before generation of Shipping Bill. In some cases, the Shipping Bill is generated where number of cartons to be stuffed in a container is mentioned beforehand but later during stuffing, there may be a shortage of space for fitting the same number of cartons in that particular container.

In this regard, DC, SPS informed that as per para 9 (VII) of CBIC Circular 26/2017 dated 01.07.2017, "The electronic seal should have a unique number which should be declared in the Shipping Bill. Before sealing the container, the exporter shall feed the data such as name of the Exporter, IEC code, GSTIN, description of the goods, tax invoice number, name of the authorized signatory (for affixing e-seal) and Shipping Bill number in the electronic seal".

The Pr. Commissioner stated that the CBIC circular clearly mandates the generation of Shipping Bill before fixing RFID seals on containers. The request cannot be accepted.

4. The representative of CCHAA informed that opening of departmental files should be kept to a minimum. Presently files are opened for every small requirement.

Examples are as follows-

- a) Seal mismatch at CFS.
- b) Risky exporters' permission.

The CCHAA representative informed that in case of seal mismatch at CFS, the examination and appraisal is usually done on the basis of request made to AC (CFS) by Custom Brokers/ Exporter's representative for 100% examination of the said cargo. Usually at CFS, getting the permission for such an order takes a

lot of time as a whole lot of futile exercise of opening a file and taking permission is executed.

AC, CFS stated that, the same are being done quickly without any such delay. Regarding opening of files, AC, CFS informed that in case of risky exporter's suspension of IGST refund, CBIC's Circular No. 16/2019-Customs dated 17.06.2019 may please be referred wherein it is mentioned that such Shipping Bills shall be suspended for IGST refund by the DC/AC dealing with refund at the Port of export. Therefore, such Shipping Bills are sent to DC/AC (IGST), Custom House for suspension of IGST refund. It is very important for maintaining the files for identification and suspension of IGST refund for those risky exporters.

The Pr. Commissioner stated that for seal mismatch, file is not required to be opened for each & every case and a single common running file should be maintained. For risky exporter's cargo, files may be opened for record keeping purpose.

[Action- AC/CFSs]

5. The representative of CCHAA informed that in case of re-export under Section 69 of Customs Act 1962, Customs formalities needs to be simplified. File work needs to be reduced and physical warehouse may be waived, etc. Waiving the physical warehousing may reduce transaction costs

DC (Import Bond) stated that Re-exportation of warehoused goods under Section 69 of Customs Act, 1962 are being done as per provisions of Para 16 of the Customs Manual, 2018 and Kolkata Customs Public Notice No. 100/2018 dated 29.10.2018. There is no such provision for physical waiver of warehoused goods meant for re-export.

The Pr. Commissioner stated that physical waiver cannot be allowed in the light of existing provisions and their limitations.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

This issues with approval of the Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Port).

  
(Amrendra Narayan)

F. No. S60 (Misc)-07/2011 A (G) Pt-VI  
Dated: 28.08.2019

Addl. Commissioner of Customs (Port)  
Custom House, Kolkata

**Copy to:-**

1. Sr. PS to the Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata.
2. PA to the Pr. Commissioner of Customs (Port)
3. All ADCs/JCs, Port
4. All DCs/ACs, Port
5. D. C. (EDI) – for uploading in the Kolkata Customs website
6. All participants.
7. Guard File.