



सीमा शुल्क प्रधान आयुक्त का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
सीमा शुल्क सदन :: पत्तन क्षेत्र :: विशाखपट्टनम & 530035
CUSTOM HOUSE:: PORT AREA : : VISAKHAPATNAM – 530035

फा. सं/F No. S23/175/97-AP (Vol.V)

दिनांक/ Date: 3.4.2018

MINUTES OF THE PERMANENT TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)
MEETING HELD ON 27.03.2018 AT 1600 HOURS IN CUSTOM HOUSE,
VISAKHAPATNAM

MEMBERS PRESENT

S/Shri

1	Dr. D.K. Srinivas	Commissioner	Chairman
2	Sudhakar Mishra	Additional Commissioner	Member
3	H.S.Naskar	Dy. Commissioner	Member
4	Dipak Zala	Dy. Commissioner	Member
5	CH. Hari Krishna Reddy	Dy. Commissioner	Member
6	Varun Koundinya	Dy. Commissioner	Member
7	P.V.S.S. Srinivas	Asst. Commissioner	Member
8	T.Ravi Varma	Asst. Commissioner	Member
9	G.V.S.R. Sarma	Asst. Commissioner	Member
10	Joginder Singh Mor	Asst. Commissioner	Member
11	B. Narendra Kumar	Asst. Commissioner	Member
12	G.V.V.S. Kumar	Chemical Examiner (Gr.-II)	Member

The following Trade Members / Custodians attended the meeting:-

S/Shri/Smt

1	M. Venu Gopal	Secretary, CB Association
2	Rolland Williams	Managing Partner, Merilyn Shipping
3	Nageswara Rao	Director, Raghavendra Shipping Services
4	V. Jeevan Vikas	Seaways Shipping & VCLA
5	Capt. Amarendra Mishra	DGM, VCTPL
6	R. Avasamy	Sr. Manager, VCTPL

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7	K. Venketaraman	Transworld Global Logistics Solutions (India)
8	S.Sravan Kumar	Director, Sravan Shipping
9	K. Naveen	General Manager, Sravan CFS
10	Aashish Pakalapati	Gen. Manager, Marilyn Shipping
11	K. Shyam Babu	Supdt., CWC-CFS
12	I. Venkateswarlu	BTL / VCLA
13	P. Venkatesh	APL
14	J. Sarma	Shirdi Sai Shipping
15	K. Naresh	Austere Shipping & Logistics
16	M. Nageswara Rao	Manager, R & Y Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
17	Binayak M	Boxco Shipping
18	L. Srinivasa Rao	Harika Shipping & Logistics
19	Shaik Roshan Shaw	Trans Global Logistics
20	Nageswara Rao E.S.	Shreyas Relay Shipping
21	D. Dhanasekar	Vintage
22	E. Krishna	Choice Intermodal Services
23	NVK Murthy	VCHAA
24	K. Ramakrishna	Samudra Marine
25	G.T. Srikanth	Chowgule Bros.
26	M. Gangadhar	Seahorse Ship Services (P) Ltd,
27	G. Srinivasa Rao	Focus Trans Tech
28	P. Anil	Seaways Shipping
29	Ch. Ravindra Kumar	SS Logistics
30	M. Suresh	Seaways Line

1. At the outset Chairman welcomed all the members. As no points were sponsored by the trade associations, Chairman directed that the power point presentations on Time Release Study of Import / Export clearance and Factory Stuffed containers be made.

2. Shri P.V.S.S. Srinivas, Assistant Commissioner made a power point presentation on *Time Release Study of Import Clearance and Export Clearance at Visakhapatnam Seaport*. The study was made for the three months period from December, 2017 to February, 2018. The analysis of all stages of import clearance and export clearance was presented.

3. The analysis of different stages of import clearance presented by the Assistant Commissioner was discussed and certain observations / directions were given by Chairman, the details of which are as under:

Stage – A:

Vessel Arrival to Filing of BE – Action Owners: Importers / Customs Brokers

Chairman observed that the percentage of BEs filed within 8 hours of arrival of vessel was 68.86% and within 24 hours it was 84.05%.

Chairman enquired with the exim trade members as to why the percentage was only 68.86% when they were very much aware of the schedule of the vessel's arrival in advance and also when the Customs law allows them to file advance BEs.

The members from the Liners Association informed Chairman that events like high sea sale, etc. are reported by importers at the last moment because of which IGM amendments need to be carried out and as a consequence the filing of BEs is also delayed in such cases.

- Commissioner directed AC (Imports) to verify whether such an amendment is categorised as a minor amendment or a major amendment and whether such amendments can be carried out before berthing of the vessel can be done without penalty, so as to improve upon this stage of import clearance.

Action Owner : AC (Imports)

Stage – B

Time taken from filing of BE to Assessment – Action Owners : Customs

The analysis reflected that the percentage of BEs assessed within 8 hours of filing was 71.77% and within 24 hours of filing it was 81.48%.

Stage – C

Time taken for payment of duty after assessment –

Action Owners : Importers/Customs Brokers

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time	< 8 hours	< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 72 hours
Percentage	51.35%	65.56%	76.62%	82.67%

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- Chairman remarked that there is a scope for a lot of improvement in this stage of import clearance and the importers/Customs Brokers were sensitised in this regard.

Action Owners : Importers / Customs Brokers

Stage – D

Time taken for *Registration of BE* after payment of duty

Action Owners : Customs Broker / Custodian

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time	< 8 hours	< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 72 hours
Percentage	1.20%	15.46%	41.40%	56.97%

- Chairman informed the action owners that this stage of import clearance is not up to the mark and needs a lot of improvement.

The Customs Brokers stated that the delay is due to the reason that VCTPL takes about 3 to 4 days to send the import containers to the CFS' concerned. Chairman asked the VCTPL authorities to respond and they stated that as per their records, the average dwell time for import containers to be sent to CFS' is 1.8 days.

Chairman apprised the VCTPL authorities on the importance of reduction of dwell time and emphasised the need to improve upon the evacuation time of import containers from VCTPL. The VCTPL authorities were specifically informed to come up with details of evacuation time and action plan to reduce the same.

Action Owner : VCTPL

Stage – E

Time taken for *Registration of BE* after assessment

Action Owners : Customs Brokers

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time	< 8 hours	< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 72 hours
Percentage	3.17%	9.24%	22.87%	36.81%

- Chairman informed the action owners that this stage of import clearance is also not up to the mark and needs a lot of improvement.

Action Owners : Customs Brokers / Importers

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Stage – F

Time taken for grant of *Out of Charge* from *Registration of BE*

Action Owners : Customs

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time	< 8 hours	< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 72 hours
Percentage	87.60%	91.63%	94.70%	96.82%

- Chairman expressed satisfaction but emphasised the need to maintain the performance by the Assistant Commissioners in-charge of CFS'.

Action Owners : AC (CFS'/Docks)

4. After presenting all the stages of import clearance, the abstract for the *Dwell Time on BEs* for the three month period from December, 2017 to February, 2018 was presented by the Assistant Commissioner.

Chairman specifically pointed out that the dwell time from *Registration of BE* to *Out of charge* was 4 hrs 24 mins during December, 2017; 8 hrs 22 mins during January, 2018 and 9 hrs 23 mins during February, 2018.

- Chairman directed the action owners concerned to improve upon this dwell time.

Action Owners : Customs Brokers / Customs

5. The Assistant Commissioner then presented the analysis of different stages of export clearance. The discussion and observations / directions given by Chairman are as under:

Stage – A

***Filing of SB to Assessment of SB* – Action Owners: Customs**

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	63.26%	90.39%	98.34%

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Stage – B

Assessment of SB to Registration of SB

Action Owners: Exporter / Customs Broker

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	31.72%	55.12%	75.49%

Stage – C

Filing of SB to Registration of SB –

Action Owners: Exporter / Customs Broker / Customs

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	20.86%	45.63%	74.49%

Stage – D

Registration of SB to Let Export – Action Owners: Customs

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	94.62%	97.13%	98.80%

Stage – E

Let Export to Stuffing of SB – Action Owners: Customs Broker / Customs

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	4.02%	23.47%	53.27%

Stage – F**Stuffing to EGM Filing – Action Owners: Liners**

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	12.38%	13.09%	18.62%

Stage – G**Let Export to EGM Filing – Action Owners: Liners**

The analysis reflected the percentage as follows:

Time period	Same day	1 day	2 – 3 days
Percentage	0.04%	0.08%	0.21%

- Chairman remarked that there is a gradual improvement in stage D of export clearance.
- In regard to stages E and F of the export clearance, Chairman stated that the Liners are responsible for filing of EGM after sailing of vessels and as such, the study of dwell time should be from the time of *sailing of vessel to filing of EGM*.
- Chairman directed that the dwell time study on export clearance should be changed accordingly next time.

Action Owner: AC (EDI/Stats)

6. A power point presentation on “*Time Release Study - Factory Stuffed Containers*” was made by Superintendent (RI & I). Firstly, the movement of trailers from Pre-Gate to VCTPL Main Gate was presented. Secondly, the complaints/suggestions received from stakeholders during the study was presented and the same are summed up below.

- i) The entry of trailers at VCTPL gate is presently being done through two lanes and in order to reduce the waiting time of trailers there is a need to double the number of lanes.
- ii) There is an undue delay in evacuation of import containers which is not up to the expected standard and abnormal charges are also being levied by the terminal for these import containers as shifting charges.

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- iii) The parking areas are used for stacking of containers.
- iv) The importers / exporters are not being informed properly regarding the location of their containers in the terminal and there seems to be no transparency in this regard.
- v) There is a shortage of manpower at the VCTPL Gate during the night shifts.

After deliberations it was decided that –

- M/s VCTPL should examine the possibility of increasing the number of gates especially to allow empty trailers entering the terminal for examination of import containers during peak hours.
- Posting of sufficient staff in night shifts at VCTPL gates.

Action Owner : VCTPL

- Chairman directed that a study be made on dwell time of DPD containers, CFS containers and other exim containers for a 15 days period commencing from the 3rd week of April, 2018 by a team comprising of one representative each from VCTPL, CFS', Customs Brokers and Customs.

Action Owners: VCTPL / CFS' / Customs Brokers / Customs

- Chairman directed Assistant Commissioner (DPD Wing) to make a daily study on clearance of DPD / DPE containers and prepare a report.

Action Owner : AC (DPD)

7. Chairman directed that the power point presentation for the next meeting should include a dwell time study on DPD and AEO clearances. Further, the data on refunds and drawback should also be presented to study the performance in these areas of work.

Action Owner: AC (EDI / Stats / Refunds / Dbk)

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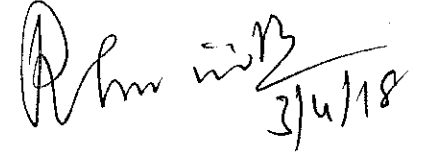
8.

- Chairman directed AC (Dbk) to give to the Customs Brokers Association, the list of pending Drawback claims where queries were raised and replies are awaited from exporters.

Action Owner : AC (Dbk)

9. The meeting concluded with the Chairman thanking all the members.

10. This issues with the approval of Commissioner



(पी वी एस एस श्रीनिवास / P.V.S.S. SRINIVAS)

(सहायक आयुक्त, सीमा शुल्क / ASST. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS)

To

All Members, Permanent Trade Facilitation Committee

Custom House, Visakhapatnam - by E-mail

Copy submitted for information to:

The Chief Commissioner of Central Tax & Customs, Visakhapatnam Zone.

Copy to :

✓ 1. Supdt(EDI) - with a request to upload in the Website

2. Master Copy.