



**Date: 28-04-2026**

**MINUTES OF THE TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (TFC)**  
**MEETINGS HELD ON 17.04.2026 (Friday)at 3:30P.M.**

The Trade Facilitation Committee (TFC) Meeting for **April, 2026** was held on **17.04.2026 (Friday)at 3:30P.M.** in the Board Room, Custom House, Kolkata. The meeting was presided over by Shri Atul Saxena, Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port Commissionerate). The meeting was convened for the Port Commissionerate, with active participation from its officers and key stakeholders from trade.

The following individuals attended the meeting, as listed in the attendance sheet:

<b>DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS</b>		
<b>PORT COMMISSIONERATE</b>		
<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>NAME (Sh/Smt/Km)</b>	<b>DESIGNATION (of Customs)</b>
1.	Mohsina Tabassum	Additional Commissioner
2.	Nitin Chand Negi	Additional Commissioner
3.	Sanjay Bangartale	Additional Commissioner
4.	Ranjit Kumar Hembram	Assistant Commissioner
5	Subrata Das	Deputy Commissioner
6	S.T. Bhutia	Assistant Commissioner
7	P.K.S Guria	Deputy Commissioner
8	Bijaya Chandra Dash	Assistant Commissioner
9	Vaibhav Singh	Appraiser
10	Anoop Kumar	Examiner
11	Nitesh Kumar	Examiner

<b>PGA / TRADE REPRESENTATIVES / IMPORTER'S REPRESENTATIVES</b>		
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>NAME (Shri)</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	Sayantan Ghosh	CCHAA

2.	Ankan Mukherjee	ALL Cargo CFS
3.	Md Kamal Hasan	CFS Phonex
4	Debashish Dasgupta	A L Logistics Ltd
5.	Purna B Bist	Century Infra CFS
6	Aloy Ray	Transworld Terminals Pvt Ltd
7	Baleshwar Kumar Mishra	CCHAA
8	Sarwan Kumar Singh	Balmer Lawrie-CFS
9	Deepak Kumar	CFS Phonex
10	Faiyaz sharmin	ALL Cargo CFS
11	Tathastu Tathagat Satapathy	Balmer Lawrie-CFS

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

**Agenda point and Comments on Agenda Point for the TFC meeting (Port)- April, 2026**

**Agenda Point Sponsored by CCHAA**

**Agenda Point 1.**

1. It is to brought to the notice of department that entry and delivery of cargo at Container Freight Stations (CFS) should be carried out strictly through duly authorized persons only, in terms of Section 146A of the Customs Act, 1962, read with the Customs Broker Licensing Regulations (CBLR), which is presently not happening in most of the CFS. Accordingly, only the following authorized personnel shall be permitted to undertake such activities:

- G Card Holders
- H Card Holders
- F Card Holders
- Port Trust ID Card Holders

**Direction of the Chair**

The stakeholder highlighted that entry into CFS premises is often granted using general ID proof like Aadhaar instead of verified G, H, or F cards, creating scope for unauthorized access. It is clarified that while various personnel may enter for non-customs purposes, only authorized cardholders—primarily G card holders, with H card holders under their supervision—are permitted to handle customs documentation and interact with officers. It is also emphasized that once cargo is

given “out of charge,” it moves out of customs jurisdiction, and responsibility shifts to transporters or authorized agents, making the presence of customs agents unnecessary during final handling.

The Chair directed that existing rules must be enforced more rigorously through stricter checks, including random inspections and better use of intelligence to detect misuse such as unauthorized billing or unlicensed handling. Stakeholders were advised to report specific instances of violations for prompt action, while authorities will continue to ensure overall compliance with the prescribed regulations.

*[Action: All CFSs]*

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### **Additional Agenda Points**

#### **Agenda Point 2.**

2. The Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port) directed all custodians to expedite the clearance of pending UCC containers at the earliest. Further, he instructed that all processes related to valuation and inventory be completed promptly to facilitate the auction of UCC containers as soon as possible

#### **Direction of the Chair**

The Chair expressed concern over significant pendency in disposal and auction of cargo across CFSs, noting that despite issuance of NOCs in many cases, auction processes had not been initiated, as highlighted in cases like All cargo. While All Cargo CFS representatives cited delays due to pending BIS clearances and long-pending applications since 2023, it is clarified that in the absence of such approvals, the appropriate course is to proceed toward destruction rather than await indefinite responses. The Chair stressed that repeated reminders are insufficient, directed stakeholders to take proactive follow-up, and emphasized that cases must not remain pending for years without decisive action.

*[Action: All Cargo CFS]*

The Chair directed that this pendency list must be thoroughly reviewed and reduced to zero before the next meeting, or alternatively, each pending case must be supported with strong and valid justification for inaction. It was further warned that in the next review meeting, each CFS would be individually questioned on their status and accountability would be enforced for continued delays.

In the case of CFS Phonex, it was clarified that while most inventory-related work had been completed, four cases remained pending for destruction due to awaiting SDC orders. The Chair emphasized that once inventory and valuation are completed, cases should be promptly moved to auction or destruction, and instructed that delays in obtaining approval should be actively followed up rather than allowing cases to remain stalled.

*[Action: Phonex CFS]*

It was further informed that in several cases, importers had failed to respond despite repeated notices and discussions regarding destruction of cargo at their

own cost.

The Chair directed that in such non-responsive cases, decisions should not remain indefinitely pending and appropriate action may be taken as per procedure. It was further instructed that all stakeholders ensure resolution of pending cases within a defined timeframe, with an expectation of substantial closure.

*[Action: All CFSs]*

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### **Agenda Point 3**

Stakeholders raised concerns that, over the past week, repeated system messages in the PQ system and even after three-four days they are not able to find the application with the payment. Although letters have been sent to the PQ authority and the responsible officer contacted, the issue remains unresolved. Consequently, many imported consignments are delayed and stuck at the port and CFSs.

### **Direction of the Chair**

The chair recommended that formal letters be submitted to initiate corrective action.

*[Action: CCHAA]*

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The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the presiding officer.

This issues with the approval of the Principal Commissioner of Customs (Port).

**PRINCE KILLA SALKAR GURIA**  
**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,**  
Appraising General Unit (Port),  
Custom House, Kolkata.

### **Copy to:-**

1. The Sr. PS to the Chief Commissioner of Customs, Kolkata,
2. The PS to the Pr. Commissioner of Customs (A&A),
3. The PS to the Pr. Commissioner of Customs (CCP),
4. All ADCs / JCs (Port),
5. All DCs / ACs (Port),
6. The A.C. (EDI) - for uploading in the Kolkata Customs website.