



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (PORT)**  
**CUSTOM HOUSE, 15/1, STRAND ROAD, KOLKATA 700001**  
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**Minutes of the Trade Facilitation Committee Meeting (TFC) held on 27.07.2019 at 16:00**  
**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 27.09.2019. The meeting was presided over by the Principal Commissioner of Customs (AP& ACC) and Port, Kolkata. List of Members present is annexed.

2. At the outset, the Chair welcomed all the members present in the meeting and thereafter following issues were discussed in the meeting.

(i) No point related to Port Commissionerate was sponsored by any of the participants inspite of advance intimation about TFC Meeting.

(ii) CCHAA sponsored a point related to leather goods meant for export from Air Cargo. As officers from ACC were also present in the meeting, the issue was taken up for discussion. The representative of CCHAA informed that for export of leather products, in each case sample is being sent to CLRI for examination and report from CLRI usually takes around ten days. Further in absence of such report, export is allowed against PD bonds and Bank Guarantee. This process is time consuming and affects export. They requested for posting of Leather Expert at ACC itself, who can examine and give 'NOC' to the export consignments consisting of leather products.

**Response/Decision:** The Principal Commissioner stated that Appraisers who have undergone training for few days only at CLRI cannot be called expert appraisers. Hence deploying them for this purpose will not be appropriate. He suggested that CRCL can be engaged for this job if infrastructure / expertise is available with them.

[Action: JC, ACC]

3. With no other points in Agenda, Members were permitted by Chair to raise any general point, if any. On being permitted, CCHAA raised following points which were discussed and deliberated in the meeting-

(i) Duty payment for Unaccompanied Baggage – It was stated that presently duty payment for unaccompanied baggage is done in Accounts Section of the Custom House. It was requested that the duty may be allowed to be paid directly through banking channels.

**Response/Decision:** Superintendent (SPS) stated that assessment of Unaccompanied Baggage is done by PRO stationed at Custom House. He also stated that hardly one or two cases of Unaccompanied Baggages are received in a working day. The Principal Commissioner stated that in an era of digitization, transaction through Banking Channels is desirable. He said that issue will be examined taking into account the volume of such cases per month and a decision will be taken shortly.

[Action: DC/AC, SPS]

(ii) - Escorting of Ship Crew Members – Next point raised was that presently Ship Crew Members signing off from Sea Port are being escorted by Preventive Officers to Airport. It was suggested that instead of escorting of crew members only the baggage can be sealed and documents can be issued in this regard. The sealed baggage and corresponding documents can be verified at the Airport.

**Response/Decision:** The Principal Commissioner called for a written representation in this regard. He also stated that prevalent practices at other locations would be examined and decision would be taken accordingly.

[Action: DC/AC, SPS]

(iii) Another point was raised by the participant from ASICS. He told that the stakeholder who are required to be registered under newly launched SCMTR, 2018 in terms of Public Notice No. 58 2019 dated 10.07.2019 issued by Commissioner of Customs, are facing some technical hitches in completion of the registration process. Since SCMTR is likely to be functional from 01.11.2019, they will face great problem if registration process is not complete.

**Response/Decision:** The Principal Commissioner directed the concerned officer who have been allotted role for this function to complete the process urgently and within time.

[Action: DC/AC, EDI]

(iv) Members of CCHAA raised the issue that Shed officers are refusing to examine consignments in cases where different LCL export consignments from different exporters to the same or different consignees are stuffed in one container.

**Response/Decision:** The Principal Commissioner stated that there is no such bar. However, the carting of export goods is to be done in terms of Public Notice no. 43/2018 dated 14.05.2018 issued by Commissioner of Customs. Moreover, attention is to be given that the exporters do not split up consignments so as to fall within the lower examination norms and Cir Cus06 2002 as amended is to be followed in this regard.

[Action: DC/AC, all CFSs]

(v) DC, AG Unit raised the point that the data required for TRS is still pending from Trade side.

**Response/Decision:** The representative from ASIC stated that the required data would be given within 7 days.

4. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

This issues with the approval of the Principal Commissioner of Customs (AP & ACC) and Port, Kolkata.

  
10/10/19  
(D. Satish)

Joint Commissioner of Customs (Port)  
Custom House, Kolkata

F. No. S60 (Misc)-07/2011 A (G) Pt-VI  
Dated: 10.10.2019

Copy to:-

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