

**Record of Discussion on Annual Meeting with Inspection Agencies**  
**EIC Inspection Agency Recognition Scheme 2012 & Physical verification (Certificate of Origin)**  
**20<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

In order to standardize the physical verification process for issuing GSP certificates through recognized Inspection Agencies, EIC has invited the Agencies for discussion on the available opportunity for conducting physical verification under Certificate of Origin Scheme on 20 July 2016.

The Agenda for the meeting are as under:

1. EIC IARS-2012 overview, concerns and feedback.
2. Citizen charter
3. Digitalization
4. Exploring the possibility for physical verification

**The key concerns of the Inspection Agencies (IAs) are summarized below:**

1. There are delays (more than six months) in getting recognition and publication of notification process.
2. IA has requested to have an open view of auditors with respect to Legal identity of crushing shade, Rent/lease agreement for three years as many times state authorities are giving for 11 months.

**Based on the deliberations made by IAs & EIC, following decisions have been agreed by Competent Authority with respect to EIC IARS 2012 and citizen charter:**

1. Citizen charter is mutually agreed by all the Inspection Agencies.
2. IA will deposit recognition fee in advance within 15 days from date of intimation & will send quarterly statement on inspection activity within 15 days from quarter end.
3. EIC will ensure that address proof may be considered for crushing shade. Validity of rent/lease agreement for a period of 11 months may be accepted.
4. EIC will expedite with DoC, MoCI to get file cleared within 30 days.
5. Renewal application may be submitted nine months in advance by IA
6. Inspection fees charged by IA needs to be harmonized for which IAs will be providing confidential feedback to EIC by 30. August 2016. EIC may evaluate the proposals from the agencies & decide maximum inspection fee & a call will be taken to publish maximum inspection fees in Gazette notification.

There were detailed deliberations on physical verification process wherein EIC explained the requirement, expectations of the work and responded to queries raised by Inspection Agencies.

**Based on the representation on Physical verification (certificate of origin) decisions have been agreed by Competent Authority:**

1. Inspection Agencies had shown their inclination towards carrying out this work based on available technical competence and economic feasibility.
2. IA will provide the interest in carrying out this work along with the list of competent people for physical verification activity
3. EIC will evaluate the resources and conduct training programs at various locations on physical verification process & scheme.
4. Physical verification charges will be paid by EIC to IA & charges will be finalized at later stage.
5. A common checklist will be made for physical verification activity.