कार्यालय: प्रधान आयुक्त सीमाशुल्क, मुन्द्रा,
सीमाशुल्क भवन, मुन्द्रा बंदरगाह, कच्छ, गुजरात- 370421
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS:
CUSTOM HOUSE, MUNDRA PORT, KUTCH, GUJARAT-370421.
PHONE : 02838-271426/271163 FAX :02838-271425
E-mail id- commr-cusmundra@nic.in

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17.03.2026 AT 12:00 Hrs

Meeting of the Permanent Trade Facilitation (PTFC), Mundra was held on 17.03.2026 at 12:00 Hrs at Conference Hall, Custom House, Mundra under the Chairmanship of Shri Nitin Saini, Hon'ble Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Mundra.

The meeting was attended by the following representatives of the Trade/Terminal and Officers of the Commissionerate:

Representative from Terminal Operator/APSEZ:

1. Mr. Kaushik Joshi, DGM, Adani Ports & SEZ
2. Mr. Kanaksingh Jadeja, Associate Manager, APSEZ
3. Mr. Mayur Bhatt, Assistant Manager, APSEZ

Representative of The Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce and Industry:

1. Mr. Hemchand Yadav, Member

Representative of Kandla Timber Association:

1. Mr. Hemchand Yadav, Vice President

Representative of Mundra Customs Broker Association:

1. Mr. Manoj Thakker, Secretary
2. Mr. Maheshwari Rakesh, Aarvi Exim Solution LLP
3. Mr. Hemchandra Yadav, Shivam Seatrans Pvt. Ltd.
4. Mr. Shailesh Thakkar, Narendra Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
5. Mr. Heet Thakkar, Narendra Logistics Pvt. Ltd.

6. Mr.Jiten Thakkar Sheron Enterprise.
7. Mr. Chetan Tanna, Manager, MR Shipping pvt. Ltd.
8. Mr. Hiren Pithadia, GTN Logistics
9.Mr. Hasmukh Chawda, Assist. Manager, U.M. Khona & CO.
10.Mr. Dilip Singh Chavda, Manager, Unnati Cargo
11. Mr. Vikam Jain, Shri Balaji Logistics
12. Mr. Mohit Joshi Ocean transworld

Representative of CFS Association:

1. Mr.Bhupat Gohil , Saurastra CFS, Ops-head

Officer of Directorate General of Taxpayer Services (DGTS), Ahmedabad Zonal Unit:

1. Sourabh, Inspector.

Officers of the Customs Commissionerate, Mundra:

1. Dr. Rajesh Kumar Nagora, Additional Commissioner
2. Shri Amit Kumar Mishra, Additional Commissioner
3. Shri Dipak Zala, Additional Commissioner
4. Shri Ajay Rumal Kharde, Deputy Commissioner
5. Shri Bandaru Balu Mahendra, Deputy Commissioner
6. Shri Lal Das, Deputy Commissioner
7. Shri Ajoy Kumar, Assistant Commissioner
8. Shri Munish Rohtagi, Assistant Commissioner.
9. Shri Sargiya Virendra Kumar, Assistant Commissioner.
10. Shri Himanshu Chouhan, Appraiser, AG Section
11. Shri Mohit Kathpalia, Preventive Officer, AG Section

Minutes of the Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting The meeting commenced with a welcome address by Shri Bandaru Balu Mahendra, Deputy Commissioner, Customs Commissionerate, Mundra, who greeted the participants and outlined the agenda. He emphasized the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to enhance efficiency within the Customs ecosystem at Mundra.

Agenda Points Submitted by The Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Agenda Point 1: Waiver of Detention Charges

The trade has represented that current geopolitical tensions have caused vessel disruptions, diversions and cargo rollovers, leading to delays of containers at ports and during transit. As these circumstances are beyond the control of exporters, importers, and freight forwarders, it is urged that shipping lines waive detention charges on containers impacted by such war-related disruptions.

Reply of Chairman: It was clarified that Customs has no mandate to regulate, restrict, or waive commercial charges imposed by Shipping Lines or Custodians. Such matters are to be resolved amicably between the concerned parties in accordance with their contractual agreements.

Agenda Point 2: Waiver of Booking Cancellation Charges

In many cases exporters are forced to cancel or amend bookings due to the uncertainty created by the prevailing geopolitical situation. It is therefore requested that shipping lines should not impose booking cancellation charges for shipments relating to Middle East routes where bookings are cancelled due to war-related uncertainties.

Reply of Chairman: It was clarified that Customs authorities have no mandate to control or waive commercial charges levied by Shipping Lines and Custodians. Accordingly, such issues must be settled mutually between the parties in line with the terms of their contractual agreements.

Agenda Point 3: Terminal Level Waivers

Trade is also facing financial burden at port terminals due to unavoidable operational disruptions. It is requested that port terminals and operators may kindly consider granting waiver or suspension of the following charges wherever applicable: * Shut-Out Charges * Back-To-Town (BTT) Charges * Ground Rent Charges * Storage Charges Such relief measures will help mitigate the financial losses being suffered by the trade community

Reply of Chairman: Public Notice regarding Back-To-Town (BTT) Charges has already been issued by this office. Further, it was clarified that the Customs authorities do not have the authority to regulate or restrict/waive commercial charges levied by Shipping Lines, CFS and other Custodians and the issue has to be resolved between them cordially in terms of their contractual agreements.

Agenda Point 4: Waiver of War Risk Premium on Existing Shipments

Shipping lines have started imposing War Risk / Emergency Surcharge on shipments relating to Middle East routes. However, it is strongly requested that such charges should not be levied on containers which were already loaded on board vessels and sailed prior to the escalation of the conflict (including shipments loaded before 28 February 2026). Since these shipments were executed under normal commercial conditions, retrospective imposition of war-related charges is unreasonable and places an unfair financial burden on exporters and logistics stakeholders.

Reply of Chairman: It was clarified that the Customs authorities do not have the jurisdiction to grant any waiver of War Risk Premium on existing Shipments

Agenda Point 5: Reference to DG Shipping Advisory and Force Majeure Situation

It is pertinent to note that the Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping), Government of India has issued advisories to the maritime industry regarding heightened risk in the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding Middle East region due to the prevailing geopolitical tensions. Such advisories are primarily intended to ensure safety of vessels, crew and maritime navigation. However, these extraordinary circumstances clearly fall under the category of force majeure events, which are beyond the control of exporters, importers and

logistics operators. Therefore, the trade community respectfully submits that operational disruptions arising from such geopolitical events should not result in retrospective financial burden on exporters and freight forwarders, particularly in cases where cargo had already been loaded on board vessels before the escalation of the conflict.

Reply of Chairman: It was clarified that DG Shipping advisories are issued on heightened maritime risks for safety purposes. Although disruptions due to geopolitical tensions may be treated as force majeure and are beyond the control of the trade, Customs authorities have no mandate to regulate or waive commercial charges levied by Shipping Lines or custodians. Such matters are to be resolved mutually between the concerned parties in accordance with their contractual terms.

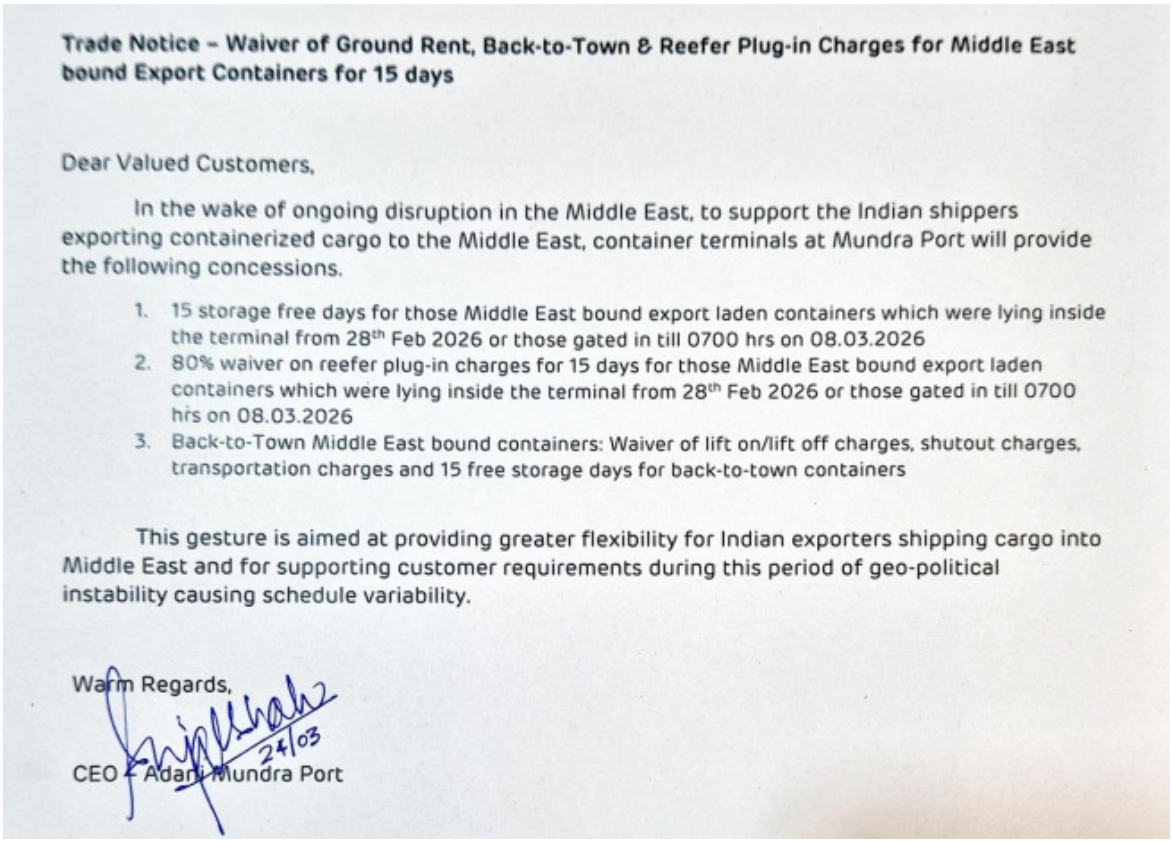
Agenda Point 6: Principle of Fair Trade Practices

The logistics and shipping industry operates on the principle of mutual cooperation between shipping lines and the trade community. Extraordinary geopolitical circumstances require balanced and reasonable measures from all stakeholders to ensure continuity of international trade and supply chains. Unilateral and excessive charges imposed during such situations are causing severe financial strain on the logistics fraternity and may adversely impact the overall EXIM ecosystem.

Reply of Chairman: It was emphasized that the logistics and shipping industry functions on the principle of fair trade practices and mutual cooperation among stakeholders. While the concerns regarding imposition of charges during extraordinary geopolitical situations are duly noted, it was clarified that Customs authorities do not have the mandate to regulate or intervene in the commercial pricing decisions of shipping lines or custodians. Such matters are governed by contractual arrangements between the parties concerned and are required to be addressed amicably within that framework, keeping in view the broader objective of ensuring stability and continuity of the EXIM ecosystem.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair. Everyone appreciated the open, facilitation approach of the Customs authorities.

Post Script: Custodian Adani port has later issued a trade notice on 24.03.2026 granting certain concession for cargo going to the Middle East



Trade Notice – Waiver of Ground Rent, Back-to-Town & Reefer Plug-in Charges for Middle East bound Export Containers for 15 days

Dear Valued Customers,

In the wake of ongoing disruption in the Middle East, to support the Indian shippers exporting containerized cargo to the Middle East, container terminals at Mundra Port will provide the following concessions.

1. 15 storage free days for those Middle East bound export laden containers which were lying inside the terminal from 28th Feb 2026 or those gated in till 0700 hrs on 08.03.2026
2. 80% waiver on reefer plug-in charges for 15 days for those Middle East bound export laden containers which were lying inside the terminal from 28th Feb 2026 or those gated in till 0700 hrs on 08.03.2026
3. Back-to-Town Middle East bound containers: Waiver of lift on/lift off charges, shutout charges, transportation charges and 15 free storage days for back-to-town containers

This gesture is aimed at providing greater flexibility for Indian exporters shipping cargo into Middle East and for supporting customer requirements during this period of geo-political instability causing schedule variability.

Warm Regards,

24/03

CEO – Adani Mundra Port

This issues with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs, Mundra .

(Zala Dipakbhai Chimanbhai)
(ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER)
Custom House, Mundra

Copy to:

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs, Ahmedabad
2. All Additional Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Mundra
3. Additional Commissioner, DGTS, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad
4. All Deputy/Assistant Commissioners of Customs, Mundra
5. All Officers of Custom House, Mundra
6. DC/AC, EDI – for uploading on official website
7. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kutch,
8. Mundra Customs House Broker Association, Mundra,
9. Kandla Customs House Broker Association, Gandhidham,
10. Mundra Shipping Agent Association,
11. Container Freight Station Association, Mundra,
12. Container Corporation of India, Mundra,
13. M/s. Adani Ports and Special Economic Ltd. APSEZ, Mundra,
14. Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce Industries, Gandhidham,
15. Kandla Timber Association, Gandhidham,

16. Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Rajkot,
17. Port Health Officer, Kandla,
18. Joint Director, CRCL, Kandla,
19. Plant Quarantine Officer, Mundra,
20. Regional Officer of Textile Commissioner, Ahmedabad.
21. Notice Board

Digitally signed by
Dipakbhai Zala
Date: 24-03-2026
18:26:05