



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (AIRPORT & ADMIN)  
AIR CARGO COMPLEX, NSCBI AIRPORT, KOLKATA - 700052

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**Minutes of "Trade Facilitation Committee" Meeting held on 30.01.2019 in the Customs Board Room at Air Cargo Complex, NSCBI Airport, Kolkata**

The Trade Facilitation Committee (TFC) Meeting was held on 30.01.2019 at 17:00 hours in the Customs Board Room at Air Cargo Complex, NSCBI Airport, Kolkata. The meeting was presided over by Shri Manish Chandra, Commissioner of Customs (Airport & Administration).

Following agenda points were discussed in the meeting:

**Agenda Point submitted by the Air Cargo Agents Association of India, Eastern Region (ACAAI)**

1. Getting NOC from FSSAI in case of food import shipments consumes a lot of time, results in delay in clearance and demurrage charges. Simplification of procedure is needed at the end of FSSAI. Specific details of such instances / relevant Bills of Entry (where cause of demurrage charges and delay in clearance was on part of FSSAI) shall be submitted by ACAAI during the meeting for deliberation.

[FSSAI]

*Comments* : Despite being asked several times to provide specific details of relevant Bills of Entry/ instances, the same was not submitted by ACAAI. Since no representative of FSSAI was present, this matter could not be discussed further (FSSAI was given prior notice and reminder about this TFC meeting).

**Agenda Points submitted by the Calcutta Customs House Agents Association (CCHAA)**

2. Animal Quarantine (A.Q.) representative is not available at all time. As a result, export shipments are getting delayed and flights are missed. It is necessary to have Animal Quarantine (AQ) officer appointed for major part of day.

[Animal Quarantine Authority]

*Comments* : Representative of Animal Quarantine Authority was present in the meeting. He submitted AQCS Kolkata records of Export data (38 air shipments) from 01.10.2018 to 23.01.2019, which showed that all these shipments were given NOC on the same day of being registered with AQCS. Further, A.Q.A. representative submitted that their CALTEX office is very close to Air Cargo Complex where Animal Quarantine officials are present from 9 am to 6 pm and dwell time on their part in import is less than one hour.

3. "EGM filing error" on part of Airlines results in transmission problem from ICEGATE to DGFT. Because of this, benefit to exporters is getting stuck.

[Airlines & EDI Section]

*Comments on Part A (EGM Errors)*: In the meeting, it was agreed by trade and airlines that most cases of EGM errors pertain to Air India, Jet Airways and Indigo Airlines. These three airlines have a high number/frequency of flights at INCCU4 and their staff works in shift-rotations. **Human Error on part of airlines staff at the time of EGM filing leads to a high number of EGM errors.** Airlines have to

train and sensitise their staff to be careful while doing their duty especially at the time of EGM filing, so that unnecessary hardships to trade and officers can be minimised. Repeated mistakes on part of airlines in this regard may lead to penal action in terms of the Customs Act, 1962.

To avoid EGM error in case of non-perishable export cargo, Airlines/Exporter/Customs Broker should timely approach Export Group or EDI Section in case of wrong filing of EGM to remove EGM errors from ICES system and get the Shipping Bill amended before taking LEO whenever an error/discrepancy between actual documents (details of AWB, number of packages, weight, Flight etc.) and ICES Shipping Bill is noticed before LEO stage. Exporter/Customs Broker must get Shipping Bills cancelled in ICES system after withdrawing goods for "Back to Town" cases. Failure to do so may attract penal provisions in terms of the Customs Act, 1962.

EDI Section has informed that two types of EGM related Queues are seen in ICES enquiry against a Shipping Bill. For the first type (when EGM is visible in ICES S/B details), EGM errors against a Shipping Bill can be forcefully removed after identification of the mistake/cause of error (e.g. clerical input error at the time of data entry, multiple EGM numbers in case of part shipments against a S/B, LEO given in system after allowing actual export to perishable cargo in case of EDI link failure).

For the second type (when EGM is not visible in ICES S/B details), the Exporter / Customs Broker has to follow up with the concerned Airline and provide EDI Section of Customs with details of Flight date, EGM number to find out the reason for error (e.g. Mismatch of AWB, EGM Not generated etc). AWB number can be amended to rectify the clerical/input error in data entry once physical copy of the AWB and correct Flight date / EGM details are provided to EDI Section of Customs.

Comments on Part B (Problems in data transmission from ICEGATE to DGFT server): "Procedure for transmission of Shipping bills from ICEGATE to DGFT server and Information on error codes" is available on [https://www.icegate.gov.in/Download/Procdeure\\_of\\_transmission\\_of\\_SBs.pdf](https://www.icegate.gov.in/Download/Procdeure_of_transmission_of_SBs.pdf)

Procedure of Automatic retransmission of S/B to DGFT: In cases where status is shown as 'R', Shipping Bills are automatically transmitted to DGFT in next day's file. In cases where the status is shown as 'A', Shipping Bills are retransmitted by EDI Section to DGFT on request from the Exporter/Customs Broker through letter or email except in case of errors like 'LIC not filed' and 'EGM not filed'.

Discussion: Superintendent EDI, stated in this regard that in order to remove errors like 'EGM not filed/EGM errors', an exporter is required to apply including S/B number and date accompanied with Airway Bill number and Flight date. EDI Section has been asked to check why Flight number needs to be given to EDI Section for regularisation of EGM error. Superintendent, EDI Section was directed to check the procedure in this regard with other airports and **issue a Public Notice regarding EGM errors urgently**. The Public Notice should specifically include the point that "Rectification of 'LIC not filed' error is not possible, because as per DGFT rules (Minutes available on DGFT website), once License benefit is foregone by the exporter in ICEGATE, the same cannot be opted for at a later stage".

**Further, the Commissioner of Customs (A&A) directed Superintendent, EDI Section to prepare weekly lists of Shipping Bills with EGM errors. These weekly lists have to be regularly uploaded on Kolkata Customs website for wide circulation among Trade and Airlines.**

However, the procedure for rectification of 'EGM errors' has to be meticulously followed by Exporter Airlines/Customs Broker (submitting complete application supported by necessary documents/details to

EDI Section). Their responsibility does not end with submission of a passive application to EDI Section without providing complete details of the case. Exporter/Customs Broker need to follow up with the concerned Airlines and actively assist EDI Section in resolving EGM errors. Necessary details can also be sent to EDI Section through email on the official email address **scpedi-acckol@gov.in** (accexport-apkolcus@gov.in is the email address of Export Group, ACC).

Summary of new/additional points discussed in the meeting is given below:

4. An Operational SOP has to be issued by EDI Section on Procedure for "Air Trans-shipment" (onward trans-shipment of goods from INCCU4 to other domestic locations after customs clearance).
5. Preventive Officer (Passenger Terminal) who escorts valuable cargo like bullion, diamonds etc from Arrival area to Strong Room of Import Shed has to follow due procedure (till the point of CISF manned gate on air side, packages can only be inspected from outside, not to be opened before being entered in Import Shed). Proper vehicle has to be arranged by Airlines/Cargo Handling Agent in such a manner that the Preventive Officer escorting such valuable cargo is able to discharge his duty.
6. DC (Admin) has to ensure that a representative of Customs shall attend CAFAC (Cargo Facilitation Committee) meetings held at AAICLAS Conference Room from February 2019 onwards.
7. DGM, AAICLAS assured in the meeting that once they receive a formal request from Customs, one dedicated room with Single Point connectivity shall be provided by AAICLAS for Partner Government Agencies in New Integrated Cargo Terminal premises (Cargo building) for working on SWIFT.
8. There is some confusion among Disposal Cell, ACC Customs and AAICLAS on number of packages for disposal/destruction. DGM Cargo, AAICLAS was requested to check communication made in this regard and take up the matter with Disposal Cell/ ACC Customs.
9. Commissioner stated that all concerned stakeholders have to improve their respective performance as ACC Kolkata is lagging behind some other airports in cargo handling and efficiencies.

This issues with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs (A&A).

F.No. S60 (Misc)-13/18CCI

Date: 14 .02.2019

  
(Dhruvajyoti Roy)

Deputy Commissioner of Customs,  
Air Cargo Complex, NSCBI Airport, Kolkata

Copy to:

1. P.S. to the Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata
2. P.S. to the Commissioner of Customs (A&A), Kolkata
3. P.S. to the Commissioner of Customs (Port), Kolkata
4. P.S. to the Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Kolkata
5. All Additional Commissioners of Customs, Kolkata

6. All Assistant/Deputy Commissioners of Customs (Airport / Port / Preventive)
7. Computer Cell, Custom House, Kolkata with a request to upload on the website
8. DGM (Cargo), AAICLAS, Kolkata
9. The President, CCHAA : cchaakolkata@gmail.com
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Following officers/members were present in the TFC meeting on 30.01.2019 :

Sl. No.	Name of Officer / Member	Designation / Organisation
1	Manish Chandra	Commissioner of Customs (A&A)
2	M A Ansari	Additional Commissioner of Customs (A&A)
3	Dhruvajyoti Roy	Deputy Commissioner, SIB & AEO Cell
4	Dr. Tanisha Dutta	Deputy Commissioner, Import Group & Export Shed
5	Mini Chowdhary	Deputy Commissioner, Import Shed & Export Group
6	Rahul Nandy	DGM (Cargo), AAICLAS
7	Vishal Kumar	Appraiser General
8	R N Mishra	Superintendent, Transshipment & EGM/IGM
9	K C Mallick	Superintendent, EDI Section & U.B.
10	Subhasis Sarkar	Appraiser, Bond Section
11	Suwendu Dutta	Appraiser, Drawback & IGST Refund
12	Louis Alphonso	Chairman, CFC and Cargo Manager, Singapore Airlines
13	Pradeep Kumar Singh	Senior Manager (Cargo), AAICLAS
14	P. C. Maity	Chairman, CCHAA Airport Committee
15	Shahbaz Javed	AQCS Inspector (Animal Quarantine)
16	Tanay Karmakar	AIATSL (Air India)
17	Sunil Bisht	Cargo Manager (Bhadra International / BIIL)