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Customs Duty on Most Steel Raised by 2.5%; 5% Items go to 7.5%, 7.5% up to 10%

Semi Finished Steel, Bars and Rods, CR and HR Coils of
Carbon Steel and Stainless Steel Affected



Ntfn 39 In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-
16.06.2015 section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act,
(DoR) 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. **12/2012-Customs, dated
the 17th March, 2012**, which was published in the Gazette of
India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide
number G.S.R. 185(E), dated the 17th March, 2012, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table,-
(i) against S. No. **330**, for the entry in column (2), the entry "72
(except 7202 60 00, 7208, 7209, 7210, 7211, 7212, 7225 3090,
7225 4019, 7225 50 or 7225 9900)" shall be substituted;
(ii) against S. No. **334**, for the entry in column (2), the entry "7206,
7207, 7213, 7214, 7215, 7216, 7217, 7219, 7220, 7221, 7222,
7223, 7225 (except 7225 11 00, 7225 3090, 7225 4019, 7225 50
or 7225 9900), 7226 (except 7226 11 00), 7227 or 7228" shall be
substituted.
[F.No. 354/58/2015-TRU-(Part-I)]

SNo	Chapter/Heading (Old)	Chapter/ Heading (New)	Description of goods	Standard rate (Old)	Standard rate (New)
329A	72		All goods	10%	No Change
330.	72 (except 72026000)	72 (except 7202 60 00, 7208, 7209, 7210, 7211, 7212, 7225 3090, 7225 4019, 7225 50 or 7225 9900)"	All goods other than the following:- (i) goods mentioned against S. Nos. 331, 332, 333 and 334 (ii) seconds and defectives of goods falling under Chapter 72	5%	5%
334.	7208, 7209, 7240, 7244, 7242, 7219, 7220, 7225 30 90, 7225 40 19, 7225 50 or 7225 99 00	7206, 7207, 7213, 7214, 7215, 7216, 7217, 7219, 7220, 7221, 7222, 7223, 7225 (except 7225 11 00, 7225 3090, 7225 4019, 7225 50 or 7225 9900), 7226 (except 7226 11 00), 7227 or 7228	All goods other than seconds and defectives	7.5%	7.5%
		7208, 7209, 7210, 7211, 7212		7.5%	10%
		7225 3090, 7225 4019, 7225 50 or 7225 9900		7.5%	10%

Interpol, WCO Link Up with Pharma to Crackdown on "Illicit" Medicines

- Pharma Producers in Third World and Consumers Affected
- International Intra Government Bodies Sing to the Tune of MNCs
- UN Principles of National Sovereignty Violated

236 enforcement agencies across 115 countries have taken part in Operation Pangea VIII targeting criminal networks behind the sale of fake medicines, resulting in 156 arrests worldwide and the seizure of more than USD 81 million worth of potentially dangerous medicines.

The Operation led to the launch of 429 investigations, the removal of more than 365 adverts for illicit pharmaceuticals via social media platforms and more than 2,414 websites shut down.

Operation Pangea VIII was coordinated by INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the Permanent Forum of International Pharmaceutical crime (PFIPC), the Heads of Medicines Agencies Working Group of Enforcement Officers (HMA WGEO), the pharmaceutical industry and the electronic payments industry.

As well as raids at addresses linked to the illicit pharmaceutical websites, some 149,623 packages were inspected by Customs and regulatory authorities, of which nearly 50,068 were seized during the international week of action (9 – 16 June).

Among the 81 million fake and illicit medicines seized during the operation were cancer medication, infective medication, blood medication, cardiovascular medication, demagogical medication and nutritional products.

Throughout Operation Pangea VIII, INTERPOL's General Secretariat headquarters in Lyon served as the central hub for information exchange among the participating countries and agencies. From this base, the WCO coordinated activities between the 80 participating Customs administrations, via the WCO's secure communication tool CENcomm, and the Pangea team.

WCO adopts HS2017 New Classification to replace HS2012 from 1st January 2017

- Non-Alcoholic beer gets new code 2202.91 and 2202.99
- Multi-component ICs (MCO) recognized separately under heading 8542
- New Codes for Strategic Trade Items for Food Security, Chemical Weapons
- New deal for Electric Vehicles under heading 8702 and 8703

-Asim Goyal-

The Indian Customs and Excise organizations will implement in the new tariff and statistical systems. It is expected that Budget 2016 will take these changes on board for implementation for 1 January 2017 with corresponding changes in the eight digit ITC (HS) codes. However a major exercise to revise the eight digit codes which are more than 15 years old is required. This is especially so since domestic trade items for excise and VAT are poorly represented. In quite a few cases 8 digit codes are faulty or poorly formulated.

The new HS2017 code tries to capture the advances in technology. Major changes included the size criteria for newsprint, light-emitting diode (LED) lamps, multi-component integrated circuits (MCOs), and hybrid, plug-in hybrid and all-electric vehicles.

The new version of the HS includes 234 sets of amendments. Environmental and social issues are a major feature of these amendments, due to the importance of the HS as a global tool for collecting trade statistics and monitoring trade. This is borne out by the fact that the HS Convention currently has 150 Contracting Parties, making it the WCO's most successful international instrument to date.

The majority of the recommended amendments were broached by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):

- Amendments relating to fish and fishery products are aimed at further enhancing the coverage of species and product forms which need to be monitored for food security purposes, and the better management of resources.
- Amendments relating to crustaceans, molluscs and other invertebrates are motivated by the importance of the trade in and consumption of these species in their various product forms.
- Amendments relating to cuttlefish and squid enlarge the coverage of the present HS codes for these species, in order to have all these species grouped together.

The classification of forestry products has also been modified, in order to enhance the coverage of wood species and get a better picture of trade patterns. The modification will enable trade data on tropical wood to be identified, resulting in better statistics on the trade in tropical wood and better data on the use of non-tropical hardwoods.



In addition, the amendments include new sub-headings for the monitoring and control of certain bamboo and rattan products.

Furthermore, HS 2017 amendments aim to provide detailed information on several categories of products that are used as anti-malarial commodities. This will facilitate classification work, and the trade in these life-saving products.

The amendments also introduce specific subheadings to facilitate the collection and comparison of data on the international movement of certain substances controlled under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

New subheadings have also been created for a number of hazardous chemicals controlled under the Rotterdam Convention and for certain persistent organic pollutants (POPs) controlled under the Stockholm Convention. In some cases, there is a confluence of control regimes for chemicals by both the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

In addition, new subheadings have been created for the monitoring and control of pharmaceutical preparations containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or norephedrine, and for *alpha*-phenylacetoacetonitrile (APAAN), a pre-precursor for drugs.

Other amendments resulted from changes in international trade patterns. Headings 69.07 (unglazed ceramic products) and 69.08 (glazed ceramic products) were merged to take account of the fact that the main subheadings within these headings concern products which are essentially no longer manufactured, and the industry and trade no longer make a distinction between unglazed and glazed ceramic products, whilst new products with a very high trade volume are classified under subheadings 6907.90 and 6908.90 ("Other").

Finally, the HS 2017 Recommendation includes amendments to clarify texts to ensure uniform application of the nomenclature. For example, the regrouping of monopods, bipods, tripods and similar articles were given a new heading, namely 96.20.

The WCO Council, at its 123rd/124th Sessions in June 2014, adopted a Recommendation that lists recommended amendments to the Harmonized System (HS) nomenclature which will enter into force on 1 January 2017 as HS 2017.

This Recommendation is being promulgated under the provisions of Article 16 of the HS Convention, which implies that HS Contracting Parties now have six months to notify the WCO Secretariat of an objection to a recommended amendment.

Since the entry into force of the current version of the HS (HS 2012), the HS Committee has been revising this version of the HS nomenclature for almost five years. HS 2017 will be

GST Committees Formed for Drafting Law Impact Assessment

Finance Minister has approved the formation of 2 Committees for facilitating implementation of Goods and Services Tax from 1.4.2016.

A Steering Committee been formed under the Co-Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Revenue and Member Secretary, Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers. This Committee has Members from Department of Revenue, Central Board of Excise & Customs, Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) and representatives of State Governments. This Committee shall monitor the progress of IT preparedness of GSTN/CBEC/Tax authorities, finalisation of reports of all the Sub-Committees constituted on different aspects relating to the mechanics of GST and drafting of CGST, IGST and SGST laws/rules. The Committee shall also monitor the progress on consultations with various stakeholders like trade and industry and training of officers.

Another Committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of the Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance to recommend possible tax rates under GST that would be consistent with the present level of revenue collection of Centre and States. While making recommendations, this Committee would take into account expected levels of growth of economy, different levels of compliance and broadening of tax base under GST. The Committee would also analyse the Sector-wise and State-wise impact of GST on the economy. The Committee is expected to give its report within two months.

Meanwhile, progress is underway to finalise various aspects of GST design like business processes, payment systems, matters relating to dual control, threshold, exemptions, place of supply rules and also making of model GST, SGST and IGST laws and rules. This task is being undertaken through various Sub-Committees formed by the Empowered Committee which has officers from Government of India as well as State Governments as Members.

Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) is taking steps for preparing the IT infrastructure for roll out of GST. The IT infrastructure shall enable online registration, filing of returns and getting refunds. Various State Governments are also preparing the necessary back end IT infrastructure for implementation of GST which shall relate to aspects like assessments and audit.

Periodic reviews are being held in the Department of Revenue to monitor the progress of all the above activities.

the sixth version of the HS since the Convention entered into force in 1983. HS 2017 will enter into force for all HS Contracting Parties, but will exclude any amendments objected to during the six month timeframe.

The WCO Secretariat has also prepared requisite tables correlating the 2012 and 2017 versions of the harmonized system in accordance with the instructions received from the Harmonized System Committee. The tables have a purpose of facilitating the implementation of the 2017 version of the Harmonized System.

Crude Steady at \$61

Crude Oil (Indian Basket) from 17 to 23 June 2015

	17 June	18 June	19 June	22 June	23 June
(\$/bbl)	61.71	62.00	61.58	60.86	61.40
(Rs/bbl)	3956.23	3958.70	3930.04	3865.22	3907.50
(Rs/\$)	64.11	63.85	63.82	63.51	63.64

(Previous Trading Day Price)

Source: Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

WEEKLY INDEX OF CHANGES

DGFT Notifies New Format for PSIA Bank Guarantee

Subject: Format of Bank Guarantee, to be executed with DGFT, for recognition as Pre-Shipment Inspection Agency (PSIA).

21-PN(RE)
23.06.2015
(DGFT)

In exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby inserts Appendix 2N-1 in the Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms of the Handbook of Procedures, 2015-20, as annexed to this Public Notice, prescribing a new Bank Guarantee For-

mat, to be executed with DGFT, for recognition as Pre-Shipment Inspection Agency.

2. Effect of this Public Notice

For recognition of PSIA, Bank Guarantee is to be executed with DGFT. Bank Guarantee Format for the same is hereby notified.

[Appendix available at our website www.worldtradesScanner.com]

Customs Disallows Free of Cost Export above Rs. 25k through Courier MEIS Exports in B to C Channel upto Rs. 25k Allowed through Courier

62-Cus(NT)
17.06.2015
(DoR)

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 157 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of

Excise and Customs, hereby makes the following amendments to amend the Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Regulations, 1998, namely :-

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Amendment Regulations, 2015.

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

2. In the Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Regulations, 1998 (hereinafter referred to as the said regulations), in regulation 2, in sub-regulation (2), in clause (e),-

(a) for the sub-clause (iii), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“goods proposed to be exported under Duty Exemption Schemes, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme or any other similar export promotion schemes:

Provided that this sub-clause shall not apply to goods notified in Appendix 3C of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), proposed to be exported from Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai airports under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) in consignment of value upto rupees twenty five thousand and involving transaction in foreign exchange;”;

(b) for the sub-clause (iv), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“goods, other than the goods specified in Appendix 3C of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), in respect of which the proper officer directs the filing of shipping bill or bill of export in the prescribed form;”;

(c) the proviso to sub-clause (v) shall be omitted.

3. In the said regulations, in regulation 6, after sub-regulation (3) and before the existing proviso, (a) the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:- “Provided that for the goods specified in Appendix 3C of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), such entry shall be made in the form prescribed in the Shipping Bill and Bill of Export (Form) Regulations, 1991.”;

(b) in the existing proviso, after the word “Provided”, the word “further” shall be inserted.

4. In the said regulations, in the Form Courier Shipping Bill-II (CSB-II), in the Declaration, for clause (ii), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(ii) I / We hereby declare that the goods for export as per this Shipping Bill include only bonafide commercial samples and prototypes of goods of a value not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- per consignment and bonafide gifts of articles for personal use of a value not exceeding Rs. 25,000/- per consignment and which are for the time being not subject to any prohibition or restriction on their export from India and on export of which no transfer of foreign exchange is involved”.

5. In the said regulations, in the Form Courier Bill of Export- II (CBEx-II), in the Declaration, for clause (ii), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(ii) I / We hereby declare that the goods for export as per this Shipping Bill include only bonafide commercial samples and prototypes of goods of a value not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- per consignment and bonafide gifts of articles for personal use of a value not exceeding Rs. 25,000/- per consignment and which are for the time being not subject to any prohibition or restriction on their export from India and on export of which no transfer of foreign exchange is involved”.

[F. No. 450/04/2013-Cus IV]

Addl DGFT Mumbai Constitutes Ten Member Committee for Disputes between Buyers and Sellers

[Ref: Addl DGFT Mumbai Trade Notice 01/2015-16 dated 1 June 2015]

Subject: Formulation of Committee on Quality Complaints & Trade Dispute (CQCTD)

As per Para 8.01 of the Handbook of Procedures of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020, a Committee on Quality Complaints & Trade Dispute (CQCTD) is herewith constituted w.e.f. 1st June, 2015 in the office of the Additional Director General of Foreign Trade, Mumbai. The purpose of the

Committee is to effectively deal with trade disputes and complaints regarding quality.

The jurisdiction of this Committee (CQCTD) would extend to Zonal DGFT, Mumbai, RA Nagpur and RA Panjim. The Committee on Quality Complaints & Trade Dispute (CQCTD) is formulated

herewith with the following members :

1. Additional DGFT., Mumbai: Chairperson
2. Representative from Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS): Member
3. Representative from APEDA: Member
4. Representative from concerned bank: Member (The representatives will vary as per the issues involved)
5. Representative from FIEO/EPCs: Member (The representatives will vary as per the issues involved)
6. Representatives from Export Inspection Agency: Member
7. Nominee of Director of Industries of Government of Maharashtra: Member
8. Nominee of Development Commissioner of MSME Maharashtra: Member
9. Dr. Praveen Kumar, Aast. DGFT., Mumbai : Member Secretary
10. Any other agency as co-opted by Chairperson: Member

The Committee (CQCTD) would look into any application for investigation of quality complaints and/or other trade disputes which are filed in the office of Zonal DGFT, Mumbai/RA Nagpur and RA Panjim in the format given in ANF8 of Appendices and Aayaat Niryaat Forms which are duly supported by self-attested copies of relevant documents.

Further, complaints can also be filed online on DGFT website www.dgft.gov.in. The online complaints pertaining to the jurisdiction of the above Committee (CQCTD formulated above) will be forwarded by the Nodal officer in DGFT to the Addl.DGFT, Mumbai for examination and appropriate action.

The Committee (CQCTD) would investigate on the quality complaint and/or other trade disputes and after giving due opportunity of hearing to both sides, arrive at a conclusion to resolve the matter and the Committee (CQCTD)/RA will take action as considered appropriate.

Mechanism in resolving quality complaint and trade dispute

The mechanism in resolving quality complaint and trade dispute is given in Para 8.04 of Handbook of Procedures of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020. For the interest of trade, the entire procedure is being elucidated as follows regarding quality or other trade disputes.

- The complaint can be received a) from an importer abroad against an Indian exporter and b) from an Indian importer against foreign exporter in the jurisdiction of Zonal DGFT Mumbai, RA Nagpur and RA Panjim.
- The complainant will have to submit an application for investigation of quality complaints and/or other trade disputes to the office of Addl.DGFT., Mumbai in the format given in ANF 8 of Appendices and Aayaat Niryaat Form. The complainant has to duly support his complaint with self-attested photocopies of relevant documents.
- The complainant can also file the complaint online on DGFT website www.dgft.gov.in.
- The complaints received in the DGFT office from the Indian importers against foreign exporters will be forwarded by the Nodal officer in

the concerned Foreign Trade (FT) Division in the Department of Commerce (DoC). FT Division in DoC will take up the complaint with the concerned Embassy/High Commission/Consulate General in India and with concerned Indian Embassy/High Commission abroad for effective resolution of the complaint.

- As stated above, the online complaints per-

taining to the jurisdiction of the above Committee (CQCTD formulated above) will be forwarded by the Nodal officer in DGFT to the Addl.DGFT, Mumbai for examination and appropriate action.

The above Trade Notice is issued herewith for the benefit of trade.

Balat, Kalaichar, Srinagar (Tripura) or Kamalasagar (Tripura) land customs station for sale in Balat, Kalaichar, Srinagar (Tripura) or Kamalasagar (Tripura) border haats, as the case may be;”

2. This notification shall come into force with effect from the 06th day of June, 2015.

F. No. 354/64/2010-TRUJ

Subject: Trade in Border Haats across the border of Tripura between India and Bangladesh

15-PN(RE) In exercise of powers conferred
03.06.2015 under paragraph 2.4 read
(DGFT) with 2.21 of the Foreign Trade
Policy, 2015-20, the Director

General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following arrangements under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated 23.10.2010 between India and Bangladesh:

In terms of the provisions contained in the Foreign Trade Policy, the following commodities will be allowed to be traded in the Border Haats at Kamalasagar, Tripura (India) & Tarapur Kasba (Bangladesh) near border Pillar No-2039:

- Locally produced vegetables, food items, fruits, spices;
- Minor local forest produce e.g. bamboo, bamboo grass and broom stick but excluding timber;
- Products of local cottage industries like Gamcha, Lungi etc;
- Locally produced small agricultural household implements e.g., dao, plough, axe, spade, chisel etc.
- Locally produced garments, melamine products, processed food items, fruit juice, etc.

2. Locally produced' in the above paragraph means 'the produce of the concerned border districts of the designated Haats'. Clarification as to the specific commodity falling under the above list of items will be given by the Haat Management Committee, constituted under Article 1 of the operational guidelines of the MOU.

3. Vendors who are allowed to sell their products in the Border Haats shall be the residents of the area within five (5) km radius from the location of Border Haats. The vendees may offer immediate consumption items of snack foods/juices as may be allowed by the Haat Management Committee.

4. Effect of Public Notice

It operationalises the provisions of Memorandum of Understanding dated 23.10.2010 between India and Bangladesh by facilitating border trade between the two through two new border Haats at Kamalasagar, Tripura on the Indian side and Tarapur Kasba on Bangladesh side.

50-Cus(NT) In exercise of the powers
03.06.2015 conferred by clauses (b) and (c)
(DoR) of sub-section (1) of section 7 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.63/1994-CUSTOMS (NT) dated the 21st November, 1994, published vide number S.O.830(E), dated the 21st November, 1994, namely:-
In the said notification,-

- in the opening paragraph, in the fourth proviso,

Preferential Treatment for Status Holders – e-Applications of Advance Authorisation in 1-2 Working Days Promised

Subject: Preferential Treatment for Status Holders.

04-TN The Para 3.24 of the new
08.06.2015 Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20
(DGFT) provides for certain privileges and preferential treatment for the Status Holders. As per sub para (g) of Para 3.24 of FTP, status holders would be entitled to preferential treatment and priority in handling of their consignments by the concerned agencies.

2. While Para 9.10 of Handbook of Procedure 2015-20 provides for time bound disposal of various applications under FTP, in pursuance to the policy at Para3.24(g) as above, RAs of DGFT should endeavour to extend preferential treatment to the Status Holders in disposal of their applications. Accordingly, the following shortened time lines are laid down for issue of advance authorisation and its subsequent amendments to the status holders:

SNo.	Category of Status Holders	Nature of Application (received through electronic mode)	Timeline for disposal (in working days)
1	5 Star and 4 Star Status Holders	1. Advance Authorisation (where input norms are notified) 2. Revalidation of Advance Authorisation 3. Invalidation of Advance Authorisation	1 day
2	3 Star, 2 Star and 1 Star Status Holders	1. Advance Authorisation (where input norms are notified) 2. Revalidation of Advance Authorisation 3. Invalidation of Advance Authorisation	2 days

3. The Regional Authorities are accordingly advised to ensure that the above timelines are followed scrupulously while processing applications from the Status Holders.

Zero Excise Allowed on Ethanol Produced from Molasses to Oil Companies for Blending with Petrol

32-CE In exercise of the powers
04.06.2015 conferred by sub-section (1)
(DoR) of section 5A of the Central
Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944),
the Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendment in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No.

12/2012-Central Excise, dated the 17th March, 2012, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 163(E), dated the 17th March, 2012, namely: -

In the said notification, in the Table, after Sl.No. 40 and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl.No. and entries shall be inserted, namely:-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
"40A	2207 20 00	Ethanol produced from molasses generated from cane crushed in the sugar season 2015-16 i.e. 1 st October, 2015 onwards, for supply to the public sector oil marketing companies, namely, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. or Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., for the purposes of blending with petrol.	Nil	-".

[F. No. 354/78/2009-TRU (Pt.)]

Kamalasagar (Tripura) LCS in Indo-BDesh Border Haat Notified for Zero Duty Local Produce Import

Ntfn 36 In exercise of the powers
04.06.2015 conferred by sub-section (1)
(DoR) of section 25 of the Customs
Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the
Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendment in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, No. 60/2011-Customs, dated the 14th July, 2011, published

vide number G.S.R. 536(E), dated the 14th July, 2011, namely:-

In the said notification, for condition (i), the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“(i) the importer produces evidence to the satisfaction of the Assistant Commissioner of Customs or Deputy Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, that such goods have, in fact, been locally produced in Bangladesh and are imported into India through the land route from

for the words "Balat, Kalaichar, and Srinagar", the words "Balat, Kalaichar, Srinagar and Kamalasar" shall be substituted;

(ii) in the Table, against serial number 2 relating to the land frontier of Bangladesh, in columns (3) and (4), after the existing entries relating to (55), the following entries shall be inserted, namely:-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		"(56) Kamalasar (Tripura)	"Kamalasar (District Sepahajala, Tripura), Border Pillar No. 2039".

[F.No. 480/11/2012-LC]

DGAD Initiates Investigation on PTA from China, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan on Complaint of Mitsubishi PTA in Haldia

- RIL has Malaysia Subsidiary, Not a Domestic Industry
- Retrospective Duty from 2011 Demanded
- Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan Return to Hit List after Sunset of Previous Impost on Them
- Iran New Entrant in Appeal List
- Second Anti-dumping Action on Same Item on Same Country (China), Medium Quality Terephthalic Acid and Qualified Terephthalic Acid already subjected to provisional duty from 25 July 2014
- No Domestic Price of PTA available in Iran, Malaysia and Taiwan! Artificial Normal Value Adopted to Arrive at Dumping Margin

[Ref: Initiation Notification No. 14/8/2015-DGAD dated 18 June 2015]

Subject: Initiation of Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA), originating in or exported from China PR, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia & Taiwan.

Whereas M/s MCC PTA India Corp. Pvt. Ltd., and M/s Reliance Industries Limited jointly filed an application before the Designated Authority (hereinafter also referred to as the Authority) in accordance with the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended from time to time (hereinafter also referred to as the Act) and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty on Dumped articles and for Determination of injury) Rules, 1995, as amended from time to time (hereinafter also referred to as the Rules) for initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Purified Terephthalic Acid (hereinafter also referred to as the subject goods or PTA), originating in or exported from China PR, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia & Taiwan (hereinafter also referred to as the subject countries).



2. And whereas, the Authority finds existence of 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; 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 any alleged dumping and to recommend the amount of antidumping duty, which if levied, would be adequate to remove the 'injury' to the domestic industry.

Domestic Industry & Standing

3. The Application has been filed by M/s MCC PTA India Corp. Pvt. Ltd and M/s Reliance Industries Limited on behalf of the domestic industry. Apart from the above domestic producers there is one more producer of PTA in India, namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL). M/s IOCL has supported the present application. M/s MCC PTA

India Corp. Private Limited has furnished a declaration stating that they have not imported the PUC from the subject countries. They have further declared that they are not related either to any exporter or producer of the PUC in the subject countries or any importer of the PUC in India.

However, the co-applicant i.e. Reliance Industries Ltd furnished a declaration stating that they have imported insignificant volume of subject goods from Malaysia through an unrelated Malaysian trader under Advance Authorization Scheme. They further declared that they have an associate company in Malaysia as the sole producer of the subject goods in Malaysia and also a subsidiary company in Malaysia who exported the subject goods to India during the POI.

4. And whereas, on the basis of examination of the information furnished by M/s MCC PTA India Corp. Pvt. Ltd., and M/s Reliance Industries Limited, the Authority notes that M/s Reliance Industries Ltd has a subsidiary company in Malaysia which has exported significant volume of subject goods to India during the POI. In view of the above position, the Authority does not consider it appropriate to accept Reliance Industries Ltd as an eligible domestic industry in terms of Rule 2(b) of the Anti-dumping Rules. Further, the Authority holds that M/s MCC PTA India Corp. Pvt. Ltd (hereinafter also referred to as the applicant) constitutes domestic industry within the meaning of Rule 2 (b) of the Anti-dumping Rules as eligible domestic industry and the application, after excluding M/s Reliance Industries Ltd, satisfies the criteria of standing in terms of Rule 5 (3) of the Rules supra. In view of this position, the Authority has made the required prima facie injury analysis by taking the data/information furnished in respect of M/s MCC PTA India Corp. Pvt. Ltd., only.

DGFT Releases Online ANF 3A, No Physical Docs Necessary for MEIS Claim

SUB: Release of Beta Version of online ANF 3A with facility to upload supporting documents {Application form for Merchandise Exports From India Scheme (MEIS)}

05-TN The Government is
16.06.2015 committed to improving
(DGFT) 'ease of doing business' and
move towards paperless

submission and processing of various applications under Foreign Trade Policy (FTP). Trade is informed that a Beta version of online ANF 3A has now been released and it is now possible to not only apply online for claiming rewards under MEIS but also to upload the required supporting documents using digital signatures of the applicant. As a result, henceforth, in case the applicant submits the supporting documents online, along with the application, submission of physical copies of documents (other than 'Proof of Landing' and shipping Bills in case of exports made from Non EDI ports) would no longer be required.

2 Submission of 'Proof of Landing' would be in accordance with the provisions of para 3.03 of HBP 2015-20.

3 All IEC holders/applicants are encouraged to submit/upload the documents (including 'Proof of Landing') online using digital signatures. In case of documents submitted online, the concerned RA shall not insist on physical copies of such uploaded documents

Product under Consideration

5. The Product under Consideration (PUC) in the present investigation is Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA), including its variants - Medium Quality Terephthalic Acid (MTA) and Qualified Terephthalic Acid (QTA). The PUC is a white, free flowing crystalline powder, free from any visual contamination. Terephthalic Acid is an organic compound whose chemical formula is C₆H₄(COOH)₂. It sublimes at 402oC and is poorly soluble in water and alcohol. PTA is primary raw material in the manufacture of polyester chips which in turn is used in a number of applications in textile, packaging, furnishings, consumer goods, resins and coatings. Since QTA, MTA and PTA are chemically the same product and further since they are interchangeably used, the scope of the product under consideration covers QTA and MTA as well. The applicant has further claimed that Di- Methyl Terephthalate (DMT) is chemically a different product and therefore not covered in the scope of the product under consideration. The product under consideration is classified under subheading 29173600 of the Customs Tariff Act. However, the customs classification is indicative only and in no way it is binding on the scope of the present investigation.

Like Article

6. The applicant has claimed that there is no known difference between the subject goods exported from subject countries and that produced by the applicants. As submitted by the

applicant, the Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) 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 applicant in India as 'Like Article' to the subject goods being imported from the subject countries/territories.

Subject Countries

7. The countries involved in the present investigation are China PR, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia & Taiwan. These are being referred to as the subject countries in the present investigation.

Normal value

8. The applicant has claimed that China PR should be treated as a nonmarket economy and determined normal value in accordance with Para 7 and 8 of Annexure I of the Rules. The applicant has claimed normal value for China PR on the basis of cost of production in India, duly adjusted. In terms of Para 8 in Annexure 1 to the Rules it is presumed that the producers of the subject goods in China PR are operating under nonmarket economy conditions. In view of the above non-market economy presumption and subject to rebuttal of the same by the responding exporters from China PR, normal value of the subject goods in China PR has been estimated in terms of Para 7 of Annexure 1 to the Rules. As regards Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia & Taiwan the Applicant has submitted that best possible efforts were made to procure evidences of domestic price in these countries, but however they were unable to get any documentary evidence or reliable information with regard to the domestic prices of the subject goods in these countries. The applicant has claimed the normal value in respect of Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia & Taiwan on the basis of cost of production in India after due adjustments for the international price of the major raw materials.

Export Price

9. The export price has been claimed by the applicants as the weighted average import price from subject countries based on the import data

obtained from the DGCIS. Price adjustments have been made on account of ocean freight, marine insurance, commission, inland freight expenses, port expenses and bank charges to arrive at the net export price.

Dumping Margin

10. 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.

Injury and Causal Link

11. Information furnished by the applicant has been considered for assessment of injury to the domestic industry. The applicant has furnished evidence regarding the injury having taken place as a result of the alleged dumping in the form of increased volume of dumped imports in absolute terms and in relation to production and consumption in India, price suppression, price underselling and consequent significant adverse impact in terms of profits, return on capital employed, and cash flow to the domestic industry. There is sufficient prima facie evidence of the 'injury' being suffered by the domestic industry caused by dumped imports from subject countries to justify initiation of an antidumping investigation.

Period of Investigation (POI)

12. The Period of Investigation for the purpose of the present investigation is from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 (12 Months). The injury investigation period has however, been considered as the period from April 2011 - March 2012, April 2012 - March 2013, April 2013 - March 2014 and the POI.

Retrospective Imposition of Duties

13. The applicant has requested for retrospective imposition of duty as the injury is claimed to be caused to the domestic industry by a history of massive dumping of subject product. They have further submitted that considering the huge volume of such imports and injury to the domestic industry, unless duty is recommended retrospectively, the desired remedial measures of anti-dumping duties may not be accomplished. The interested parties may make their submissions in this regard.

[Full text available at worldtradescanner.com]

Common Adjudication Authority in DRI Cases

Subject: Appointment of common adjudicating authority.

18-CBEC Reference is invited to
09.06.2015 Notification No 60/2015-
(DoR) Customs (N.T.), dated
04.06.2015 whereby the power

to appoint common adjudicating authority in cases investigated by DRI upto the level of Commissioner of Customs have been delegated to Principal Director General of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in terms of section 152 of the Customs Act, 1962. This notification was issued in the interest of expediting decision making with resultant benefits to both trade and revenue in terms of faster settlement of outstanding dis-

putes. These appointments were done hitherto by the Central Board of Excise and Customs under sections 4 and 5 of the Customs Act 1962.

2. In the light of the aforementioned notification, all cases of appointment of common adjudicating authority in respect of cases investigated by DRI will be handled by Principal DG, DRI. In this regard, the Board has prescribed the following guidelines for Principal DG, DRI:

(a) The following cases initiated by DRI shall be assigned to Additional Director General (Adjudication), DRI:

Excise Exemption to Aluminium Roofing Panels Manufacturers

17-CE(NT) In exercise of the powers
08.06.2015 conferred by sub-rule (2)
(DoR) of rule 9 of the Central
Excise Rules, 2002, the

Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby exempts from the operation of said rule, every manufacturing unit engaged in the manufacture of aluminium roofing panels falling under tariff item 7610 90 10 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986), subject to the conditions that such roofing panels are consumed at the site of manufacture for execution of the project and the manufacturer of such goods has a centralised billing or accounting system in respect of such goods manufactured by different manufacturing units and opts for registering only the premises or office from where such centralised billing or accounting is done.

[F. No. 209/05/2013-CX.6]

- (i) Cases involving duty of Rs.5 crores and above;
 - (ii) Group of cases on identical issues involving aggregate duty of Rs.5 crores or more;
 - (iii) Cases involving seizure value of Rs.5 crores or more;
 - (iv) Cases of over-valuation irrespective of value involved; and
 - (v) Existing DRI cases with erstwhile Commissioner (Adjudication).
- (b) Cases other than at (a) above involving more than one Customs Commissionerate would be assigned to the jurisdictional Commissioner of Customs on the basis of the maximum duty evaded;
- (c) Cases other than at (a) above involving a single Customs Commissionerate would be assigned to the jurisdictional Commissioner of Customs;
- (d) Non-DRI cases pending with erstwhile Commissioner (Adjudication) would be assigned to Additional Director General (Adjudication), DRI;
- (e) Past DRI cases pending for adjudication with jurisdictional Commissioners of Customs would continue with these officers;
- (f) Remand cases would be decided by the original adjudicating authority.
3. All other cases of appointment of common adjudicator i.e. other than the cases mentioned in paragraph 2 above would continue to be dealt by the Board. This would include cases made by Commissionerates or cases made by DRI wherein the adjudicating officer is an officer below the level of Additional Director General (Adjudication), DRI.
4. Board has also decided that all the pending cases where common adjudicating authorities have not been appointed so far or where the common adjudicating authorities have been appointed but adjudications have not been done should be disposed of expeditiously in terms of aforementioned guidelines. However, while doing so in regard to the latter category of cases, Principal DG, DRI will take into consideration the fact whether or not personal hearings have taken

place and the stage of passing the adjudication order. This is to ensure that cases about to be finalized are not reallocated to another adjudicating authority thereby defeating the objective of expediting the finalization of disputes.

5. Difficulty faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board at an early date.

F.No. 450/145/2014- Cus IV

Service Tax on Restaurant Services Specified at 5.6% after 40% Abatement on 14% ST

AC Restaurants on Hit List

At present, Service Tax is chargeable on services provided by restaurants, eating-joints or messes which have the facility of air-conditioning or central air-heating in any part of the establishment at any time during the year in relation to serving of food or beverages. Restaurants, eating-joints or messes which do not have the facility of air-conditioning or central air-heating in any part of the establishment are exempt from service tax. In other words, only air-conditioned or air-heated restaurants are required to pay Service Tax.

In respect of such air-conditioned or air-heated restaurants which are required to pay Service Tax, 60% of the value is to be deducted from the total amount charged while applying the rate of Service Tax and tax is to be calculated on the balance 40%. With the increase in the rate of Service Tax to 14% (subsuming the Education Cesses) with effect from 1.6.2015, the effective rate of tax will be 5.6% of the total amount charged. Prior to 1.6.2015, when the rate of Service Tax was 12.36% (including Education Cesses), the effective rate was 4.94%.

Subject: Clarification on rate of service tax on restaurant service.

184-ST The Service Tax rate has been increased to 14% with effect from 1st June, 2015. Certain doubts have been raised in regard to abatement on value of services provided in relation to serving of food or beverages by a

restaurant, eating joint or a mess, **having the facility of air-conditioning or central air-heating** in any part of the establishment, at any time during the year.

2. Matter has been examined. Valuation of services provided in relation to serving of food or beverages by a restaurant, eating joint or a mess **having the facility of air-conditioning or central air-heating in any part of the establishment**, is determined as provided in rule 2C of the Service Tax (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006. In the said rule, service portion in an activity wherein goods, being food or any other article of human consumption or any drink (whether or not intoxicating) is supplied in any manner as a part of the activity, at a restaurant has been specified as 40 percentage of the total amount charged for such supply. In Budget, 2015, no change has been made in abatement and the rate of service tax on the abated value has been increased to 14% with effect from 1st June, 2015. Therefore, effective service tax rate would be 5.6% (14% of 40%) of the total amount charged.

Hence, with the increase in the applicable rate of service tax from 12.36% (including education cesses) to 14%, the effective rate on such establishments has increased from 4.9% to 5.6% of the total amount charged.

3. It is further clarified that exemption from service tax still continues to services provided in relation to serving of food or beverages by a restaurant, eating joint or a mess, **other than those having the facility of air-conditioning or central air-heating in any part of the establishment**, at any time during the year.

4. All concerned are requested to acknowledge the receipt of this circular.

5. Trade Notice/ Public Notice to be issued. Wide publicity through local news media including vernacular press may be given. Hindi version shall follow.

F.No. 334/5/2015-TRU(Pt.)

China Imports Fall, Asia Exporters Struggle

Exports from East Asia - from Southeast Asia across to Japan - have fallen an average of around 5 percent in dollar terms. Poor performers include Indonesian coal, Malaysian palm oil, Singapore pharmaceuticals and Korean cars. Indian iron ore is down by 80%.

Some of the weakness reflects strength of the dollar, which means earnings booked in local currencies are worth less when reported in the U.S. currency.

Another cyclical slowdown from which demand will bounce back? Asian

BIG's Weekly Index of Changes No 13/24-30 June 2015

Exchange Rates for Customs Valuation

Rupee Down by 20 Paise to Rs. 64.55 against Dollar for Customs Valuation on Imports w.e.f. 19 June 2015

63-Cus(NT) In exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), and in super session of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)

No.52/2015-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 18th June, 2015, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such super session, the Central Board of Excise and Customs hereby determines that the rate of exchange of conversion of each of the foreign currency specified in column (2) of each of Schedule I and Schedule II annexed hereto into Indian currency or vice versa shall, **with effect from 19th June, 2015** be the rate mentioned against it in the corresponding entry in column (3) thereof, for the purpose of the said section, relating to imported and export goods.

SNo.	Currency	Imported Goods		Exported Goods	
		Current	Previous	Current	Previous
(1)	(2)	(3)			
		(a)		(b)	

Schedule I – Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees

1.	Australian Dollar	50.15	50.35	48.75	48.90
2.	Bahrain Dinar	174.65	175.20	165.10	165.60
3.	Canadian Dollar	53.00	52.10	51.75	50.95
4.	Danish Kroner	9.90	9.85	9.60	9.55
5.	EURO	73.55	73.30	71.75	71.50
6.	Hong Kong Dollar	8.35	8.35	8.20	8.20
7.	Kuwait Dinar	218.70	218.65	205.55	206.65
8.	Newzeland Dollar	44.85	46.45	43.65	45.25
9.	Norwegian Kroner	8.50	8.40	8.25	8.15
10.	Pound Sterling	102.60	99.50	100.35	97.30
11.	Singapore Dollar	48.45	48.20	47.40	47.20
12.	South African Rand	5.35	5.35	5.05	5.05
13.	Saudi Arabian Riyal	17.55	17.60	16.60	16.65
14.	Swedish Kroner	8.00	7.85	7.80	7.65
15.	Swiss Franc	70.50	69.60	68.65	67.95
16.	UAE Dirham	17.95	18.00	16.95	17.00
17.	US Dollar	64.55	64.75	63.50	63.70

Schedule II – Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees

1.	Japanese Yen	52.55	52.15	51.40	51.00
2.	Kenya Shilling	67.35	68.30	63.55	64.40

[F.No.468/01/2015-Cus.V]

exporters face something structural - and there will be no return to strong growth.

China's 2001 accession to the World Trade Organisation "led to a burst of supply-chain integration and trade creation in the global economy".

As China's manufacturing centres boomed, shipping goods to the West's spendthrift shoppers, supply chains stretched out across the region as factories sucked in high-end components. This specialisation lifted Asia's productivity growth, too.

The dispersion of supply chains looks to be ending and might even go into reverse as China starts to make more of those components.

The biggest falls in Asian exports this year have been in shipments to China and other emerging markets.

Today, there's no prospect of another China-like opening to rescue struggling exporters. The pace of world trade liberalisation has stalled. Talks over a U.S.-led Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) seem to be going nowhere. And there is no sign of another WTO-sponsored Doha round to prise open new markets.

Stalled global trade talks and the shrinkage of manufacturing supply chains that stretch from China, the world's workshop, are making policymakers from Bangkok to Seoul consider new models as exports may never again grow rapidly as in the 2000s.

Kazakhstan at Last Stage in WTO Membership

After nearly two decades of negotiations, Kazakhstan completed talks to become the WTO's 162nd member on 10 June. The draft of the accession package will now go to the Working Party tasked with the negotiations for approval on 22 June, marking one of the last stages in the process.

The process for bringing Kazakhstan into the organisation required overcoming various hurdles, particularly in areas such as agricultural subsidies, trade-related investment measures, tariff adjustments affecting the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), and sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), which involve food safety and plant and animal health.

Eurasian Economic Union

Kazakhstan is part of the Eurasian Economic Union, a regional bloc that also includes Armenia, Belarus, and Russia. The EEU, which has been in force since January of this year, builds off a previous customs union that was formed in 2010 between Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Russia.

While Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Russia briefly attempted in 2009 to pursue WTO accession jointly as a customs union, they then decided that same year to continue their accession talks on individual tracks.

Russia and Armenia are currently the only countries from the newly-formed EEU to be WTO members. While Armenia has been part of the WTO since 2003, Russia only joined three years ago, with its membership taking effect in August 2012 following nearly two decades of protracted negotiations.

Tariff liberalisation is a key component of WTO accession talks. Along with negotiating multilaterally with existing members at the Working Party level, any country aiming to join the global trade body must also hold bilateral talks with any individual members that express interest in additional market access concessions or commitments. These must then be extended to all other WTO members in the final accession package.

Botswana Ratifies Trade Facilitation Agreement

Botswana has become the eighth WTO member to ratify the new Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). The WTO Secretariat received the country's instrument of acceptance on 18 June.

The TFA will only enter into force once two-thirds of the WTO membership has formally accepted the Agreement. In addition to Botswana, Hong Kong China, Singapore, the United States, Mauritius, Malaysia, Japan and Australia have ratified the TFA.

Agri Export Subsidies Fall

China Requests Waiver of 8.5% Domestic Subsidy Limit

At a separate meeting of the WTO's regular committee on agriculture two weeks ago, trade negotiators also discussed a new paper from the Cairns Group on export competition, which argued that agricultural export subsidies and similar measures have "dramatically decreased."

The paper also found that most food aid donors' programmes are also consistent with proposed new Doha rules intended to ensure that aid does not inadvertently worsen food insecurity by displacing food producers by local farmers in recipient countries.

WTO members had agreed to an annual review of export subsidies and similar measures – grouped together by negotiators under the category of "export competition" – as part of a package of deals agreed at the trade body's 2013 Bali Ministerial Conference.

"Export competition is doable – and people should do it," said one trade negotiator familiar with the paper in comments to Bridges.

US is continuing to seek a commitment from China to establish a limit on the overall trade-distorting support (or OTDS) that the country would provide under an eventual Doha Round deal.

The most recent draft text includes a clause that effectively allows China – as a "recently-acceded member" – to exceed the limit on OTDS if the country's "de minimis" payments are greater. Trade-distorting "de minimis" support is a share of the value of production - 8.5 percent in the case of China, 10 percent for other developing countries, and five percent for developed countries.

Trade sources told that the US is likely to have difficulty agreeing to the proposed limit on trade-distorting support after having passed the 2014 Farm Bill, which is expected to lead Washington to increase its trade-distorting payments, especially if agricultural prices continue falling.

At the same time, the US has argued that large developing countries such as China and India should accept tighter limits on their own trade-distorting farm subsidies.

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*See details in www.worldtradesScanner.com