

## WEEKLY TRADE UPDATE

### Foreign Trade Update

#### **A. Procedural details concerning the extensions in Import Validity period and Export obligation period in Advance authorizations/ Duty Free Import Authorisations filing.**

Along with the extension of Foreign Trade Policy and Foreign Trade Procedures upto March 31, 2021 (summarized in the DGS Weekly Trade Update- XVI), the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (**DGFT**) also notified that for all existing Advance Authorisations and Duty Free Import Authorisations (**Authorisations**) whose validity is expiring between February 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020, the validity is extended automatically by 6 months from the date of expiry. The procedural details in this regard has been notified vide Policy Circular No. 35/2015-20 dated April 23, 2020, as follows:

1. For Authorisations where no revalidation/export obligation period extension has been granted till date- The relaxations permitted would be updated in the ICEGATE/Customs System automatically based on a defined protocol between the DGFT NIC division and Customs. The NIC division will thereafter send the Regional Authority-wise list of such authorisations to individual RAs with an update script to be run on the local server. In case the revised updates are not available in the ICEGATE system, the exporter may approach the DGFT RA vide email or letter to carry out the necessary amendment. The RAs will thereafter conduct the necessary examinations and make the amendments.
2. For Authorisations where revalidation/export obligation period extension has been granted till date- Due to system architectural issues, automatic update is not possible and therefore, the exporter has to make an amendment request to the DGFT RA vide email or letter. The RAs will thereafter conduct the necessary examinations and make the amendments.
3. For physical (non-EDI) Authorisations- The Authorisations need to be produced physically before the DGFT RA. The RAs will thereafter conduct the necessary examinations and make the amendments.

The above Policy Circular can be accessed vide the following link:

<http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/P%20Circular%20Scan%20No%2035.pdf>

#### **B. SMART Registration – Discontinuation of offline test reports**

Vide Circular dated April 20, 2020, the Bureau of Indian Standards (**BIS**) has introduced SMART Registration, thereby revamping the BIS Registration process. In the revamped process, the applicants will input the details of product to be tested and will generate a 'Test Request' from the Compulsory Registration Scheme website (<https://www.crsbis.in/BIS/>). The BIS recognized

laboratories will accept the product for testing only when accompanied with the online generated Test Request. After testing, the laboratories will issue the Test Report by uploading the report on CRS website against the respective Test Request. The uploaded test report will then be used by the applicants to apply for a new licence/inclusion under the existing licence/ CCL update etc. and no hard copy of the report needs to be submitted to BIS. This will be implemented from June 1, 2020. Any sample(s) submitted to the laboratories for testing subsequent to May 31, 2020 through offline mode will not be accepted for grant of licence/inclusion/CCL/changeover etc. by BIS.

The laboratories are also directed to issue all the Test Reports under SMART Registration by uploading them on CRS website on the same day or the next day of the date of test report, failing which the Test Reports will be liable for rejection. Hard copy of test report(s), if requested by the applicant, may be also issued after uploading the test report on the CRS website.

The above Circular can be accessed vide the following link:

[https://www.crsbis.in/BIS/app\\_srv/tdc/gl/docs/20200420\\_SMART%20Registration.pdf](https://www.crsbis.in/BIS/app_srv/tdc/gl/docs/20200420_SMART%20Registration.pdf)

### **Trade Remedy Measures Update**

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (**DGTR**), Ministry of Commerce and Industry has recently undertaken the following measures concerning trade remedy investigations.

- **April 22, 2020-** Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Plain Medium Density Fibre Board having thickness less than 6mm" originating in and exported from Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Initiation%20Notification%20english.pdf>

- **April 20, 2020-** Timelines for Sunset Review (either 270 days prior to expiry of measure or 240 days prior to expiry of measure with justification of delay) has now been altered to *"180 days prior to the date of expiry of the measure, provided the Designated Authority is satisfied with the genuineness of difficulty faced by the domestic industry in meeting the deadline of 270 days ... The Designated Authority may further relax the timeline prescribed, up to 120 days prior to the expiry of the measure, in rare cases on account of exceptional circumstances."*

This has been done vide an amendment to Trade Notice No. 02/ 2017 dated December 12, 2017.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%2002-2020.pdf>

- **April 20, 2020-** Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Copper & Copper Alloy Flat Rolled Products" originating in and exported from China PR, Korea

RP, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/6-7-20%20English.pdf>

- **April 20, 2020-** Initiation of new shipper review investigation for determination of individual countervailing/ anti-subsidy duty rate for Mis. Shandong Haohua Tire Co., Ltd., China PR (Producer) in the case of anti-subsidy duties imposed on “New/Unused Pneumatic Radial Tyres with or without Tubes and/or flap of Rubber (including Tubeless Tyres), having nominal rim dia code above 16" used in buses and lorries/trucks” originating in or exported from China PR.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/7-8-20%20english.pdf>

- **April 16, 2020-** Initiation of anti-circumvention investigation concerning alleged circumvention of anti-dumping duty imposed on the imports of "Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)” originating in or exported from Russia by imports of "Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)” exported from Korea RP.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/PTFE%20English.pdf>

- **April 16, 2020-** Initiation of mid-term review regarding anti-dumping duty imposed on imports of “Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)” originating in or exported from Russia.

Notification link:

<http://www.dgtr.gov.in/sites/default/files/MTR%20English.pdf>

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