

सीमाशुल्कआयुक्त (एनएस -I) कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, NS-I
मूल्यनिरूपणमुख्य (आयात) APPRAISING MAIN (IMPORT)

जवाहरलालनेहरूसीमाशुल्कभवन, न्हावाशेवा,
JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE, NHAVA- SHEVA
ता. उरण,, TAL-URAN, जिलारायगड /RAIGAD – 400707, महाराष्ट्र MAHARASHTRA
(E-mail: appraisingmain.jnch@gov.in Telephone No.022-27244979)

F.No. S/22-Gen-44/2017-18 AM (I) Pt.V

Date: .10.2020

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION
COMMITTEE (IMPORT) HELD ON 24.09.2020.**

The PTFC meeting held through video conference on 24.09.2020 was chaired by Shri S.K. Vimalanathan, Commissioner of Customs (NS-III), Shri Sunil Kumar Mall, Commissioner of Customs (NS-I) and Shri R K Mishra, Commissioner of Customs (NS-V). The meeting was attended by the following members/participants of trade:-

Sr. No.	Names (S/Shri/Ms./Mrs.)	Organization/Association/Designation
1.	P G Rao	JNPT
2.	R K Rubin	AMTOI
3.	Leena Ganguly	AIWCBA
4.	Faiz Sayyed	BMCTPL
5.	V K Agarwal	Mirc Electronis Ltd (ONIDA)
6.	Rajasekhar R	United Phosphorus Ltd.
7.	Paresh Thakkar	BCBA
8.	Ganpat Korade	BCBA
9.	Hiren Ruparel	BCBA
10.	Shankar Shinde	BCBA
11.	Manish Kumar	MANSA
12.	Paresh Shah	WISA
13.	Shailesh Mishra	BMCT
14.	Neelesh Datir	AILBIEA
15.	Sheetal Ahluwalia	AWCBA
16.	Laksha	CFSAI
17.	Vinayak B Aparaj	BCBA
18.	Maruti Gadge	BCBA
19.	Nimish Desai	WISA
20.	Ravi D Rao	JNPT
21.	Rekha	CSLA
22.	Shyam	CSLA

23.	Capt Iyyer	MANSA
24.	V.Rajapan	-
25.	Vasant	-
26.	Wilfred Menezes	-
27.	Mazhar Vohra	-
28.	Paras Shah	-

Following Officers from the department attended the meeting:-

Sr. No.	Names (Shri/Smt./Ms.)	Designation
1.	Rajiv Ranjan	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
2.	Kamlesh Kumar Gupta	Addl. Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
3.	Saroj Samaiya	Joint Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
4.	Dipin Singla	Joint Commissioner of Customs, JNCH
5.	Rahul Kumar	Deputy Commissioner of Customs, JNCH

2) Smt. Saroj Samaiya, Joint Commissioner of Customs, JNCH, started the discussion related to the import agenda points of the meeting.

Agenda Point raised by MANSA

Agenda Point 1: TP permits: Previously we used to pass TP's for all foreign destination containers against a vessel/voyage irrespective of the no. of BL's and containers and the same was passed by the respective cell of the customs. Lately we have been advised that the same has now been stopped and TP's for all such movements will have to be passed ITEM WISE even if all the boxes are being connected on the same vessel.

To speak in lay man's terms : One covering letter seeking the TP with IGM copy attached with all BL details and the IGM lines mentioned clearly was the procedure. Now the same has been converted to for every IGM LINE ITEM a covering letter so if 20 boxes on 10 BL's means 10 nos. of covering letters to be filed.

Comments: Procedure followed is as per Standing Order No. 24/2011 dated 29.03.2011 and also Board's Circular No. 79/2001-CUS dated 07.12.2001. Further, as per Customs Manual 2018 Chapter 10 Para 13 (viii), original TP copy must be affixed with Rs.20/- stamp as TP fees.

The procedure will be examined again in the light of MANSA's contention.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 2: Feedback Regarding Processes Requiring Physical Interface With Customs-Reg.: As desired by our Members, MANSA takes up the issues pending for

past several months for discussions in PTFC once again urging earliest action for the benefit of the EXIM Trade.

Your kind attention is invited to the fact that in the month of May2020 or even prior to that, JNCH has asked our members' suggestions / feedback regarding physical interface with Customs. We have promptly furnished in the attached statement form and requested for digitalization of all possible areas to avoid human interface. Since then our Members have been taking up this very often this beneficial initiative launched by JNCH almost in every PTFC, However, for some reasons unknown regrettably the expected move remained static without any forward progress.

We would be grateful if these points are once again brought up for serious discussions for early introduction of the suggestion on firm grounds:-

S. N o.	Section/ Branch/ Group	Reason for physical interaction	Whether physical interface can be dispensed with (Yes/ No)	If Yes, then recommended alternative to physical interface	Comments
1	Boarding	For intimation of vessel arrival	Yes	Should be accepted in email message	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the connectivity. Therefore, the said suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
2	Boarding	e-Boarding process	Yes	All required documents can be submitted in email message and boarding/entry inward /outward process can be approved by boarding department in email message	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the connectivity. Therefore, the said

					suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
3	Import Noting	Sea To Sea TP	Yes	Application should be accepted & approved TP should be communicated to shipping line in email message	Import Noting Section is committed to implement the agenda point on availability of internet facility which has been requested for and is being granted.
4	Boarding Department	Restow Permission	Yes	Application should be accepted & approval should be communicated in email message	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the connectivity. Therefore, the said suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
5	Preventive General	Shifting/ Escorting Permission	Yes	Application should be accepted & approval should be communicated in email message	Escorting is provided on case to case basis after the scrutiny of documents mentioning conditions to be fulfilled & mostly in dispute/intelligence hold cases e.g. CIU/SIIB/R&I etc. Also, there is acute shortage of PO staff, so at least 24-36 hrs prior intimation is expected to provide PO for escort demanding agency to forward the details & points of shifting to PG section mail address. Further, this section does not have any database of registered e-mail id's of Exporters/Importers or CHA and neither has access to e-sanchit. In the case of Section-49 escorting, space availability also needs to be verified by BOND section. It is also submitted that for the payment of MOT charges concerned CHA/Authorised representative needs to visit the Cash section, JNCH. Therefore, it is submitted that as multiple sections are involved in the whole process of granting shifting/escorting permission on case to case basis and there is no official channel available for online communication between escort demanding agency/Exporter/CHA and concerned section, so at present, it may not be possible for this office to directly provide permission on e-mail regarding shifting/escorting. Whenever, official channel for online communication will be

					available, Escorting/Shifting permission may be given on e-mail.
6	Boarding	Short Landing Intimation	Yes	Intimation of short landing can be sent on mail	Standard Operating Procedure for Short Landing of FCL/LCL cargo is followed as per SO No.14/2019.
7	Import Noting	Short Landing (Old IGM Deletion)	Yes	Concern documents can be forwarded on e-mail & after verifying custom should provide approval as well as deletion of old IGM in system	Import Noting Section is committed to implement the agenda point on availability of internet facility which has been requested for and is being granted.
8	Boarding	Additional Discharge	Yes	Intimation of additional discharge can be sent on mail	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the connectivity. Therefore, the said suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
9	Import Noting	Additional Entry In IGM	Yes	Concern documents can be forwarded on e-mail & after verifying custom should provide approval as well as addition of IGM in system	Import Noting Section is committed to implement the agenda point on availability of internet facility which has been requested for and is being granted.
10	Boarding	Entry Inward	Yes	Acknowledgement of docs can be given on mail	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the

					connectivity. Therefore, the said suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
11	ACAO (PG) / Boarding	Sailing Report	Yes	As per current procedure AC-AO from JNCH signs the report 1st & then hard copies are submitted to boarding for updation of sailing report. This can be dispensed & can be done on mail for that both Depts. should share their e-mail IDs	At present, there is no dedicated platform by which the message flow between the Customs Authorities and Shipping Lines can be facilitated. The relevant documents need to be digitally signed/e-verified for authentication. Also, the registered e-mail ids of all such shipping lines need to be submitted to the Boarding Office so as to verify the genuineness of the e-mails. Further, in cases where the Boarding Officer needs to take approval from seniors, there is at present no escalation option in the e-mail. Further, it is informed that the infrastructure for the EDI system and internet connectivity is very poor which leads to frequent failure of the connectivity. Therefore, the said suggestion needs to be examined thoroughly before the same can be materialized from variety of aspects.
12	Container Cell	Bond Renewal	Yes	In this situation cannot arrange documents on bond paper as well as notarised, concern Dept. should issue PN reg. auto renewal/extension, concern agents should submit relevant docs after lock down when the situation gets normalised	Bond renewals are usually renewed for a period of 1 year and can be extended further. All renewal/continuity bond documents are verified by Container Cell on the number and type of containers imported during the bond period. After proper verification of Bond, the stamp paper is duly signed by the PO and AC/DC Container cell on the said Bond Stamp Paper. As the bond is a legal agreement whereby a person takes to do or not to do anything, subject to conditions stipulated in the agreement, therefore it is recommended for physical submission of the Bond stamp Paper which acts as surety for the department.
13	Container Cell	Re-Export Details	Yes	Can be sent on e-mail ID provided, after lock down hard copies will be submitted	Presently this office is accepting online submission of Re-Export details of empty containers. So far, no Public Notice has been issued for submission of Re-export details.
14	Container Cell	Extensions	Yes	Can be sent on e-mail ID provided, after lock down hard copies will be submitted	Extensions can be sent on email ID and all the relevant documents can be submitted after the lock down period
15	Import Noting	Amendments In IGM (Any Type)	Yes	Concern documents can be forwarded on e-mail & after verifying custom should provide approval as well as system change	Import Noting Section is committed to implement the agenda point on availability of internet facility which has been requested for and is being granted.

16	Preventive Dept.	Escort Permissions	Yes	Can be given on email	Escorting is provided on case to case basis after the scrutiny of documents mentioning conditions to be fulfilled & mostly in dispute/intelligence hold cases e.g. CIU/SIIB/R&I etc. Also, there is acute shortage of PO staff, so at least 24-36 hrs prior intimation is expected to provide PO for escort demanding agency to forward the details & points of shifting to PG section mail address. Further, this section does not have any database of registered e-mail id's of Exporters/Importers or CHA and neither has access to e-sanchit. In the case of Section-49 escorting, space availability also needs to be verified by BOND section. It is also submitted that for the payment of MOT charges concerned CHA/Authorised representative needs to visit the Cash section, JNCH. Therefore, it is submitted that as multiple sections are involved in the whole process of granting shifting/escorting permission on case to case basis and there is no official channel available for online communication between escort demanding agency/Exporter/CHA and concerned section, so at present, it may not be possible for this office to directly provide permission on e-mail regarding shifting/escorting. Whenever, official channel for online communication will be available, Escorting/Shifting permission may be given on e-mail.
17	Cash Dept.	MOT Payment	Yes	Custom should share account no & on basis of payment advise activity should be allowed	MOT Payment account no. is RBI A/C 5061100018 (for Demand Draft payment). However, due to multiple entries in different section, we don't have any alternative suggestion for this at our end.
18	Cash Dept.	ILH Manual Payment if DGLL Site Not Working	Yes	Custom should share account no & on basis of payment advise ILH related activities (entry inward/pc) activities should be allowed	ILH manual payment account no. is SBI A/C 10072975876 (for cash payment). However, due to multiple entries in different section, we don't have any alternative suggestion for this at our end.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point raised by CSLA

Agenda Point 1: Delay in getting permission for reworking / escorting permission -

We have been informed by our members that recently a new department DC Boarding has been created. It has been reported that earlier permission was allowed by DC (PG) & posting department from JNCH only. But now file moves to DC (PG), DC Boarding, PSO & port boarding offices which delays the entire process. We would request this port related permission should be allowed from one office

JNCH only as per the old practice. This will help us to attend urgent emergency activities & save the critical cargo.

Comments: No such type of practice has been followed by this office for reworking/escorting permission. Further, before 11.08.2020 DC/P (G) was having charges of Boarding office, but now vide Office Order no. 07/2020, Boarding office charges have been allotted to another DC. Hence, at present, file is being separately moved to the concerned DC for necessary approval/permission. [Point Closed]

Agenda Point 2: Sudden changes in processing 'Sea to Sea TP' by Customs without issuing any PN: Earlier we used to obtain destination wise & now Customs has changed it to Item wise, when the same is already manifested in the IGM then why we cannot have the same done with just one covering application rather than repeat the entire exercise again and once loaded we file the single application for EGM.

Comments: Procedure followed is as per Standing Order No. 24/2011 dated 29.03.2011 and also Board's Circular No. 79/2001-CUS dated 07.12.2001. Further, as per Customs Manual 2018 Chapter 10 Para 13 (viii), original TP copy must be affixed with Rs.20/- stamp as TP fees.

The procedure will be examined again in the light of CSLA's contention.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 3: Feedback regarding process requiring physical interface with customs - need to eliminate physical interface.

Comments: Already discussed vide Agenda Point No. 2 of MANSA. [Point Closed]

Agenda Point raised by BCBA

Agenda Point 1: Manual Procedure at Bonding Dept. still being carried : We understand that manual procedure at bond dept. are still being carried out. Signature on Ex-Bond BE are insisted by Bond Dept, the same should not be required since the OOC is given through System and it is stopped in Home Consumption Bill of Entry also, vide PN No. 57/2017 dated 26.04.2017.

Comments: There is no connectivity of Warehouse with ICES. Therefore, majority of work in bond section is still being dealt manually. This office has already written to DG/System in this regard. Further, CBIC Circular No. 22/2016 prescribes the procedure for ex-bonding of the goods. As per Para-3 of the said circular, the importer or owner of the goods shall produce a copy of assessed ex-bond bill of entry with the order for clearance of goods for home consumption by the proper officer to the jurisdictional Bond Officer assigned to the warehouse for permitting

clearance of the warehoused goods. The bond officer shall permit the removal of goods from the warehouse for home consumption by affixing his dated signature on the copy of the ex-bond bill of entry. Thus, sign and permission of the Bond Officer on Ex-Bond BE is mandatory requirement of the CBIC circular. Only after integration of Warehouses with ICES, this can be done away with by the Board.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 2: Process for Re-call of B/E (Request for Amendments and Waiver of Late Fee Charges in the Bills of Entry through e-mail procedure as facilitation):

We refer to PN 65/20. Appreciate Customs initiatives and efforts in trade facilitation with regard to recall of the B/E by sending mails to respective AC, however it is noticed that for re-call and re-assessment, letters from importers are being insisted from concerned group and CB are asked to obtain file number from concerned Tax Assistant. Since PN 65/2020 clearly states, any re-call of BE can be mailed to concerned group, hence we request that file numbers and letters may be stopped.

Comments: Adherence to Public Notice No.65/2020 is being followed.

For those cases where recall of Bills of Entry is only procedural in nature and does not have any revenue implications, recalling of Bill of Entry can be done on the basis of email received as per JNCH Public Notice No.65/2020 dated 08.05.2020. Further, for recall of Bills of entry where revenue implication is involved, the importer/Customs Broker shall submit documents in case of amendments such as quantity, weight, value, extension of benefits of FTA at Centralized Receipt Unit(CRU) located at 1st floor, JNCH, and thereafter the file will be processed and put up for prior approval of Addl./Joint Commissioner of Customs.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 3: Advance Invoices from CFS's: As per the Scope meeting and various PTFC held, all CFS's should provide web based advance e-invoices without having to send manual e-mails and human intervention. However, the process has till date not been adopted for e-invoice and they insist upon submission of following documents for assessment after OOC:-

- a. Application form for assessment.
- b. Bill of Entry copy (customs OOC Custodian copy printed)
- c. Bill of Entry with (Examine order/ RMS)
- d. Bill of Lading copy
- e. Delivery Order copy
- f. Stamp duty copy
- g. GST Copy (even for repeated shipments)

The processes are made cumbersome with insisting upon Mapping and seal cutting endorsement on B/E, for accepting for assessment. (This process itself defeats the e-invoicing). At HIND CFS - Insisting for manual GST certificate for every shipment along CHA pass photocopy for every shipment.

Suggestion: CFS's should not insist for any manual documents (go paperless) since all documents are online and also provide SOP for trade ease of doing business. E-invoicing system should be adopted on priority basis.

Comments: The matter is being discussed and is pursued with all CFS's for providing web based advance e-invoices without having to send manual e-mails and human intervention.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 4: CFS's insisting for Gate PO signatures on Gate passes of CFS's : Since the Gate pass is auto generated by system, the CFS's should do away with CFS's gate passes and consider E-Gate pass received online for delivery of containers and should not insist for PO signature on Gate pass.

Comments: As per Public Notice No. 54/2020 dated 14.04.2020, only e-Gate pass with QR Code having details as per the said PN is required by the Gate Officer before allowing the actual movement of the imported goods out of the Customs premises.

For CFS's insisting on physical gate pass with signature matter may be taken up with CCSP Cell for further necessary action and communication with CFS's.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 5: Scan hold container designated to APM CFS are delayed as the CFS is not providing scan EIR copy for RMS OOC: APMT CFS is not providing EIR copy through email to our members and insisting us to come to their CFS for collecting the same which is time consuming as well as increasing the cost with regards to ground rent and container detention plus travelling cost.

Comments: The matter is being discussed and is pursued with CFS to provide the scan EIR copy for RMS OOC to their members immediately.

[Point Closed]

Agenda Point 6: Processing of 1st Time Import and Export registration: Kindly note that the 1st time Importer / Exporter Registration is presently done through manual process by respective group which is accepted only after filing of Shipping Bill or Bill of Entry which delays the process. The file nos. are obtained for such 1st time registration with respective group. This delays the clearance process and can be carried prior to arrival or filing of S/Bill or B/E.

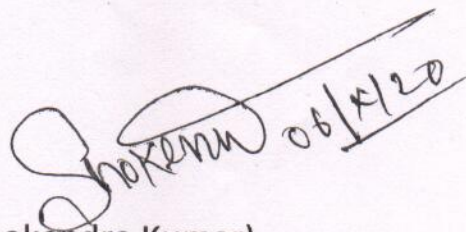
Suggestion: We request to process online with submission of supporting documents which will save paper and also maintain soft copies. All such application can be centralized at TSK center providing registration Nos. The process will help in expediting clearance by centralized online process.

Comments: The process of documents of first time importer/exporter registration be made centralized under TSK Centre for proper trade facilitation.

Turant Suvidha Kendra at JNCH has been set up vide Public Notice No.82/2020 dated 14.07.2020 to cater to the functions of acceptance of Bond, Bank Guarantee, defacing and debiting of documents/permits/licenses and carrying out any verification as may be referred by the Faceless Assessment Groups. Thus, the work of processing of applications of First Time Importers/Exporters is not entrusted to this section. The work of processing of applications of First Time Importers/Exporters has already been centralized vide Public Notice No. 112/2017 dated 31.08.2017 and as per the said Public Notice, the same is being looked after by Appraising Main (Import). However, TSK can perform the said work in order to save time and avoid interaction between CHA/Importers and Customs Officers.

[Point Closed]

5. The members of the meeting were informed that the date and mode of conducting next PTFC meeting shall be informed well in advance. **All the Association members were requested to forward their agenda points, if any, at least 07 working days in advance by e-mail to Appraising Main (Import) Section on appraisingmain.jnch@gov.in for taking up the issue in the upcoming PTFC meeting.**
6. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.
7. This issues with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs, NS-I.
8. Minutes are placed on JNCH website and also being sent through emails to the members.



(Shokendra Kumar)

Joint Commissioner of Customs (*in-situ*)
Appraising Main (Import)
JNCH, Nhava Sheva

To,

All the Members of PTFC (through email)

Copy to: (through email)

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone-II, JNCH, Sheva.
2. The Principal Addl. Director General, Directorate General of Tax Payers Services, Mumbai Zonal Unit, Room No.138/139, New Custom House, Ballard Estate, Mumbai – 400 001 (mzu-dgtps@gov.in).
3. The Ombudsman, Indirect Taxes, Mumbai.
4. All Commissioners of Customs, Zone-II, JNCH, Sheva.
5. All ADC/JC, DC/AC of Customs, JNCH, Sheva.
6. DC/EDI for uploading on JNCH website.
7. Office Copy.