

MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16.12.2015 AT JNCH

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, MUMBAI ZONE-II,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, NHAVA SHEVA, TALUKA: URAN,
DISTRICT: RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA-400707.

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MINUTES OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 16.12.2015 AT JNCH

1.The 7th Meeting of Customs Clearance Facilitation Committee was held on 16.12.2015 at Jawaharlal Nehru Custom House with the members of Committee and representatives of regulatory agencies and from Trade. Shri Sanjeev Behari, Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II chaired the meeting.

2. Following persons from regulatory agencies attended the Meeting.

Sr. No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the Representative& Designation (S/Shri)
1	RPQS, Mumbai	K. W. Deshkar, Dy. Director (E)
2	RPQS, Mumbai	Dr. C. S. Patni, Asstt. Director (PP)
3	Textile Committee	Kartikey Dhanda, Director (Lab.)
4	Textile Committee	Ms. Vimal A Oval , Asst. Director
5	FSSAI	Shailesh Nimbalkar, NISG
6	Drug Controller, JNPT	Gulshan Taneja ADC
7	Drug Controller, JNPT	Arvind Hiwale, Drug Inspector
8	Animal Quarantine	Vijay Kumar, Technical Officer

The Department was represented by the following officers.

Sr. No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the Representative& Designation (S/Shri)
1	Customs	Rajeev Tandon, Pr. Commissioner of Customs.
2	Customs	Subhash Agrawal, Commissioner of Customs
3	Customs	D K Srinivas, Commissioner of Customs
4	Customs	Aseem Kumar, Addl. Commissioner of Customs.
5	Customs	Dilip Goyal , Addl. Commissioner of Customs
6	Customs	1. K. Goel, Addl. Commissioner of Customs
7	Customs	Jomy Jacob, Dy. Commissioner
8	Customs	Mahipal Singh, Dy. Commr, Gr. III
9	Customs	Sudhakar Pandey Asst. Commr., Group-I
10	Customs	Ms. Arpita Nahariya, Asstt. Commr. Gr. II

3. The Chair welcomed all the members. It was stressed that the focus was on the need for extending the facility of 24 x 7 services and facilities to the trade and a reduction in dwell time by all regulatory agencies under the aegis of ease of doing business.

4. Thereafter, the issues with respect to regulatory agencies were taken up:

(i) Textile Committee:

(a) The TC representative informed that their Board had agreed to the proposal of setting up another office and laboratory at JNP area and the same is expected to be functional in about six months. The Chair offered Customs help in procurement of land from JNP and in any other issues. Further, progress may be reported in the next meeting.

(b) The sample data in respect of the samples forwarded to TC for testing reflected an average time of 2-3 days for furnishing of Test report. However, it was observed from the sample data that while in one case of 'flock fabric' it had taken 4 days for testing, another sample of same description had been tested within two days during the same period. The TC representative informed that testing of flock fabric depends on the nature of fabric composition, as flock fabric may be of 2-3 materials i.e. cotton, polyester, viscose etc. and more time for testing may be required for certain items of same description but different composition. Specific comment to be sent to c. c. unit at ccojnch2@gmail.com.

(c) The ADC (CCO) enquired about the expected reduction on dwell time, due to the Laboratory facility coming up at JNPT. The TC representative informed that there would be reduction on account of less time required to transport the samples from CFSs to their laboratory and therefore, in certain cases they will be able to give simple test report on the same day.

(d) The Chair enquired about the status of forwarding test report by e-mail as discussed in last meeting. The TC representative informed that they have already started forwarding the copies of test reports by mail. The Chair directed DC/ Group III to create an official e-mail for correspondence with the TC so that the test reports could be received on-line thereby reducing the dwell time. The Chair directed that Sample Cell should ensure dissemination of the test report to the concerned groups and docks officers timely and JC (Sample Cell) to ensure that such a mechanism is put into place.

(e) The TC representative informed that they have made arrangements for receiving of samples at the gate during night hours. However, they informed that due to shortage of staff sample can be tested on next day only.

(ii) Drug Controller:

(a) The ADC informed that they have been allotted the land by the JNPT outside the Custom bonded area and no map/location has been given to them. The Chair directed ADC (PG) to take up the matter with J.N. Port authorities to provide specific details of the land allotted to CDSCO.

(b) The ADC informed the Chair that they are agreeable for providing 24 x 7 facilities to the trade.

(c) The sample data reflected that most of the import consignments were granted NoC on the same day except one consignment of Phenylephrine HCL, where NoC was given in 08 days. It was informed by the ADC that the consignment was of re-import of earlier exported goods and as per guidance document of CDSCO they had asked for test/analysis on 26.11.2015, the sealed sample provided by CHA/party on 01.12.15 and test report received from testing laboratory

through CHA/Firm on 09.12.15. The other documents like reason for rejection from foreign buyer, CoA of rejection from foreign buyer, CoA of Manufacturer etc. were submitted by CHA firm on 15.12.2015 and the consignment was cleared on the same day.

(d) The Chair enquired whether the information in respect of requirements to be fulfilled, and documents to be furnished is available to trade. The ADC informed that the information is available on their website under “Guidance documents for Port officers”. The Chair directed ADC/AC Gr. II (A-F) to issue a Public Notice informing the trade of the same in 3 days.

(e) The ADC requested that a representation may be forwarded on behalf of trade regarding granting NoC on checklist and requirement of annual contract for dual use items so as to enable them to take up the issue with their Headquarters for consideration and approval. It was informed that updated “Not a Drug” list has been forwarded to Headquarters for approval and is expected within a month. The Chair asked ADC (I) to provide updates in next meeting.

(iii) FSSAI:

(a) The FSSAI representatives informed that they have been allotted 2500 sq mtrs land and the implementation of project of setting up of their office at JNP area and budget allocation for the same was being done at their office. The Chair requested for a progress report on the same as the same status had been reported in the earlier CCFC meeting also. The FSSAI representative assured to provide the updated current status on the issue after verification from Head Quarters. The Chair directed A.C./ Gr. I to take up the issue with the FSSAI, Director as there has no progress in the matter for the past few months.

(b) The FSSAI representative also informed that the process to appoint 150 persons is underway at Headquarters, of which 4-5 new appointees are likely to join by December end and accordingly they will make arrangements to work 24 x 7.

(c) The sample data reflected an average time of 5-6 days, and a maximum of 12 days for grant of NoC. The representative of the FSSAI was unable to verify or comment on the same stating that the data had not been transmitted from their headquarters to the JNP office due to miscommunication. The FSSAI representative informed that the samples are forwarded to different accredited laboratories and some labs take more time to test and issue reports. However, they are giving provisional NOC for fresh fruits and frozen foods.

(d) The A.C./Gr. I informed that a consignment of “Whey protein” is pending for approval since last month; the FSSAI representative assured that the specific case will be taken up with Headquarters on priority. The Chair directed to forward a report within 7 days. The Chair also requested the FSSAI representative to come up with an interim solution in consultation with FSSAI Headquarters on the issue of product approval in view of the recent Supreme Court judgement scrapping the product approval process.

(e) The Chair enquired about Food Prioritization System and granting online appointment twice a day with FSSAI representative to which the representative informed that the matter is dealt by Head Quarter at Delhi and he will inform the same to Headquarters. The Chair expressed displeasure as, in the CCFC meeting held on 23.09.2015, Shri B. K. Dubey, Director (Import) has personally assured the Chair regarding acceptance of demand from the trade of having two appointment slots for on-line appointments. The Chair also requested FSSAI representative to inform the Director (Import)/Authorised Officer to be present in next CCFC meeting.

(iv) Plant & Quarantine:

(a) The sample data reflected an average time of 1-2 days. The PQ representative informed that fresh fruits and perishable items are given provisional NOC on the same day. Further, the PQ representative also informed that MSWC had agreed to provide them 1000sq ft of space and discussions with them are in progress. The Chair directed PQ representative to provide specific details of location and time frame for setting up of the testing laboratory.

(b) The PQ representative informed that they are presently working 06 days a week and no purpose will be served by working in night, the testing can be done on the next day only as they have different set of officers/staff for drawing, sealing and testing of samples and presently the office is understaffed.

(v) Animal Quarantine:

The sample data reflected an average time of 9-10 days. The AQ representative informed that the Bills of Entry shown in the data are the dates of final NoC, and they had given provisional NOC on the same day for the said perishable items. The Chair directed A.C./ Gr. I to issue a Public Notice informing trade regarding grant of Provisional NoC by AQ authorities to highly perishable items such as meat, fish etc.

(vi) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau:

The issues could not be taken up as no representative of WCCB attended the meeting. Regional Dy. Director i/c of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (W.R.) Shri M. Maranko had informed his inability to attend the meeting as he and his staffs were on official visit outside the city.

This issues with the approval of Pr. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone – II.

Sd/-

18.12.2015

(Jomy Jacob)

Deputy Commissioner of Customs,
Nhava Sheva

Copy to :

1. Member (Customs), Member (Zone), CBEC, New Delhi
2. DC/EDI with a request to upload the minutes on website
3. All members of CCFC Meeting by e-mail
4. Officers concerned
5. Office Copy