

MINUTES OF THE CCFC MEETING HELD ON 31.07.2018

In compliance to CBEC Circular No. 13/2015-Customs, dated 13.04.2015, the meeting of CCFC was held on 31.07.2018 in the New Customs House, New Delhi, under the Chairmanship of Shri Sunil Kumar Sawhney, Chief Commissioner of Customs (DZ).

The meeting was attended by the following:-

S. No.	Name of the Officer (S/Shri/Ms.)	Designation & Department	Phone Number	E-mail-Id
1.	B B Gupta	Commissioner ICD, PPG	22233091	commricdppg-cusdel@nic.in
2.	V. Sangeeta	Commissioner ACC (Import)	25652970	commraccimp-cusdel@nic.in
3	Kavita Bhatnagar	Commissioner (Audit)	25656582	Kavita.bhatnagar@icegate.gov.in
4	Vinay K. Singh	Addl. Commissioner, CCCU (DZ)	25654097	vinayks2k@gmail.com
5	Zamir Ahmed	Asstt. Commissioner, CCCU (DZ)	25656086	zamir.ahmed@gov.in
6	Dr. Vijay Kumar	Regional Officer, AQCSS	9958199310	aqcsnr-dadf@nic.in
7	Ajay Rawal	Manager, Clearance TNT India	49372200 7042195738	Ajay.Rawal.@tnt.com
8	Vishal Rastogi	Senior Manager, ops, TNT India	49372200 9971000953	Vishal.rastogi@tnt.com
9	Prashant Jena	Sr Broker Clearance TNT India	49372200 9953586475	Prashant.jena@tnt.com
10	Lalit Kumar	Sr Broker Clearance	49372200 9650764848	Lalit.kumar@tnt.com
11	Dr Binitha Pushpakaran	Asstt. Director WCCB	26713181 8383055852	Adsites.wccb@gov.in
12	A Pragatheesh	Wildlife Inspector WCCB	26113181 9788814333	pragatheesh@gmail.com
13	Rohit Sehgal	Vice Chairman ACFI	45150567 981035421	ROHIT.SEHGAL@SKYWAYS-GROUP.com
14	Vinay Sharma	Sr Manager, Celebi	25601029 8800491094	Vinay.sharma@celebiaviation.in
15	P C Tiwari	Clearance Supervisor, DHL Express	25606100 9582216165	Prakashchander.Tiwari@dhl.com
16	B P Tomar	Clearance Supervisor, DHL	2506100 9500276167	Brijpal.tomar@dhl.com

		Express		
17	Tarun Sabharwal	AGM Cargo, DIAL	47197906, 9810056073	tarun.sabharwal@gmrgroup.in
18	Gurvinder Singh	Hon. Secy., DCCAA	9810003738	dccaa.dccaa.in
19	Bhim Singh Jain	J. Secy, DCCAA	26781108 9891378005	dccaa.dccaa.in
20	P S Atree	President, DCCAA	43613198 9810034455	dccaa.dccaa.in
21	Dr. Sunita Pandey	Deputy Director, Plant Quarantine	8826924568	Sunita.pandey@nic.in
22	Balam Goswami	Asstt. Director, FSSAI	8375020085 24369458	Balamgoswami.fssai@gmail.com
23	Madhurendra Chaurasia	MGR-OPS, EICI	9599311143	MADHURENDRA@EICIINDIA.ORG
24	R K Saxena	Joint Wireless Advisor, WPC, Regional Wireless office, RLO(NL), Delhi	26501438	-
25	G Reke	AWP, WPC	96501712 9013136377	Remora.gumna@nic.in
26	Sushant Nigam	Vice President, DTDC	9910899641	Sushant.nigam@dtcd.com
27	Kamal Rawat	ZO M, DTDC	9871113521	Kamalrawat@DTDC.com
28	Bhagwan Singh	AGM, DCSC	9990593131	BHAWANI.SINGH@CSCIINDIA.IN
29	Yashpal Taneja	Regulatory Advisor	9811671016	YTANEJA@FEDEX.COM
30	Dr Vijay Kumar Gupta	Dy Supdt. Archaeologist , ASI	8750272690	Archaeologist1@gmail.com

At the outset, Shri Sunil Kumar Sawhney, Chief Commissioner of Customs (DZ) welcomed all the participants and initiated the proceedings and informed the participants about the objective and mandate of CCFC and sought the cooperation of all participating Government agencies and other stake holders in meeting the objective of CCFC which is to facilitate the genuine trade in their imports and exports and their ease of doing business.

2. Thereafter the following agenda items of the CCFC meeting were taken up:

(A). Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI):

Issue 1: As proposed & discussed in CCFC meeting held on 02.02.2018 regarding dump data of RMS facilitated Bills of Entry, FSSAI had desired the data related to

articles of food imported at port of entry including data of food consignment cleared through RMS/ Green Channel by Customs. The said data may be provided in given format on monthly basis to maintain the office record.

Response:

It was observed by the Chair that the issue raised was not strictly as per CCFC mandate. The PGA should approach Commissioner (Single Window), CBIC for obtaining the required data.

Issue 2: FSSAI has sent letters to all concerned ports on 24.05.2018 for seeking data of long standing Single Window referred Bills of Entry against which no application has been filed in FICS (Food Import Clearance System). The reply is still awaited from IGI Airport, ICD-BLD & ICD-Loni. In order to reduce the dwell time of clearance and facilitate trade FSSAI should have list of such importers along with the contact details so that importer should be educated and directed to file the application in FICS.

The representative of FSSAI stated that in respect of 33 Bills of Entry pertaining to the Air Cargo (Import), referred to them through Single Window, no application has been filed by the importer/CHA; that once Bill of Entry is transferred to FSSAI by ICES, they are getting only Bill of Entry number and date and description of goods; that they get the details of importers only when the application is filed by the importer/ CHA. Hence, in order to avoid delay in clearance, the importer/ CHA may be persuaded to file the applications expeditiously.

Response:

It was again observed by the Chair that the FSSAI may approach and obtain the desired information directly from the concerned Commissionerate.

(B). Animal Quarantine and Certification Service (AQCS):

Issue 1: Delay /stoppage of the consignments carrying AQCS International Animal Health Export Certificates by field Customs.

AQCS issues International Animal Health Certificates as per OIE (Office International des Epizooties) guidelines, importing country requirements and applicable GOI conditions. AQCS certification is accepted worldwide as an OIE parameter for international trade. Export consignments should not be stopped if having AQCS export certificate as the same are issued after checking all parameters. Other agency certificate like Q Certificate issued by Export Inspection Council (EIC) /Export Inspection Agency (EIA) can be asked if required for particular consignment.

Response: The Chair asked them to provide specific details in this regard for an appropriate response.

Issue 2: Deputation of 03 Customs Appraisers/Superintendants with AQCS till complete manpower is achieved for better liaison and faster Customs procedures.

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAD&F) already delegated sampling powers to Customs for some CTHs lines keeping in view risk analysis and some Customs officials are also trained by AQCS in respect of sampling and biosecurity. In addition to this if some Customs officials are deputed temporarily with AQCS, this will help in better liaison between Customs and AQCS along with faster sampling and inspections from different entry points. They will function like Nodal Officer. The Customs department can withdraw these officers once the AQCS Quarantine Inspector strength is filled up which are only 10 all over India. The representative of AQCS further informed that in 110 ports, power is delegated to Customs Officers to draw samples and AQCS accepts the samples drawn by the Customs.

Response: The AQCS was asked to send a formal request on this count for examining the same.

Issue 3: Measures to improve clearance time.

As per Dun and Bradstreet study there are 62 parameters which need to be addressed. As far as AQCS is concern there are about 10 related parameters and all are addressed properly and regularly. AQCS with limited staff is trying its best to match with shift based Custom clearance system and more than 95% (majority 100%) applications registered are cleared on same day.

- (i) For calculating clearance time only NOC and NOC(LG) options should be taken.
- (ii) In case, withhold, rejection option need to be included than it should be decision time not the clearance time as it is related to non compliance by importer/ exporter including operational and biosecurity mandatory requirement.
- (iii) It is observed that there is huge time gap between date of filing of Bills of Entry and response of the importer for submitting original official Health Certificate and Custom sealed samples. This time ranges from 1-10 days and may be even more in some cases and this is increasing the average clearance time. Importers shall be advised to file the Bills of Entry once all the procedures are ready.

Response:

The Chair asked them to be specific and to state at which port in Delhi Customs Zone there is delay in sending of samples and also details of such Bills of Entry. Their attention was drawn to the statutory provisions of filing of prior Bill of Entry wherein Bills of Entry can be filed before arrival of goods. In such cases, sample can be drawn only after arrival of goods. Hence, there will be more time gap

between filing of Bill of Entry and submission of documents and samples to FSSAI. However, the dwell time of the PGAs starts from the date sample is received by the concerned PGA.

Additional Points:

1. The **Delhi Customs Clearance Agent Association (DCCAA)** has stated that the Bills of Entry of AEO Certificate holders are automatically routed to assessment and there is gradual increase in percentage of such cases. It was informed that this may be happening in mobile parts consignments based on risk parameters.

The Chair asked them to provide details and names of such AEOs so that the matter can be taken up appropriately with RMD.

2. The representative of **Plant Quarantine (PQ)** has stated that sometimes they get Bills of Entry manually. It was informed by the Commissioner, Air Cargo (Import) that these may be Kachcha Bills of Entry for perishable goods and pertaining to Afghan Corridor wherein PQ Clearance is compulsory.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

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