

Record of Discussion of the eTRADE Review Meeting
16th January 2017

The Commerce Secretary chaired the eTRADE review meeting, held on January 16, 2017 at 12:00 PM in Room no. 141, Udyog Bhawan.

2. Making the opening remarks, DGFT welcomed the participants and mentioned that the meeting would focus on issues regarding eDelivery of services by all the stake holders of international trade clearance processes.

3. DDG, NIC made a presentation on the project overview and implementation status of various activities by community partners, under eTRADE project, and related issues. Thereafter each agenda item was discussed in detail. The issue-wise status and follow up actions identified, and the list of participants, is enclosed.

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

Sr. No.	Issue	Status	Action Required	Agency/ Time Frame
1	Customs Central Server up-gradation	<p>Presently 145 locations are covered under central server and Customs is upgrading it to meet the increased requirement of trade. Hardware delivery is expected by 31.3.2017 for 2 locations mainly Delhi and DR site at Chennai. The actions related to GST, site readiness, enhancement of local area connectivity, bandwidth upgradation, thin client replacement with PCs, software upgradation etc. are being taken-up parallelly.</p> <p>This will also enable acceptance of digitally signed documents.</p>	Central server upgradation be completed.	DoR/ 31.03.2017
2	Conversion of Non EDI Ports to EDI ports	<p>Of the 298 ports/ customs points (excluding SEZs), 145 are EDI enabled; rest are on manual system. Thus, only part of India's exports (68% in value terms; 90% by number of transactions) and imports (77% in value terms; 93% by number of transactions) are through EDI mode.</p> <p>The major non EDI ports should be considered for conversion to EDI at the earliest. 27 non EDI ports were identified for conversion to EDI ports, which will be converted to EDI after upgradation of central server.</p> <p>The remaining locations will be taken up subsequently.</p>	<p>Time frame be provided for conversion of 27 Non EDI ports to EDI ports.</p> <p>Time frame be provided for remaining locations.</p>	DoR/ 15.02.2017
3	Complete message exchange with community partners	<p>The current status of completion of message exchanges with major community partners is as given below. At present critical messages are being exchanged electronically between Customs and community partners.</p> <p>i. Seaports through Ports Community System (PCS): 11 out of 21 Messages operational. Seamless backward integration of Customs messages with seaports system is to be streamlined by PCS.</p> <p>ii. Airports: 12 out of 17 messages operational with major international airports</p> <p>iii. CONCOR: 12 out of 16 messages operational</p> <p>iv. CWC: 12 out of 16 messages operational</p> <p>v. ICDs/CFSS: 12 out of 16 Messages operational with major private ICDs.</p> <p>The messages are currently exchanged in FTP or SFTP mode. DGFT proposed to exchange messages through web-service to minimise failures and faster communication with users. Customs reported that it has started exchange of messages with JNPT in web-service on pilot basis. The modalities for exchange of all messages with IPA/PCS and DGFT as web-service would be worked out by Customs.</p>	DOR to give proposal for implementation of web-services for message exchange with IPA/PCS and DGFT.	DoR/ 15.02.2017

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		MoCA mentioned that as the dwell time for imports is to be reduced from 72 to 48 hours, exchange of all messages electronically is important. CS mentioned that exchange of all messages in process flow like for un-cleared cargo, is equally important for end-to-end automation.	DoR to review the pending messages in association with all the community partners to work out a revised list of messages to be exchanged electronically with each of them. DoR needs to submit a plan to integrate all pending messages.	DoR/ 28.02.2017 DoR/ 28.02.2017
4	Paperless trade/digital signature integration with importers/exporters/agents	The processing of messages is started based on the electronic messages received by Customs, however the physical documents are still required to be submitted in the process. The complete dispensation of physical paper documents requires integration of digital signatures. Customs has integrated digital signatures for exchange of messages with institutional users like DGFT and for incoming messages and it is in process to integrate the same for outgoing messages. DGFT mentioned that despite automating the entire process the licenses/scrips are still need to be printed. It was proposed that a beginning can be made with advance authorisation which is non-transferable.	A plan/ schedule of digital signature integration with all users to be provided by DoR, alongwith plan for dispensation of physical documents. A plan to be provided for dispensation of licenses/scrips.	DoR/ 28.02.2017 DoR/DGFT 28.02.2017
5	Implementation of Single Window Clearance system for integrating the NOC issuance process for imports and exports	DoR has undertaken Single Window Project for integrating the NOC issuance process for imports and exports by the concerned regulatory agencies with the Customs system. CBEC has rolled out Customs Single Window Integrated Declaration from 1.4.2016 for online clearance by multiple Partner Government Agencies. The NOC is required from 6 agencies for imports, which are covered in the system. Licences, certificates and permits are required from around 40 agencies and their integration is in process. The risk parameters have been received from major agencies like Plant Quarantine (PQ) and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India	Status of integration of all agencies along with percentage of transactions covered be provided.	DoR/ 15.02.2017

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		<p>(FSSAI) which are integrated in the system. The integration of other NOC providing agencies under RMS is in process.</p> <p>CS stressed on the need to ensure the quality of products entering in India and to bring down the physical assessment to 10% or below.</p>		
6	<p>Implementation of the Express Courier clearance system (ECCS) at Delhi/ Mumbai</p>	<p>Express Industry Council of India (EICI) has developed the import module for ECCS. ECCS is partially rolled out in Mumbai on 05.01.2017 only for few import documents and gift & sample (non-dutiable) shipments.</p> <p>Rollout of import dutiable shipments in ECCS has not been started as some changes in the duty calculation structure in ECCS are sought by Customs.</p> <p>Customs is working on the bank interface activity, which is also required for dutiable shipments rollout in ECCS. The system operationalisation needs to be expedited for imports.</p> <p>Work on export module is yet to begin. The plan need to be firmed up.</p> <p>The issue of high transaction cost for couriers was raised, which is affecting the eCommerce companies. A separate group need to be formed by DoR with DGFT on the issue.</p>	<p>Rollout of dutiable shipments at Mumbai.</p> <p>Rollout at Delhi</p> <p>Plan for exports to be provided.</p> <p>DoR/DGFT to form a group.</p>	<p>DoR/ 15.02.2017</p> <p>DoR/ 28.02.2017</p> <p>DoR/ 15.02.2017</p> <p>DoR/DGFT 15.02.2017</p>
7	<p>Precious Cargo clearance system</p>	<p>Precious Cargo clearance system takes care of clearances of diamond, gold and jewellery products. System is functioning at Bharat diamond Bourse, Mumbai, Surat and Jhandewalan, Delhi. The process of integrating the Jaipur location is in process.</p>	<p>Detailed status (covering import/export) for all 4 locations to be provided.</p>	<p>DoR/ 15.02.2017</p>
8	<p>Customs – DGFT message exchange</p>	<p>DGFT mentioned that Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) application is still not online. DGFT has requested import data from ICEGATE for online processing of Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) application under advance authorisation and EPCG authorisation.</p> <p>DoR and DGFT need to finalise modalities.</p>	<p>Modalities for online EODC to be worked out.</p>	<p>DGFT/DoR 15.02.2017</p>
9	<p>Centralised web-based community partner interface at CONCOR/ CWC</p>	<p>CONCOR has established a centralised web-based community partner interface system wherein the exporters/importers, agents, shipping lines etc. can eFile their documents for any of the CONOCR's ICDs/CFSs. This system is used mainly at Tuglakabad and Dadri but the usage at other locations is very low which need to be improved. Similar system need to be implemented for various ICDs/CFSs run by CWC. CWC reported that tender for the same has been opened and is in</p>	<p>CONCOR to provide statistics on usage of the system and steps required to improve its usage.</p>	<p>CONCOR/ 15.02.2017</p>

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		<p>process.</p> <p>CS mentioned that the system of CONCOR may be leveraged instead of developing a new system which is time consuming. DGFT would take up the issue with CONCOR/CWC to explore its feasibility.</p>	<p>DGFT to take up the issue with CONCOR/CWC for a common centralised system.</p>	<p>DGFT/ 15.02.2017</p>
10	<p>Ports Community System (PCS) and its up-gradation</p>	<p>The Centralized Port Community System (PCS), a single window interface for seaports community, is operational for 18 seaports including all major and 6 non-major seaports.</p> <p>Integration of 4 more non-major seaports of Gujarat Maritime Board is under integration and 6 other seaports are being pursued.</p> <p>Concept paper on upgradation of PCS to PCS 2.0 has been worked out by IPA. The module for truckers has already been started.</p> <p>In PCS2.0 the core PCS would be migrated to cloud and B2B services are also proposed for message interface between community partners. IPA requested to provide financial support for PCS2.0.</p>	<p>IPA to provide the detail report on PCS 2.0.</p>	<p>IPA/ 28.02.2017</p>
11	<p>Gate automation at ports</p>	<p>Long time is taken in manual checking of cargo at the port gate creating long queues. Installation of RFID tags on the containers will ensure automatic entry at the port gate.</p> <p>IPA informed that a project is going on to integrate RFID tags for monitoring of containers at Port gates.</p> <p>System of RFID tags has been implemented at 4 ports i.e. Cochin, Chennai, Paradeep and two terminals (GTICT, NSICT) of JNPT. The other major ports are in process of implementing the system.</p>	<p>Implementation of RFID tags to be expedited at all major ports.</p>	<p>Ministry of Shipping/ IPA/ 31.03.2017</p>
12	<p>Centralised web-based Community partner interface system for Air sector</p>	<p>Major international airports like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Bangalore, Cochin have operationalized message exchange with community partners.</p> <p>Major private airports have developed their own standalone web based system for message interface with community partners.</p> <p>The development of a Single Window Air Cargo Community System (ACS) is under consideration. The Ministry of Civil Aviation(MoCA) constituted a committee on the subject and the report of the committee has now been approved by MoCA.</p>	<p>MoCA to expedite the implementation schedule.</p>	<p>MoCA/ 31.12.2017</p>

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		<p>The RFP is proposed to be complete by 31.03.2017 and DPR by 31.12.2017.</p> <p>MoCA has proposed to form a SPV with 50% share from MoCA, DoC and DoR and remaining 50% from other stake holders. AAI requested for financial support for the initiative which would be considered by DoC.</p> <p>CS suggested to expedite the time frame by working out the activities which can be done parallelly.</p>		
13	Short term roadmap for eTRADE	<p>A short term plan of activities was deliberated, which need to be focussed by all community partners.</p> <p>Customs being hub of the project need to change focus from roll out at maximum locations, to end to end coverage at existing locations.</p>	<p>List of Inter-agency message exchange be reviewed/ re-engineered</p> <p>Integration of Service Oriented Architecture (SOA)</p> <p>End to end message exchange between Customs and custodians of cargo</p> <p>Physical paper documents to be dispensed with wherever electronic environment is created.</p>	All community partners/ 31.07.2017
14	Long term roadmap for eTRADE	<p>Sectoral single windows for air sector on lines of Port Community System (PCS).</p> <p>Upgradation of PCS to PCS 2.0</p> <p>CS stressed on the need to migrate to national cloud by all community partners so as to avoid the frequent capacity upgradation.</p> <p>Documents/Plan to be worked out for cross border electronic message exchange.</p>	<p>Development of ACS</p> <p>Development of PCS 2.0</p> <p>All community partners to plan for migration to national cloud.</p> <p>Cross border exchange</p>	<p>M/o Civil Aviation/ AAI/ 31.03.2018</p> <p>M/o Shipping/ IPA/ 31.03.2018</p> <p>All community partners</p> <p>DoR/DoC/ 31.03.2018</p>

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15	eKranti	<p>As per the Government direction all community partners need to work out plans to align with eKranti principles namely:</p> <p>‘transformation not translation’, ‘integrated services not individual services’, ‘government process re-engineering’, ‘ICT infrastructure on demand’, ‘cloud by default’, ‘mobile first’, ‘fast tracking approvals’, ‘mandating standards and protocols’, ‘language localisation’, ‘national GIS’, ‘security and electronic data preservation’.</p> <p>The details of e-Kranti are available at http://deity.gov.in/content/e-kranti</p>	All community partners need to work out strategies to follow eKranti principles while reengineering/re designing their systems.	All community partners
16	Project monitoring	<p>The project monitoring mechanism was deliberated and it was agreed that a bi-monthly meeting of all nodal officers with Mission Leader of the project would be planned to discuss/resolve operational/technical issues within or among community partners.</p> <p>The meeting at CS level be planned every 4 months.</p>	All community partners to nominate a nodal officer.	All community partners/ 15.02.2017

eTRADE – Review Meeting
16.01.2017
Participation list

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