A meeting of Officers of Central Excise & Customs, Vadodara Zone representing Administration Side and representatives of Vadodara, Surat & Vapi units of “All India Central Excise Gazetted Executive Officers Association” and “All India Central Excise Non-Gazetted Executive Officers Association” was held on 21.05.2014 at 12.00 hrs. in the Conference hall, 1st floor of New Central Excise Bldg., Subhanpura, Vadodara-II under the Chairmanship of Shri Jayant Misra, Chief Commissioner, Central Excise, Vadodara Zone, Vadodara.

2.A. The following officers were present in the meeting to represent the Administration side.

i) Shri A. K. Jyotishi, Commissioner, Central Excise, Vadodara-I.
ii) Shri V. K. Verma, Commissioner, Central Excise, Surat-I.
iii) Shri A. K. Saxena, Commissioner, Central Excise, Surat-II.
iv) Shri Deepak Aroara, Commissioner, Central Excise, Daman.
v) Shri K. R. N. Chary, Commissioner, Central Excise, Vapi.
vi) Dr. Ashir Tyagi, Additional Commissioner, Central Excise & Customs, Vadodara Zone, Vadodara.
vii) Shri S. Jeyaraj, Deputy Commissioner, Central Excise & Customs, Vadodara Zone, Vadodara.
viii) Shri Joginder Singh, Assistant Commissioner (P&V), Central Excise & Customs, Vadodara-II.

2.B. The following officers represented the Vadodara, Surat & Vapi units of “All India Central Excise Gazetted Executive Officers Association” and “All India Central Excise Non-Gazetted Executive Officers Association”.
i) Shri R. K. Chahar, Superintendent & Zonal President/General Secretary, Vapi Unit.

ii) Shri A. S. Kundu, Superintendent & Zonal Secretary.

iii) Shri R. K. Sharma, Superintendent & Vice President, Vapi Unit.

iv) Shri Jas Ram Meena, Superintendent & General Secretary, Surat Unit.

v) Shri S. K. Yadav, Superintendent & President, Surat Unit.

vi) Shri Chetan C. Pawar, Superintendent & President, Vadodara Unit.

vii) Shri Reji Mathew, Superintendent, Vadodara-I.

viii) Shri D. K. Goyal, Superintendent, Vadodara-I.

ix) Shri M. B. Jain, Superintendent, Vadodara-II.

x) Shri Prashant Kumar Mishra, Inspector and Joint Secretary, Surat Unit.

xi) Shri Rajesh Kumar, Inspector & Secretary, Surat Unit.

xii) Shri Arun Kumar, IO, DGCEI & Gen. Secy, Vadodara.

xiii) Shri Om Prakash Gond, Inspector & Vice President, Vapi.

xiv) Shri Dheeraj Kumar Chandok, Inspector & Vice President, Vapi.


xvi) Shri Uday Singh Meena, Gen. Secretary, Vapi Unit.

xvii) Shri Rahul Sharma, Inspector, Vadodara-I.

3. The Chairman welcomed all members representing the Administration Side and Vapi, Surat & Vadodara units of All India Association of Central Excise Gazetted Executive Officers & All India Association of Central Excise Non-Gazetted Executive Officers. In his welcome address, the Chairman stated that this is the first meeting of a series of meetings that are to follow to discuss various points to provide better working environment. Chairman further stated for all cadres in the zone it is a collective responsibility of the Administration as well as the Associations to work together to achieve this end. Thereafter, discussion on following points took place as under:

**Points raised by All India Central Excise (Gazetted ) Executive Officers Association:**

3.1 The Association Members conveyed that a number of Disciplinary Cases against Departmental Officers are pending since long and that the same may be expeditiously completed.

The Chairman stated that the pendency of Vigilance Cases can be divided into three categories:

The first category is the cases pending with the Inquiry officers. As regards these cases, the Chairman informed that the Inquiry officer dealing with a large number of cases in one single matter was transferred on promotion and subsequently was on election duty. Due to the concerted efforts of CC office, the Inquiry officer has been deputed to Vadodara Zone specifically for completion of the pending inquiry. These cases will be expedited once the I.O. assumes his charge at Surat.

The second category of cases are those which await the second stage advice. In this regard, the Chairman informed that the cases pending with Director General (Vig.) for 2nd stage advice are also being pursued vigorously.
The third category is the cases pending for issuance of OIO after receipt of 2nd stage advise, the Chairman asked the Disciplinary Authorities to dispose off such cases expeditiously and the disciplinary authorities assured that by end of May 2014 all such orders shall be issued.

The Chairman directed that the Associations would be given periodical updates on progress made on all the pending cases during the local JCM by the Disciplinary Authorities, so that the reasons for pendency are transparent.

3.2 The Association Members conveyed that the officers facing Disciplinary Proceedings for more than 02 years and are due for promotion may be considered for Ad-hoc promotion till the proceedings are completed.

The Chairman informed that data for considering such officers for Ad-hoc promotion is already gathered and that these officers would be considered for Ad-hoc promotion during regular DPC for promotion to the grade of Superintendent. The Chairman further informed that as the Hon'ble CAT, Ahmedabad Bench has granted stay on holding DPC for promotion to the grade of Superintendent, the DPC would be conducted after the stay is vacated by the Hon'ble CAT, Ahmedabad Bench.

3.3 The Association Members represented that the present online Module for Central Excise and Service Tax (ACES) despite being implemented, the system of submission of manual reports still continues resulting in duplication of work. Further Inspectors may also be given access to the ACES module as at present they have not been assigned any role in ACES.

The Chairman asked the Commissioners to examine the matter and submit their reports so that the matter may be taken up for inclusion of Inspector in ACES module, at appropriate level with Directorate of Systems.

3.4 The Association Members informed the Chairman that the present Zonal Transfer Policy needs to be revisited. They also informed that the officers transferred as per new policy and willing for repatriation on own cost may be transferred back during the reorganization process resulting out of Cadre Review Process to be implemented shortly.

The Chairman informed that the fine print of Cadre Review/Restructuring process is expected shortly and it would be more appropriate if the matters pertaining to transfers /AGT is discussed after the notification on creation of new post and geographical distribution are issued. The Chairman further informed that in order to make the process of AGT transparent, list of officers due for transfer and list of representations received in the matter would be displayed on website shortly. The Chairman stated that the matter can be further
discussed in the next meeting with the Associations once Cadre Restructuring is notified.

3.5 The Association Members conveyed that few of the officers are being repeatedly posted/deputed to SEZ, DGCEI, DRI, etc. and lot of willing and capable officers are not getting chance to work in these formations.

The Chairman informed that the provisions relating to cooling period as per norms are being followed. For deputation to DGCEI/DRI, the CC office forwards willingness of the eligible officers. The orders are finally issued by DGCEI/DRI formations. Further, regarding posting to SEZ, orders of posting to encadered posts in private SEZ is being looked after by this office in consultation with Development Commissioner of respective SEZs.

3.6 The Association Members informed that the working environment provided to Group B officers requires major upgradation, including increasing sitting space, providing laptops to field staff, etc. The same when compared to other sister department viz. Income Tax is much inferior and requires improvement. Chairman also pointed out that laptops are also proposed for new Commissionerates/ Audit Commissionerates, as per the norms prescribed in cadre structuring.

In this regard, the Chairman suggested that one Association Member can also be nominated to Infrastructure Committee constituted for the purpose. Regarding providing laptop, the Chairman informed that the local purchase of laptop is presently discontinued by the Board and that the laptops are only procured centrally and distributed to field formations.

3.7 The Association Members conveyed that some Executive Officers are posted to work in non technical section viz. Administration, Establishment, Accounts etc. and that it is not appropriate to make these officers function for the rank not commensurate with their pay.

The Chairman explained that it is an administrative exigency and suggested that the Commissioners may examine the possibility of merger of administrative work in Divisions with Commissionerate HQ. This would reduce the intake of Executive officers for work in such non-technical areas.

3.8 The Association Members conveyed that the DSCs for considering MACP are not being held regularly resulting in delays. Further the Association Members informed the Chairman that an order issued by Dy. Controller of Accounts for initiating recovery to some of the officers who have been granted Grade Pay of Rs.6600/- is not appropriate and recovery on the basis of the same may be stopped.
The Chairman asked the Commissioners present in the meeting to look into the matter and follow the instruction on the issue. Regarding Dy. Controller of Accounts' order for initiating recovery, the matter can be discussed after obtaining full information on the issue.

**Points raised by All India Central Excise (Non Gazetted) Executive Officers Association:**

4. The Association Members informed that many of their points were common with the Superintendents and have been discussed. Some of the additional points raised were as under:

4.1 The Association Members requested to restrict functioning of Control Room to office hours only as the same practice is being followed in some of the Commissionerates.

The Chairman clarified that Control Room function is an essential component in the functioning of the department and stated that instead of restricting the working hours, up gradation of facilities and supervisory role revision of Control Room can be looked into.

4.2 Other points raised by Association are as under:

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<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Response</th>
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<tr>
<td>Make CGHS facility available at Vadodara.</td>
<td>The Chairman asked the Commissioners to initiate and consult Associations on the proposal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demolish Type-I quarters in Colony at Vadodara and construct Multi storied bldg. that can accommodate more flats.</td>
<td>The Chairman informed that a proposal on the same intent with CPWD is already under consideration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of Customs Colony at Vapi.</td>
<td>The Chairman directed the Commissioner, Daman to take up the issue. The Commissioner, Daman informed that though some work is done, the colony requires major renovation and he will be taking up the issue with CPWD.</td>
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4.3 In his closing remarks, Chairman emphasized the importance of free exchange of ideas in such interactive forums. Chairman also reiterated that this is a crucial phase for the development cycle of department consequent to the challenges and opportunities put forward by Cadre Restructuring and reorganization of Commissionerates. As a consequence of this mammoth exercise large number of promotions are expected in the cadres of Superintendent, Inspectors and other feeder cadres. Chairman requested all the Associations to actively co-ordinate and co-operate with the administrations in completion of dossiers from all Commissionerates so that the Cadre-control unit at Vadodara can conduct the consequential DPC’s. Chairman also suggested that at local level Associations can nominate nodal officers to co-operate with the administration.

5. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chairman.

(Dr. Ashir Tyagi)
Additional Commissioner (CCO)

Copy to:

1. The Zonal Member (Customs), Central Board of Excise and Customs, New Delhi.
2. The Chief Commissioner, Central Excise, Ahmedabad Zone.
3. The Chief Commissioner, Customs, Ahmedabad Zone.
4. All the Commissioners of Central Excise and Customs, Vadodara Zone.
5. All the Additional/Joint Commissioners (P&V) of Central Excise and Customs, Vadodara Zone.
6. All the CAO/PAO, Central Excise and Customs, Vadodara Zone.
7. The General Secretary, of All India Gazetted/non-gazetted Executive Officers Association of Central Excise and Customs, Vadodara/Surat/Vapi/Daman Units.