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## Central Excise Tariff Act to be Repealed

- 4 Six Products not in GST to Continue in Central Excise Act, under New Fourth Schedule
- 4 Cesses in Customs Continue (Discrimination against Imports!)
- 4 GST to be Countervailed on Imports, Ditto for State Compensation Tax
- 4 14 Cesses under Excise and Service Tax Repealed (Many More Remain, will they Continue?)

**T**he Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley, on Friday, 31 March 2017 introduced the Taxation Laws (amendment) Bill 2017 in the Lok Sabha.

The Bill seeks to amend the Customs Act 1962, the Customs Tariff Act 1975, the Central Excise Act 1944, the Finance Act, 2001 and the Finance Act, 2005 and to repeal certain enactments.

The Customs Act is proposed to be amended to include "warehouse" in the definition of "customs area" to ensure that an importer would not be required to pay the proposed integrated goods and services tax at the time of removal of goods from a customs station to a warehouse.

The Customs Tariff Act, 1975 is proposed to be amended to provide for levy of integrated goods and services tax and goods and services tax compensation cess on imported goods so as to provide a level playing field to the domestic industry vis-a-vis imported goods.

This Bill also seeks to abolish certain cesses or surcharges which are levied or collected as duty of excise or service tax under various Acts.

### Statement of Objects and Reasons

As the goods and services tax is to be introduced with effect from the 1st day of July, 2017, the following four legislations are in the process of being enacted, namely:—

- (a) the Central Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017;
- (b) the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017;
- (c) the Union Territory Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017;
- (d) the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to the States) Bill, 2017.

2. Consequently, the central excise duty on excisable goods [other than Petroleum Crude, Motor Spirit (Petrol), High Speed Diesel, Aviation Turbine Fuel and Natural Gas], the service tax on taxable services, the value added tax on sale or purchase of goods and certain other taxes shall be subsumed in the goods and services tax. Therefore, it requires certain consequential amendments in the Customs Act, 1962, the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, the Central Excise Act, 1944, the Finance Act, 2001 and the Finance Act, 2005 and repeal of certain enactments.

3. The Customs Act, 1962 provides for removal of goods from a customs station to a warehouse without payment of duty. It is proposed to amend the said Act to include 'warehouse' in the definition of "customs area" to ensure that an importer would not be required to pay the proposed integrated goods and services tax at the time of removal of goods from a customs station to a warehouse. It is also proposed to amend the said Act to insert new provisions therein so as to provide for furnishing of information by specified persons in respect of import

It also seeks to abolish the cess levied on water consumed by certain industries and local authorities under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act 1977.

Some of the key proposals are as under:

1. IGST and Compensation Cess to be levied as additional duty of customs under Section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. This suggests that the current benefits which are available to an importer with regard to whole additional duties of customs would be extended even to IGST and Compensation Cess.

2. Value, for the purpose of IGST and Compensation cess, would be as per the Customs provisions and rules made thereunder.

3. Certain cesses and surcharges which are levied and collected as duties of Central Excise on excisable goods or Service Tax on taxable services to be repealed. However, it would be important to note that Education Cess and Secondary Higher Education Cess on imported goods would continue to be levied and would be imposed on BCD, IGST and Compensation cess portion.

or export of goods, on the lines of the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Central Excise Act, 1944, Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 and the legislations referred to in paragraph 1.

IGST  
4. The Customs Tariff Act, 1975 is proposed to be amended to provide for levy of integrated goods and service tax and goods and services tax compensation cess on imported goods, including valuation thereof, so as to provide a level playing field to the domestic industry vis-à-vis imported goods.

Six Excisable Commodities outside GST Merged into Central

### Indo-Japan CEPA Duty Slashed by 0.5 – 9% on 806 Items

[Customs Notification No. 11 dated 31st March 2017]

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No.69/2011-Customs, dated the 29th July, 2011, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 593 (E), dated the 29th July, 2011, namely :-

In the said notification, for the Table, the following Table shall be substituted, namely:-

[Table is available at [worldtradesScanner.com](http://worldtradesScanner.com)]



Excise Act, 1944. Excise Tariff as such, will be repealed upon birth GST

**5.** Consequent to the proposed repeal of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1944 vide the Central Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017, a new Schedule, namely, the Fourth Schedule is proposed to be inserted in the Central Excise Act, 1944 to provide for classification and duty rates for excisable goods, namely, Petroleum Crude, Motor Spirit (Petrol), High Speed Diesel, Aviation Turbine Fuel and Natural Gas, Tobacco and Tobacco products, which are presently covered under Chapter 24 and Chapter 27 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985, so that the said Schedule will continue to attract central excise duty even after the commencement of the legislations referred to in paragraph 1. Certain consequential amendments are proposed to be made in the Central Excise Act, 1944 also relating to certain definitions, charging sections, provisions of deemed manufacture and insertion of emergency powers to increase the rate of duty, on the same lines as are presently provided in the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

**6.** Cesses and Surcharges Collected as Duties of Excise Abolished

Consequent to the introduction of goods and services tax, the cesses or surcharges levied or collected as duties of central excise on excisable goods or as service tax on taxable services would become irrelevant. The proposed Bill seeks to abolish certain cesses or surcharges which are levied or collected as duty of excise or service tax under various Acts. The proposed Bill also seeks to abolish the cess levied on water consumed by certain industries and by local authorities under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977.

**7.** The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

### Notes on Clauses

**Clause 2** of the Bill seeks to amend clause (11) of section 2 of the Customs Act, 1962 so as to include 'warehouse' in the definition of customs area to ensure that an importer is not asked to pay Integrated Goods and Services Tax at the time of removal of goods from a customs station to a warehouse.

**Clause 3** of the Bill seeks to insert new sections 108A and 108B in the Customs Act, 1962, so as to provide for furnishing of such information in respect of import or export of goods, as may be prescribed by rules, by persons specified therein.

**Clause 4** of the Bill seeks to amend section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to levy Integrated Goods and Service Tax and Goods and Services Tax Compensation Cess on imported goods and/or services.

**Clause 5** of the Bill seeks to amend section 2 of the Central Excise Act, 1944 so as to replace the reference to the First Schedule and the Second Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985, with the reference to the proposed Fourth Schedule to the Central Excise Act, 1944, in the definition of "excisable goods" and "manufacture" and also to delete the reference to "salt" in the definition of "factory".

**Clause 6** of the Bill seeks to amend section 3, the charging section, so as to replace the reference to the First Schedule and the Second Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985, with the reference to the proposed Fourth Schedule to the Central Excise Act, 1944, and to delete the provision for levy of special duty of excise provided

## Japan Gets WTO Panel for Fast Track Action in Steel Safeguard Case

4 India Attempts to Drag the Case Fails as 12 Others Join in as Third Parties

4 Early time Frame Accepted as Safeguard Action Expires in Mar 2018, Japan Fears Loss \$220mn by Then

The dispute settlement body of the WTO, on Monday, agreed to Japan's request for setting up a dispute settlement panel to determine whether India's decision to impose a provisional and then definitive safeguard measure on imports of iron and steel products violate WTO rules. On March 21, India blocked the first request for panel.

India imposed safeguard duties-penal duties to protect vulnerable domestic industry against a surge in imports - on hot-rolled steel products in March 2016 fixed at 20 per cent which is being slowly tapered off but would be in place till March 2018. The safeguard duty is global, that is, it is on imports all countries in the world even though the alleged offender is Japan.

India plea to block time frame on Japan's request to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to put in place early time frames for a "prompt" resolution of its dispute against India's penal duties on steel imports.

New Delhi has argued that there is no rationale for treating this dispute any more urgently than other WTO disputes it was involved in and the same standard should be applied to all disputes.

It generally takes around 18-20 months for settling a dispute at the WTO.

Japan had asked for urgent action since the measure will expire on March 13, 2018, it asked for a prompt resolution of the dispute. Japanese government has reportedly estimated that the

tariffs could cost Japanese steel companies about \$220 million through March 2018.

India said it explained to Japan that the measures in question were wholly consistent with WTO rules and justified by special circumstances. It added that there was no justification to give special treatment to this case.

As many as 12 members including the US, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Korea, Kazakhstan and Vietnam have submitted requests to have third party rights in the dispute.

These countries will have access to reports submitted by both parties in the dispute and also allows them to give comments.

Japan is the second largest steel producer in the world.

India and Japan have implemented a comprehensive free trade agreement in 2011 to give easy access to Japan in the Indian steel market. (The FTADatabase at ABS shows that practically the entire steel sector as listed in Chapters 72 and 73 of the Customs Tariff is zero duty in the Japan case. A few sensitive items are excluded but these too pegged at a low 3.6%.)

Indian industry has time and again demanded to take out the steel sector from the pact. But it can happen only after both the sides agree to do the same.

The bilateral trade between the countries stood at USD 14.51 billion in 2015-16 weighed highly in favour of Japan.



under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 3. Clause 8 of the Bill seeks to insert two new sections 3B and 3C pertaining to emergency power of Central Government to increase the rate of duty of Excise and power of Central Government to amend the proposed Fourth Schedule to the Central Excise Act, 1944, respectively, on the same line as they exist in the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

As Introduced In Lok Sabha

Bill No. 69 of 2017

### The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2017

A BILL further to amend the Customs Act, 1962, the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, the Central Excise Act, 1944, the Finance Act, 2001 and the Finance Act, 2005 and to repeal certain enactments.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

#### Short title and commencement.

**1.** (1) This Act may be called the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint:

Provided that different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the commencement of that provision.

## Chapter I - Customs

### Amendment of section 2

**2.** In the Customs Act, 1962 (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Act), in section 2, in clause (11), after the words "the area of a Customs station", the words "or a warehouse" shall be inserted.

### Insertion of new sections 108A and 108B. Obligation to furnish information.

**3.** In the Customs Act, after section 108, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"**108A.** (1) Any person, being—

(a) a local authority or other public body or association; or

(b) any authority of the State Government responsible for the collection of 5 value added tax or sales tax or any other tax relating to the goods or services; or

(c) an income tax authority appointed under the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961;

(d) a Banking company within the meaning of clause (a) of section 45A of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934; or

(e) a co-operative bank within the meaning of clause (dd) of section 2 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961; or

(f) a financial institution within the meaning of clause (c), or a non-banking financial company within the meaning of clause (f), of section 45-I of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934; or

(h) a State Electricity Board; or an electricity distribution or transmission licensee under the

Electricity Act, 2003, or any other entity entrusted, as the case may be, with such functions by the Central Government or the State Government; or

(i) the Registrar or Sub-Registrar appointed under section 6 of the Registration Act, 1908; or

(j) a Registrar within the meaning of the Companies Act, 2013; or

(k) the registering authority empowered to register motor vehicles under Chapter IV of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988; or

(l) the Collector referred to in clause (c) of section 3 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013; or

(m) the recognised stock exchange referred to in clause (f) of section 2 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956; or

(n) a depository referred to in clause (e) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of 30 the Depositories Act, 1996; or

(o) the Post Master General within the meaning of clause (j) of section 2 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898; or

(p) the Director General of Foreign Trade within the meaning of clause (d) of section 2 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992; or

(q) the General Manager of a Zonal Railway within the meaning of clause (18) of section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989; or

(r) an officer of the Reserve Bank of India constituted under section 3 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934,

who is responsible for maintaining record of registration or statement of accounts or 40 holding any other information under any of the Acts specified above or under any other law for the time being in force, which is considered relevant for the purposes of this Act, shall furnish such information to the proper officer in such manner as may be prescribed by rules made under this Act.

(2) Where the proper officer considers that the information furnished under 45 sub-section (1) is defective, he may intimate the defect to the person who has furnished such information and give him an opportunity of rectifying the defect within a period of seven days from the date of such intimation or within such further period which, on an application made in this behalf, the proper officer may allow and if the defect is not rectified within the said period of seven days or, further period, as the case may be, so allowed, then, notwithstanding anything contained in any other provision of this Act, such information shall be deemed as not furnished and the provisions of this Act shall apply.

(3) Where a person who is required to furnish information has not furnished the same within the time specified in sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), the proper officer may serve upon him a notice requiring him to furnish such information within a period not exceeding thirty days from the date of service of the notice and such person shall furnish such information.

**Penalty for failure to furnish information return.**

**108B.** Where the person who is required to furnish information under section 108A fails to do so within the period specified in the notice issued under sub-section (3) thereof, the proper officer may direct such person to pay, by way of penalty, a sum of one hundred rupees for each day of the

period during which the failure to furnish such information continues.”

**Chapter II Customs Tariff**

**Amendment of section 3.**

**4.** In the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, in section 3, –

(a) in sub-section (2), –

(i) in clause (ii), for item (a), the following item shall be substituted, namely:–

“(a) the duty referred to in sub-sections (1), (3), (5), (7) and (9);”;

(ii) in the proviso, in sub-clause (b), item (ii) shall be omitted;

(b) in sub-section (6), in clause (ii), for item (a), the following item shall be substituted, namely:–

“(a) the duty referred to in sub-sections (5), (7) and (9);”

(c) for sub-sections (7) and (8), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:–  
Maximum IGST Set at 40%

“(7) Any article which is imported into India shall, in addition, be liable to integrated tax at such rate, not exceeding forty per cent. as is leviable under section 5 of Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 on a like article on its supply in India, on the value of the imported article as determined under sub-section (8).  
IGST on Customs Duty + Any Sum Chargeable as Customs Duty but not including Cess or iGST

(8) For the purposes of calculating the integrated tax under sub-section (7) on any imported article where such tax is leviable at any percentage of its value, the value of the imported article shall, notwithstanding anything contained in section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962, be the aggregate of –

(a) the value of the imported article determined under sub-section (1) of section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 or the tariff value of such article fixed under sub-section (2) of that section, as the case may be; and  
(b) any duty of customs chargeable on that article under section 12 of the Customs Act, 1962, and any sum chargeable on that article under any law

for the time being in force as an addition to, and in the same manner as, a duty of customs, but does not include the tax referred to in sub-section (7) or the cess referred to in sub-section (9).  
(11) The duty or tax or cess, as the case may be, chargeable under this 20 section shall be in addition to any other duty or tax or cess, as the case may be, imposed under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force.

(12) The provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and the rules and regulations made thereunder, including those relating to drawbacks, refunds and exemption from duties shall, so far as may be, apply to the duty or tax or cess, as the case 25 may be, chargeable under this section as they apply in relation to the duties leviable under that Act.”

**Excise and Service Tax Cesses Repealed**

**The Third Schedule**

(See section 15)

Year	No.	Short title of enactments	Extent of repeal
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1947	24	The Rubber Act, 1947	Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 9 and section 12
1951	65	The Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951	Section 9
1953	29	The Tea Act, 1953	Clause (c) of section 3, sections 25 and 26 and clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 27
1974	28	The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974	Sections 6, 7 and 8
1976	56	The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1976	The Whole
1977	36	The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977	The whole
1982	3	The Sugar Cess Act, 1982	The Whole
1982	4	The Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982	Sub-section (2) of section 3
1983	28	The Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983	The Whole
2004	23	The Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004	Section 93 2% Education Cess - Excise
2007	22	The Finance Act, 2007	Section 138 1% SHE Excise
2010	14	The Finance Act, 2010	Chapter VII Clean Energy Cess
2015	20	The Finance Act, 2015	Chapter VI Swachh Bharat Cess
2016	28	The Finance Act, 2016	Chapters VI and VII Krishi Kalyan Cess and Infrastructure Cess

## **CBEC Clarification on Legislative Changes to Section 46 and 47 of Customs Act 1962**

### **4 Filing of Self Assessed Bill of Entry**

*[CBEC Circular No. 12 dated 31st March 2017]*

*Subject: Clarification regarding legislative changes relating to Customs Act, 1962 proposed in the Finance Bill, 2017.*

Kind reference is invited to proposals in the Finance Bill, 2017 relating to amendments in sections 46 and 47 of the Customs Act, 1962. These changes would come into effect upon enactment of the said Finance Bill.

2. Clarifications have been requested regarding applicability of the new provisions vis-a-vis arrival of goods and filing of bill of entry.

#### **Changes in Section 46 of the Customs Act**

3. The amendments in the section are aimed at prescribing a late charge for delayed filing of Bill of Entry (BOE). As per the amended Section 46 the importer shall present the bill of entry under sub-section (1) of section 46 before the end of the next day following the day (excluding holidays) on which the aircraft or vessel or vehicle carrying the goods arrives at a customs station at which such goods are to be cleared for home consumption or for warehousing. The free period for filing a BOE is up to the end of the next day following the day (excluding holidays) of arrival of goods **at the place where the clearance for home consumption or warehousing** is to take place.

4. In this regard, Board has amended **Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration) Regulations, 2011 and Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976** to prescribe late charges for delayed filing. Entry Inwards date at sea ports and date of arrival of cargo at the ICD, airports, Land Customs stations etc would be the relevant date for determining the said charges, if any. It has also been clarified in both the regulations that **no charges for late presentation of Bill of Entry shall be liable to be paid where the goods have arrived before the enactment of Finance Bill, 2017.**

*[Notification No. 26/2017-Customs (N.T) dated 31.03.2017 and Notification No.27/2017-Customs (N.T) dated 31.03.2017 refers].*

5. Entry inwards or arrival of the goods (in case of sea cargo or air cargo) is captured in ICES. As is evident from the foregoing, for clearances at ICDs, date of arrival of cargo is critical for determining late charges. Board has, therefore, made amendment in the **Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009** so as to **make it mandatory for the Customs Cargo Service providers** to provide the information about arrival of cargo to the Customs. *[Notification No. 24/2017-Customs (RT) dated 31.03.2017 refers].*

6. Further, CBEC has amended notification No. 40/2012-Customs dated appointing Additional/Joint Commissioner rank officer as the proper officer for considering the requests for waiver of late charge under second proviso to sub-section (3) of section 46. Board expects that this power is invoked in cases where there is no wilful delay

in filing the BoE so that waiver is granted only in bonafide cases. *[Notification No. 25/2017-Cus (RT) dated 31.03.2017 refers].*

#### **Changes in Section 47 of the Customs Act**

Sub-section (2) of section 47 is being amended so as to provide the manner of payment of duty and interest thereon in the case of self-assessed BoE or as the case may be assessed, re-assessed, provisionally assessed BoEs. The existing provision is that a time period of two days is given to an importer to pay customs duty from the time of return of bill of entry. The implication of proposed

*[Customs Notification No. 24 (Non Tariff) dated 31st March 2017]*

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section/4n 141 read with section 157 of the Customs Act, 1962(52 of 1962), the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009, namely:-

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulations, 2017.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

*[Customs Notification No. 25 (Non Tariff) dated 31st March 2017]*

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (34) of section 2 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 40/2012-Customs (N.T.), dated the 2nd May, 2012, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary,

*[Customs Notification No. 26 (Non Tariff) dated 31st March 2017]*

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 157 read with section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962(52 of 1962), the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Bill of Entry(Electronic Integrated Declaration) Regulations, 2011, namely:-

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration) Amendment Regulations, 2017.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Bill of Entry(Electronic Integrated Declaration) Regulations, 2011, the following regulation, regulation 4, shall be substituted, namely:-

“Regulation 4. (1) The authorised person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the next day following the day (excluding holidays) on which the aircraft or vessel or vehicle carrying the goods arrives at a customs station at which such goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing.

(2) The bill of entry shall be deemed to have been filed and self-assessment of duty completed when, after entry of the electronic integrated declaration in the Indian Customs Electronic Data

amendment is that the importer shall have to make payment of duty on the same day in case of self-assessed BoE and in case of re-assessment or provisional assessment, within one day after the return of BoE. In this regard, it is further clarified that:

All BoEs filed before the enactment of Finance Bill, 2017 shall be governed by the provisions of section 47 as it stood immediately before the date of such enactment except where such BoE is re-assessed, provisionally assessed on or after the said enactment, the importer shall have one day (excluding holidays) instead of two days for payment of duty. BoEs filed on the date of enactment or thereafter shall be subject to the new provisions.

7. Difficulties faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board at the earliest.

*F.No. 450/10/2017-CusIV*

2. In the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009, in regulation 6, in sub-regulation (1), after clause (a), following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(aa) Provide information regarding arrival of the imported goods to the Deputy Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of Customs immediately on arrival of said goods in the customs area and also information about their departure after the clearance thereof”.

*[F.No.450/ 114/ 2015 -Cus IV]*

Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), vide number S.O. 993 (E), dated the 2nd May, 2012, namely:- In the said notification, in the Table, in column (3) against serial number 2, for the existing item (i), the following item shall be substituted, namely:- “(i) Second proviso to sub-sections (3), and (5) of section 46; and”.

*[F.No.450/32/2016-Cus IV]*

Interchange System either through ICEGATE or by way of data entry through the service centre, a bill of entry number is generated by the Indian Customs Electronic Data Interchange System for the said declaration.

(3) Where the bill of entry is not filed within the time specified in sub-regulation (1) and the proper officer of Customs is satisfied that there was no sufficient cause for such delay, the importer shall be liable to pay charges for late presentation of the bill of entry at the rate of rupees five thousand per day for the initial three days of default and at the rate of rupees ten thousand per day for each day of default thereafter:

Provided that where the proper officer is satisfied with the reasons of delay, he may waive off the charges referred to in the second proviso to sub-section (3) of section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962).

(4) No charges for late presentation of Bill of Entry shall be liable to be paid where the entry inwards or arrival of cargo, as the case may be, has taken place before the date on which the Finance Bill, 2017 receives the assent of the President.”

*[F.No.450/32/2016-Cus IV]*

**[Customs Notification No. 27 (Non Tariff) dated 31st March 2017]**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 157 read with section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976, namely:-

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Bill of Entry (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2017. (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

1. In the Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976, after regulation 3, the following regulation shall be inserted, namely;

"Regulation 4. (1) The importer or a person authorised by him who has a valid licence under the Customs Broker Licensing Regulations, 2013, shall present the bill of entry before the end of the next day following the day (excluding holidays) on which the aircraft or vessel or vehicle carrying the goods arrives at a customs station at which such

goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing.

(2) Where the bill of entry is not presented within the time specified in sub-regulation (1) and the proper officer of Customs is satisfied that there was no sufficient cause for such delay, the importer shall be liable to pay charges for late presentation of the bill of entry at the rate of rupees five thousand per day for the initial three days of default and at the rate of rupees ten thousand per day for each day of default thereafter:—

Provided that where the proper officer is satisfied with the reasons of delay, he may waive off the charges referred to in the second proviso to sub-section (3) of the section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962).

(3) No charges for late presentation of Bill of Entry shall be liable to be paid where the entry inwards or arrival of cargo, as the case may be, has taken place before the date on which the Finance Bill, 2017 receives the assent of the President."

[F.No.450/32/2016-Cus IV]

**[Customs Notification No. 28 (Non Tariff) dated 31st March 2017]**

In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 47 and section 156 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules to amend the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Deferred Payment of Import Duty (Amendment) Rules, 2017.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In rule 5 of the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016, for the clauses (a) to (d), the

following clauses shall be substituted, namely: -  
" (a) for goods corresponding to Bill of Entry returned for payment from 1st day to 15th day of any month, the duty shall be paid by the 16th day of that month;

(b) for goods corresponding to Bill of Entry returned for payment from 16th day till the last day of any month other than March, the duty shall be paid by the 1st day of the following month; and

(c) for goods corresponding to Bill of Entry returned for payment from 16th day till the 31st day of March, the duty shall be paid by the 31st March".

[F. No. 450/81/2016-Cus IV]

**Please be Careful in Examining Carpet Consignments for Exports, says DBK Officer**

**[CBEC Circular No. 10 dated 30th March 2017]**

*Subject: Export of carpet under duty drawback – examination of carpets for composition, price determination, etc.*

Attention is invited to Board's Circular no. 69/2000-Cus dated 28.8.2000 providing that for fool-proof and expeditious examination and speedier disbursement of drawback on carpets, the field formations may constitute expert panels consisting of textile experts drawn from the Department and from the Export Promotion Council/Trade. In this connection, Directorate General of Export Promotion (DGEP) vide instruction no. DGEP/SEZ/40/2015 dated 16.10.15 had stressed that market enquiry should be completed by field formations within fifteen days failing which export benefits to the exporters should be released. It was also desired that post-facto action may be taken based on results of enquiry and export benefits be held beyond 15 days only with the written approval of the Commissioner. In any case exports should not be stopped in terms of Board's Circular no. 1/2011-Cus dated 4.1.2011. DGEP vide letter F.No. DGEP/SEZ/40/2015 dated 21.1.2016 had also provided a list of members of Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) whose assistance can be taken when Customs

officials are unable to ascertain the exact composition and actual value of the carpets.

2. It has been brought to the notice of Board by Ministry of Textiles and CEPC that in some cases, Customs field formations had caused damage to the carpets during examination/inspection of export consignments. This has resulted in loss of export order as well as financial loss to exporters.

3. In this context, care must be taken to ensure that export products including carpets should not be damaged or destroyed or cut for taking samples, conducting market enquiry or otherwise.

4. Further, for speedy conduct of enquiry about composition, value, of carpets, besides the nominated members of CEPC, office of Textiles Committee, Mumbai may be contacted where two experts have been posted by the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) for attending to all work related to evaluation of carpets and to sort out the cases being referred to the Textiles Committee, Mumbai by the Customs authorities.

F.No. 609/24/2017-DBK

**Thirteen Foreign Post Offices Notified for Customs Clearances for both Imports and Exports**

**4 System Revamped for E-Commerce Clearance**

**[Customs Notification 31 (NT) dated 31.03.2017]**

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (e) of sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby appoints the post offices mentioned in column (3) of the Table below, situated in the State or, as the case may be, the Union territory, specified in the corresponding entry in column (2) of the said Table, to be foreign post offices for the purposes of clearance of imported goods or export goods.

Table		
SNo.	State or Union territory	Name of post office
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Foreign Post Office, Vijayawada; (ii) Foreign Post Office, Hyderabad.
2	Assam	Foreign Post Office, Guwahati.
3	Delhi	Foreign Post Office, New Delhi.
4	Gujarat	Foreign Post office, Ahmedabad.
5	Jammu and Kashmir	(i) Foreign Post Office, Srinagar; (ii) Foreign Post Office, Leh.
6	Karnataka	Foreign Post Office, Bengaluru.
7	Kerala	Foreign Post Office, Kochi.
8	Maharashtra	(i) Foreign Post Office Mumbai; (ii) Air Parcel Sorting Office, Mumbai.
9	Punjab	Foreign Post Office, Ludhiana.
10	Rajasthan	Foreign Post Office Jaipur.
11	Tamil Nadu	(i) Foreign Post Office (Air), Chennai; (ii) Foreign Post Office (Sea), Chennai.
12	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Foreign Post Office, Kanpur; (ii) Foreign Post Office, Agra; (iii) Foreign Post Office, Varanasi.
13	West Bengal	Foreign Post Office, Kolkata.

[F.No 476/03/2016-LC]

**[Customs Notification 30 (NT) dated 31.03.2017]**

The Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), **No. 63/94 -Customs (NT), dated the 21st November, 1994**, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number S.O. 830 (E), dated the 21st November, 1994, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table, **serial number 8** and the entries relating thereto shall be **omitted**.

[F. No. 476/03/2016- LC]

## ICD can Handle Clearance of Un-shredded Metal Scrap Provided the Scrap Passes thru any Designated Sea Ports

### 4 DGFT Backtracks on Metal Scrap from ICDs

**[DGFT Trade Notice No. 19 dated 30th March 2017]**

*Subject: Clarification regarding Public Notice No 38 dated 6.10.2016 and Public Notice No. 63 dated 27.3.2017.*

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade vide Public Notice No. 38 dated 06.10.2016 had inserted a new sub para (v) to Para 2.54 (d) of Handbook of Procedures (2015-2020) detailing the revised procedure governing import of un-shredded metal scrap. Subsequently, vide Public Notice No. 63 dated 27.03.2017, para 2.54(d)(iv) was amended to reflect the notified designated ports.

2. After issuance of the Public Notice No. 63 dated 27.03.2017, a number of representations have been received seeking clarification on this Public Notice. Accordingly, the followings are clarified:

1. The following entry sea ports are notified ports for import of unshredded metallic scrap: 1. Chennai, 2. Cochin, 3. Ennore, 4. JNPT, 5. Kandla, 6. Mormugao, 7. Mumbai, 8. New Mangalore, 9. Paradip, 10. Tuticorin, 11. Vishakhapatnam, 12. Pipava, 13. Mundra and 14. Kolkata.

II. Further, any ICD can handle clearance of un-shredded metallic scrap provided the same passes through any of the designated sea ports as mentioned above.

III. Notwithstanding the above, import consignments shall be subject to pre-inspection certificate from the country of origin in supersession of the provision in Public Notice No. 23/2015-20 dated 30th June, 2015. However, requirement of Pre-Shipment Inspection Certification (PSIC) will be reviewed with the operationalisation of the mechanism put in place vide Public Notice 38/ dated 06/10/2016 governing the clearance of imports of un-shredded metal scrap, based on assessment of risk associated with un-shredded metal scrap imports.

3. The above issues with the approval of the competent authority.

## Fishing Net from Bangladesh and China under Anti-dumping Investigation on Complaint of Indian Fishnet Manufacturers Association (IFMA)

**[Anti-dumping Initiation Notification F. No.14/44/2016-DGAD dated 31st March 2017]**

*Subject: Anti-Dumping Duty investigation concerning imports of "Fishing Net" originating in or exported from Bangladesh and China PR.*

Indian Fishnet Manufacturers Association has filed a petition before the Designated Authority for initiation of anti-dumping investigation and imposition of anti-dumping duty concerning imports of fishnet from Bangladesh and China PR.

And whereas, the Authority prima facie finds that sufficient evidence of dumping of the subject goods, originating in or exported from the subject countries, 'injury' to the domestic industry and causal link between the alleged dumping and injury exist to justify initiation of an anti-dumping investigation; the Authority hereby initiates an investigation into the alleged dumping, and consequent injury to the domestic industry in terms of Rule 5 of the Rules, to determine the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping and to recommend the quantum of antidumping duty, which if levied, would be adequate to remove the 'injury' to the domestic industry.

AND WHEREAS, the Authority finds that sufficient prima facie evidence of dumping of the subject goods originating in or exported from the subject countries, 'injury' to the domestic industry and causal link between the dumping and 'injury' exists to justify initiation of an anti-dumping investigation. The Authority hereby initiates an investigation into the alleged dumping, and consequent injury to the domestic industry in terms of Rule 5 of the AD Rules, to determine the existence, degree and effect of any alleged dumping and to recommend the quantum of antidumping duty, which if levied would be adequate to remove the 'injury' to the domestic industry.



### Domestic Industry & Standing

The petition has been filed by Indian Fishnet Manufacturers Association on the behalf of the fishnet producers in India representing as the domestic industry of the subject goods.

As per the evidence available on record, the production of the applicant constitutes "a major proportion" of the domestic production. The production of the product under consideration is largely in the unorganized sector in the country. Majority of the Indian producers of subject goods are members of the association.

The applicant has certified that there are no imports of the product under consideration by the petitioner companies from the subject countries. Since the production of the petitioner accounts for "a major proportion" in the total production of the product under consideration in India, the applicant satisfies the standing and constitutes Domestic Industry within the meaning of the Rules. The Authority, therefore, determines that the applicant constitutes eligible domestic industry within the meaning of Rule 2 (b) of the Anti Dumping Rules and the application satisfies the criteria of standing in terms of Rule 5 (3) of the Rules supra.

### Product under consideration

The product under consideration in the present petition is "Fishnet" or "Fishing Net". Fishing Nets are devices made from fibers woven in a grid-like structure. Fishing nets are usually meshes formed by knotting a relatively thin thread. Early nets were woven from grasses, flaxes and other fibrous plant material. Later cotton was used.

### Tariff Value

**[Ref: 23-Cus(NT) dated 31.03.2017]**

Description of goods	Tariff value (USD PMT)
Crude Palm Oil	747
RBD Palm Oil	765
Others – Palm Oil	756
Crude Palmolein	771
RBD Palmolein	774
Others – Palmolein	773
Crude Soya bean Oil	784
Brass Scrap (all grades)	3169
Poppy seeds	2579
Areca nuts	2594
Gold	\$406 per 10 gms
Silver	\$589 per kg

Due to the technical characteristics of Nylon, Nylon fishnet constitutes more than 65-70% of the total fishnet consumption world over. While HPDE is at 25 - 30% of the total fishnets, PP/ Polyester constitute 5-10% of the total demand globally. Present petition includes Nylon Fishing nets only – whether 100% or blended. In case of blended, scope includes fishing nets containing 50% or more Nylon by weight.

The product does not have dedicated classification. The product is being imported under HS code, 560811 10. The customs classification is indicative only and in no way it is binding upon the product scope.

For the purpose of analyzing the imports data, the Authority has relied upon transaction wise DGCI&S data.

### Like Articles

The applicant has claimed that there is no known difference between the subject goods exported from subject countries and that produced by the domestic industry. As submitted by the applicant, the product under consideration produced by the domestic industry and imported from subject countries are comparable in terms of essential product characteristics such as physical & chemical characteristics, manufacturing process & technology, functions & uses, product specifications, pricing, distribution & marketing and tariff classification of the goods. Consumers can use and are using the two interchangeably. The applicant has further claimed that two are technically and commercially substitutable and, hence, should be treated as "like article" under the Rules. Therefore, for the purpose of the present investigation, the Authority treats the subject goods produced by the applicants in India as "Like Article" to the subject goods being imported from the subject countries/territory.

### Normal value

The petitioners have submitted that in absence of reliable information in the public domain on domestic prices of the subject goods in the subject countries, the Normal Value in the subject countries have been estimated on the basis of cost of production; taking into account cost of raw material, cost of utilities and conversion cost of domestic industry, duly adjusted on account of selling, general & administration expenses, plus reasonable profit.

### Export Price

The export price has been claimed by the applicants as weighted average import price into India of the product under consideration by adopting DGCI&S published data. For fair comparison between the normal value and export price, it

is necessary to compare the two at the same level of trade. The export prices being CIF value while the normal values being at ex-factory level, the export prices have been adjusted for ocean freight, marine insurance, commission, inland freight expenses and port expenses.

#### **Dumping Margin**

The normal value has been compared with the export price at ex-factory level. There is sufficient prima facie evidence that the normal value of the subject goods in the subject countries are higher than the ex-factory export price, indicating, that the subject goods are being dumped into the Indian market by the exporters from the subject

countries. The dumping margins are estimated to be above de minimis.

#### **Period of Investigation**

The Period of Investigation (POI) proposed by the applicant is from April 2015 to March 2016 (12 months). However, for enabling the Authority to make required analysis on the basis of more updated data, the Authority has fixed the POI as April 2015 to September 2016 (18 Months). The injury investigation period will however cover the periods 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and period of investigation.

**[Full text available at worldtrades scanner.com]**

## **DGAD Initiates Investigation on Glassware from China and Indonesia on Complaint of Shreno Ltd.**

4 Opal Glassware Anti-dumping Duty Notification will Expire on 8 Aug 2017

4 Normal Value Estimated on Cost of Production

**[DGAD Initiation Notification No. 14/45/2016 – DGAD dated 28th March 2017]**

*Subject: Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of “Glassware” originating in or exported from People’s Republic of China and Indonesia.*

M/s Shreno Limited - Glass Division has filed an application before the Designated Authority for initiation of antidumping investigation and imposition of anti-dumping duty concerning imports of Glassware from People’s Republic of China and Indonesia.

And whereas, the Authority finds sufficient prima facie evidence of dumping of the subject goods, originating in or exported from the subject countries, ‘injury’ to the domestic industry and causal link between the alleged dumping and ‘injury’ exists justifying initiation of an anti-dumping investigation, the Authority hereby initiates an investigation into the alleged dumping, and consequent injury to the domestic industry in terms of Rule 5 of the Rules, to determine the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping and to consider recommending an amount of antidumping duty, which if levied, would be adequate to remove the ‘injury’ to the domestic industry.

#### **Product under consideration and Like Articles**

The petitioner has alleged that Soda-lime Glassware for Table, Kitchen, Toilet, Office or Indoor Decoration purposes, (excluding Borosilicate Glassware and Opal Glassware) are being exported to India from the subject countries at dumped prices which is affecting the like product domestic industry in India.

Glass is a non-crystalline, amorphous and generally transparent solid material manufactured primarily from Silica (sand), which is combined with varying compositions of other additives. These additives - like lime stone, alumina, dolomite and soda ash or borax – impart different physical and chemical properties as desired for different applications. The term “Glassware” describes any article or object made of glass. Depending upon the composition of glass and other properties the glassware is classified as ‘Soda lime glassware, Borosilicate glassware, Opal Glassware. Nowadays, glassware is being increasingly used in hotels and households for storage, preparation, preservation, cooking and serving of fresh, cooked and preserved food.

The petitioner is a producer of Soda Lime Glassware, which covers all type of tableware, drink ware, kitchenware and giftware “for table, kitchen, toilet, office, indoor decoration or similar

purposes”, for regular and long term use by hotels, restaurants, caterers, corporate and households – whether for storage or service. The petitioner has alleged dumping of only Soda lime glassware and has claimed that there is no difference between the soda lime glassware produced by them and imported from China and Indonesia.

Therefore, for the purpose of this examination the product under consideration (herein after also referred to as the subject goods) is being defined as follows:

“All types of Soda-lime Glassware for Table, Kitchen, Toilet, Office or Indoor Decoration purposes”. The product under consideration excludes Borosilicate Glassware and Opal Glassware. The product under consideration also does not cover glass bottles used for packaging industry.

#### **Product classification**

Subject goods are classified under chapter 70 of Customs Tariff Act, 1975 under the sub-heading 7013 at 4-digit level. The products are covered under ITC HS 701329, 701337, 701339, 701349 and 701499. The Custom classification is indicative only and not binding on the scope of investigation. The product attracts 10% basic duty. However, for Indonesia this product is covered under ASEAN FTA attaching concessional duties.

#### **Domestic Industry & Standing**

The petition has been filed by Shreno Limited - Glass Division. There are other producers in the unorganized sector. The petitioner commands a major proportion of the total domestic production of the subject goods. The petitioner is not related to the exporters or importers of the alleged dumped article. The petitioner has not imported the dumped articles from subject countries. Therefore, the applicant commands standing in terms of Rule 5 (3) of the Rules to file this application. Since the applicant commands a major proportion of the domestic production, it constitutes the domestic industry, within the meaning of the terms under Rule 2 (b), for the purpose of injury investigation. Accordingly, the application is deemed to have been filed on behalf of the domestic industry.

#### **Evidence of Dumping**

The petitioner has submitted that in the absence of availability of reliable information in the public domain on domestic prices of the subject goods in the subject countries the Normal values in the subject countries have been estimated on the

basis of cost of production, taking into account prevailing prices of raw materials and utilities in those countries, conversion costs of the most efficient domestic industry, and duly adjusted selling, general & administration expenses, plus a reasonable profit.

Net ex-works export prices of the subject goods exported from the subject countries have been estimated on the basis of import data obtained from DGCI&S for the proposed period of investigation after due adjustments toward ocean freight and marine insurance; port expenses, inland freight, commission and bank charges; and VAT adjustments, wherever applicable on facts available basis.

The above estimation of the Normal Values and Export Prices indicates that there is sufficient prima facie evidence that the subject goods are being exported from the subject countries to India at significantly dumped prices and the dumping margins are above de-minimis.

#### **Evidence of Injury and Causal Link**

The applicant has claimed that they have suffered material injury because of cumulative volume and price impacts of the dumped imports from the subject countries. Information provided by the petitioners indicates that there has been significant rise in the volume of dumped imports during the period under examination despite moderation of demand in the country and availability of capacity in the country. The production and capacity utilization of the domestic industry has been significantly affected. The price realization also continues to be significantly below the cost of sales, apparently because of the volume and price effects of dumped imports leading to significant financial losses. Therefore, prima facie it appears that the applicant domestic industry is suffering material injury in terms of production loss, negative profits and negative return on investments due to the volume and price effects of the dumped imports from the subject countries.

#### **Initiation of the Investigation**

And Whereas, having regard to the above Rules, the Authority finds sufficient prima facie evidence of dumping of the subject goods, originating in or exported from the subject countries; injury to the domestic industry and causal link between the alleged dumping and injury, to justify initiation of an anti-dumping investigation to determine the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping and to recommend the amount of antidumping duty, which if levied, would be adequate to remove the ‘injury’ to the domestic industry. Accordingly, the Authority hereby initiates an investigation into the alleged dumping, and consequent injury to the domestic industry in terms of Para 5 of the Rules.

#### **Product under investigation**

The product under investigation is defined as follows:

“All types of Soda-lime Glassware for Table, Kitchen, Toilet, Office or Indoor Decoration purposes”. The product under consideration excludes Borosilicate Glassware and Opal Glassware. The product under consideration also does not cover glass bottles used for packaging industry.

#### **Period of Investigation (POI)**

The period of investigation for the present investigation is from April 2015- September 2016 (18 months). The injury investigation period shall cover the periods 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and the period of investigation.

**[Full text available at worldtrades scanner.com]**

**Foreign Passport Holders can Exchange Currency upto any Limit**

**4 Status quo Ante Restored**

**[RBI Circular No. 42 dated 30th March 2017]**

*Sub: Purchase of foreign exchange from foreign citizens and others*

Attention of Authorized Persons is invited to the A.P. (DIR Series) Circulars No. 20, 22 and 24 dated November 25, 2016, December 16, 2016 and January 3, 2017 respectively, permitting foreign citizens (i.e. foreign passport holders) to exchange foreign exchange for Indian currency notes up to a limit of Rs. 5000/- per week till January 31, 2017.

2. On a review of the provisions contained in these circulars, in line with restoration of limits on cash withdrawals from bank accounts and ATMs, it has been decided to restore status quo ante regarding purchase of foreign exchange from

customers by authorised persons as mentioned in paragraph 4.4 (e) (iii) of Annex to A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No.17 dated November 27, 2009.

3. Authorised Persons may follow the above instructions and bring the contents of this circular to the notice of their constituents.

4. The directions contained in this circular have been issued under Section 10(4) and Section 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) and are without prejudice to permissions / approvals, if any, required under any other law.

**India on the Mat over MSP on Wheat Export Subsidy, Pulse Stocking**

In a Committee meeting, Australia asked why the Indian government had continued to raise minimum support prices for wheat to close to US\$320 per tonne, given that world wheat prices remain much lower at around US\$147 per tonne. Purchase prices depended on cultivation costs as well as market prices, New Delhi responded.

Canada, the EU, Ukraine, and the US were among the WTO members also expressing interest in this question.

In a separate question, the US also conducted a detailed breakdown of the cost of wheat exported from India's stocks, estimating that this was US\$35 more per metric tonne than the minimum export price established by the government.

Canada also asked why India was creating a two million tonne buffer stock of pulses.

India is also being questioned on non-furnishing of agri subsidy detail to WTO since 2010.

**Solar Energy Subsidies in US, India has Panel**

A panel was established to hear India's complaint (DS510) over renewable energy incentives in eight US states, in light of previous claims by New Delhi that these incentives have been made contingent on meeting domestic content requirements. India tabled its request for consultations on the subject last September. The states involved are California, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota,

Montana, and Washington.

At the meeting, the US said it would "vigorously defend" those measures, while also arguing that India's renewable energy equipment exports to the US are limited. "The state-level programmes identified in India's request would appear to have virtually no effect on commerce at all," the US added.

**WIndex No. 02 (05 – 11 April 2017)**

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**Vanaja N. Sarna Appointed CBEC Chief for 15 Months, No Extension to Najeeb Shah**

**4 Ananya Ray and Ram Tirath Bye Passed**



Ms. Vanaja N. Sarna, IRS (C&CE:1980) presently holding the charge as Member (Administration), has been appointed as Chairman, Central

Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC). She is taking over on superannuation of Shri Najib Shah, IRS (C&CE:79) today i.e. 31.03.2017.

Ms. Vanaja N. Sarna has served Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) in several capacities over the last 36 years. These include postings in Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax formations in Kochi, Delhi, Chennai, Meerut, Chandigarh and Bangalore. She has also worked as Additional Director General, National Academy of Customs, Excise & Narcotics (NACEN), in Chennai. She was also Additional Director General in Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence, New Delhi. She also served on deputation as Under Secretary, Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and as Director/ Joint Secretary in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

Prior to becoming Member, Central Board of Excise and Customs, she held the charge of Director General of Vigilance and Chief Vigilance Officer of the Department.

**Customs Exchange Rates**

**[As on 22 March 2017]**

Currency	Imports	Exports
<b>1 FC = IC</b>		
US Dollar	66.20	64.50
EURO	71.30	68.85
Pound Sterling	81.55	78.85
Australian Dollar	51.10	49.35
Bahrain Dinar	179.50	167.40
Canadian Dollar	49.85	48.30
Chinese Yuan	9.65	9.30
Danish Kroner	9.60	9.25
Hong Kong Dollar	8.55	8.30
Kuwait Dinar	221.10	206.80
Newzeland Dollar	46.50	44.85
Norwegian Kroner	7.80	7.55
Qatari Riyal	18.55	17.55
Saudi Arabian Riyal	18.00	16.85
Singapore Dollar	47.20	45.75
South African Rand	5.25	4.90
Swedish Kroner	7.50	7.25
Swiss Franc	66.50	64.20
UAE Dirham	18.40	17.20
<b>100 FC = IC</b>		
Japanese Yen	58.55	56.65
Kenya Shilling	65.75	61.45

*[F.No.468/01/2017-Cus.V]*

**[Ref: 22-Cus (NT) dated 16 March 2017]**