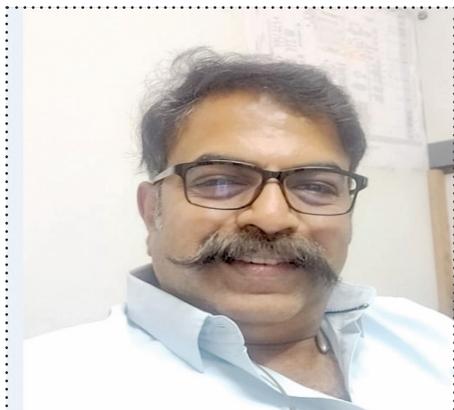




"A sailing ship is no democracy; you don't caucus a crew as to where you'll go anymore than you inquire when they'd like to shorten sail. - Sterling Hayden

Blue Economy-Wave 47

(Series on "Blue Economy" By Capt. Gajanan Karanjikar)



Capt. Gajanan Karanjikar, Blue Economy Social Activist & Multi Modal Logistics Expert



SMEs and large business conglomerates in various fields of activities. At the same time, the sector faces several challenges including regulatory ones which are vital for the healthy growth of the sector (see Table 4).

Marine organisms have revealed an incredible genetic, biological, and chemical variety and find their best application in the biotechnology industry. Recently, marine compounds have been used, for the development of new pharmaceuticals and new cosmetic ingredients, for the production of enzymes and nutritional additives, and for the supply of a wide set of scientific services.

Understanding socioeconomic contributions of marine biotechnology is important for several reasons and is necessary to drive correctly the future

developments. Bioeconomy has a political priority because of its potential for economic growth and social benefits and in almost every continent, the planning of related strategies started as governmental actions. Marine biotechnology can make important contributions to bioeconomy through the construction or the greening of several industries with flourishing of innovative products and processes, and the consequential creation of new jobs. It is within the concepts under the term bioeconomy that this point can be discussed, marine biotechnology being fully framed within those economic sectors that are founded on bioscience and biotechnology innovation. Market value of marine biotechnology products and services is difficult to estimate; important elements are the tracking of the range of products and services across different sectors and precise identification of the roles and contributions of marine biotechnology, separating them out from other factors. In recent reports evaluating statistically its value, the market of marine biotechnology is traditionally separated in different sectors such as pharmaceutical products for the marine-derived drugs, biotechnology itself, including all other related bioproducts, fish and shellfish for aquaculture industry, and the biomass-related markets, for other specialized compounds including those derived from agar, alginates, and carrageenan. All these sectors were estimated at 2.8 billion EUR in 2010 with an annual growth of 4-5%.

Future of Marine Bio Technology:

The oceans carry unlimited potential, but their study cannot be limited solely to examining the waters and the life in them as people generally believe. As much as possible, it is important for research to attempt to use marine organisms in a simple way that generates high amounts of value added. First, it is essential to understand the basic mechanisms and physiological characteristics of marine organisms, acquiring an ample store of information that can then be comprehensively until it reaches the realm of marine biotechnology.

In other words, marine biotechnology is field of research toward gaining greater value from the use of marine organisms. When we eat fish caught in the ocean that is one form of using marine life. But marine biotechnology is not merely about such simple uses. As a natural science, biotechnology offers many ideas for application in daily life. When we raise fish in a single location where it can be caught using a single method, we are hoping for large fish rather than small ones. Research on methods to make them grow quickly, devices to take advantage of the fish's habits to make them easier to catch, and efforts to prevent them from destroying the ocean environment all fall into this category. In other words, it would be more appropriate to regard the many different forms of technology inspired by this idea as falling in the domain of marine biotechnology.

(To be continued...)

Faceless assessment delays customs clearances

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Some of the industries which have been severely impacted are automobiles & auto ancillary, electrical machinery, metals, chemicals and medical equipment, the sources said.

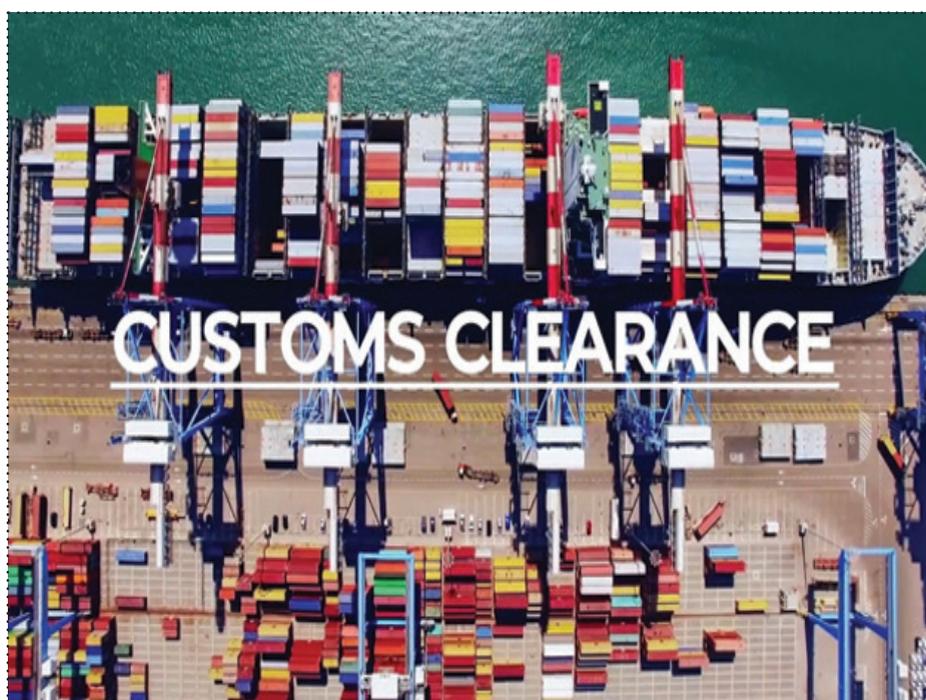
Import-export shipments are getting delayed yet again at Indian ports; a minimum of 15-20-day delay

Fresh troubles have started grappling the Indian industries as import-export shipments are getting delayed yet again at Indian ports, this time because of the poor rollout of faceless assessment for customs clearances.

Sources told CNBC-TV18 that "a minimum of 15-20-day delay has been witnessed across Indian ports, over the last fortnight, which is leading to delays in production, meeting contract deadlines and hurting businesses."

"These delays are due to the faceless assessment launched by the customs department," customs brokers told CNBC-TV18..

Faceless assessment by customs a pan-India rollout from 31st October



Almost all industries are impacted. Imports are hurt more than exports. This is leading to introducing hurdles in India's Ease of Doing Business aim: FIEO

A phased rollout of faceless assessment by customs started in the first week of September and the customs department now aims to do a pan-India rollout from 31st October.

Imports are hurt more than exports

Talking to CNBC-TV18, Sharad Kumar Saraf, President, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) says, "Implementation of faceless assessment is

leading to these challenges for the industry. Almost all industries are impacted. Imports are hurt more than exports. This is leading to introducing hurdles in India's Ease of Doing Business aim. The faceless system is indeed welcome but the customs officials need proper training for achieving the intent."

Dinesh Dua, Chairman, Pharmexcil says, "Faceless assessment seriously affecting the industry & will further slow down the recovery of GDP."

Customs fresh circular

Taking cognizance of the on-ground challenges, customs issued a fresh circular on 12th October, which provides a dashboard for better monitoring of all pending clearances and gives a guide to the field formations to reduce pendency in real-time. In this circular, customs has given various scenarios to ensure a smooth rollout. It also provides a window for grievance redressal.

Not just this, in Delhi, the delays have further accentuated due to a massive labour strike at air cargo which is delaying the courier services as well, sources said.

Raman Raj Sud, President, Delhi Custom Broker Association told CNBC-TV18, "The industry is facing challenges, due to the pandemic and these two issues are adding to the woes."