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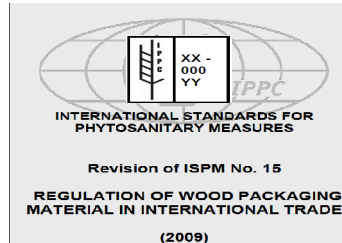
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ISPM-15 Mandatory for Wood Packaging Material in Exports

India adopts standard for exports but logistics sector customs not prepared.

- *Wooden Pallets in containers must be ISPM-15 compliant, even dunnage wedges in packing covered.*
- *Standard not compulsory in Brazil and Russia.*
- *Indian exports will be affected by compulsory standards. Transaction costs rise.*
- *Goods in transition in troubled waters as clampdown with immediate effect.*
- *Methyl Bromide fumigation for wood considered poisonous and ozone layer damaging.*
- *Heat treatment only option but facilities not available.*
- *Trade suggests making standard voluntary on demand of buyers as in other countries.*
- *Plywood coverage under wood not clear.*

54-Ntfn(RE) In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No.22 of 1992) read with Para 1.3 and 2.1 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2009 (DGFT) -2014, the Central Government hereby makes following amendments in Table A of the Schedule 2 of the ITC(HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, by inserting entry at S.No. 7A, with immediate effect, as under:-

S.No.	Chapter	Item Description	Export Policy	Nature of Restriction
7A	All	All Items Chapters	Prohibited/ Restricted/ Free	Export of goods including plant & plant products using wood packaging material such as pellets, dunnage, crating, packing blocks, drums, cases load boards, pellet collars and skids etc. shall be allowed subject to compliance of ISPM-15.

2. This issues in public interest.

Baggage Allowance of Rs 25,000 for HK Arrival PRC to Continue at Rs 6,000



Subject: Clarification about permissible free baggage allowance under Baggage Rules, 1998 for the persons returning from Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), People's Republic of China.

25-CBEC 04.08.2010 (DoR) The Consulate General of India in Hong Kong has brought to the notice of the Board that the divergent practices are being followed at different airports in

India for allowing free allowance under the Baggage Rules, 1998, as amended, for the passengers coming from Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), P.R. China. At some airports, the passengers from Hong Kong are being given full free allowance of Rs.25,000/- while at some other airports, they are allowed only Rs.6,000/- as free allowance. It was, therefore, requested that the Board should issue suitable clarification in this regard.



2. As per the Baggage Rules, 1998, as amended, the passengers returning from Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar or China, other than by land route, are allowed clearance

free of duty articles in their bonafide baggage to the extent mentioned in column (2) of Appendix-B. As per Appendix-B, the passengers of and above 10 years of age and returning after stay abroad of more than three days, are allowed for clearance free of duty on articles other than those mentioned in Annexure I upto value of Rs.6,000/-. Whereas passengers of and above 10 years of age and returning after stay abroad of more than 3 days, coming from any country other than Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar or China shall be allowed free baggage allowance Rs. 25,000/-, on articles other than those mentioned in Annexure – I as per Rule 3 read with Appendix 'A' of the Baggage Rules.

3. The matter has been examined in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs. The Ministry of External Affairs has clarified that Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) is a separate Customs territory from China. There-

fore, they are not to be treated as one.

4. Accordingly, it is clarified that an Indian resident or a foreigner residing in India of and above 10 years of age and returning after stay abroad of more than 3 days, returning from Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), P.R. China shall be allowed clearance free of duty upto Rs.25,000/- on articles other than those

mentioned in Annexure - I under the Baggage Rules, 1998, as amended.

5. These instructions may be brought to the notice of the field officers by issuing suitable Standing orders/instructions.

F.No.495/9/2010-Cus.VI

Green Signal for GM Maize is OK for Food and Feed

The European Commission (EC) has approved six new varieties of genetically modified (GM) maize for use as food and feed in the EU, but not for cultivation. The authorisations are valid for ten years.

Farmers are allowed to grow only two strains of GM crops in the EU: Monsanto's MON 810 strain of maize, which was authorised in 1998, and a GM starch potato, known as the "Amflora" potato, which was approved for cultivation and industrial processing in March of this year.

However, the European Commission has approved a number of GM crops for feed or food uses, including one strain of sugar beet, three of soybean, three of oilseed-rape, six cotton varieties and 17 strains of maize.

The approval of the six new maize varieties is the result of a decision taken by the Commission after member states failed to return majority decisions either for or against the approval. Each of the six GM maize varieties in question has received a positive safety assessment from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

EU member states are deeply divided over GM products. Critics of GM goods emphasise that the long-term impact of genetic modification for human and environmental health is unknown.

Member states Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland and Luxembourg have banned the cultivation of GM seeds, while the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and the United

Kingdom are open to allowing their farmers to grow the altered crops.

In a recent proposal, the Commission suggested that each of the bloc's member states should be allowed to decide for themselves whether to allow the cultivation of GM crops within their borders. Before states could ban or approve them, however, any strains would need to undergo a safety assessment by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and receive EU approval.

Of the approvals announced this week, one renewed a previous decision on Syngenta's insect-resistant Bt11 maize that expired in 2007, while the other five were for stacked maize varieties, which combine insect and herbicide resistance. One of those strains is from Syngenta, two were jointly developed by DuPont and Dow AgroSciences, and two are from Monsanto.

Exporters of GM crops outside the EU are likely to increase their pressure on the EU to open its markets to imports of the altered crops. The EU has a zero-tolerance policy on unapproved GM material in imports. Just last year, Europe's supply chains of animal feed were disrupted when GM-tainted shipments of feed from the US were turned back at the EU border.

The US has long been critical of the EU's anti-GM position, arguing that it is not in line with Europe's commitments at the World Trade Organization.

are all in consensus that each country should apply duties as they see fit. During the meeting, Kirchner convinced Mujica to change his opinion on the subject, despite his concerns over that some Argentine duties could distort trade.

At a more inclusive meeting, Mercosur members also decided to eliminate by 2012 the double recovery of the common external tariff (AEC). Previously, non-Mercosur products were charged a tariff both when they entered the bloc and when they were re-exported to another Mercosur member.

Officials also agreed upon a mechanism for the redistribution of customs revenue among members. These two items were among the last remaining subjects of contention.

Mercosur, Egypt FTA finalised after six years of talks

The Mercosur summit, which took place in San Juan, Argentina on Monday and Tuesday of this week, also saw officials sign the union's second-ever FTA when it finalised a deal to open up trade with Egypt, Africa's second-largest economy.

The pact, which took six years to finalise, will immediately eliminate tariffs on butter, maize, metals, oils, valves, and wheat. Duties on milk and industrial products will be phased out within the next four years, while tariffs on the remaining products covered by the deal will be removed over a period of either eight or ten years.

Most of the US\$2.268 billion worth of commerce between Egypt and the four Mercosur countries - Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay - comes from Egypt's trade with Brazil. The South American country imports approximately US\$87.7 million worth of goods from Egypt, and exports US\$1.44 billion in return, according to Spanish-language news agency EFE.

Argentina is Egypt's second-largest Mercosur partner, exporting US\$603 million worth of goods to the North African nation and importing US\$53.2 million. The value of Egypt's trade with Uruguay and Paraguay is substantially smaller.

Argentine Industry Minister Débora Giorgi lauded the benefits that her country would reap as a result of the pact, asserting that "Argentina will be able to sell more primary products and in better [trading] conditions in comparison with what it currently exports to Egypt," according to La Nación.

Speaking more broadly, Giorgi also noted that the pact will provide Mercosur with the opportunity to export products that it currently does not sell to its new North African partner. These products could include vehicles, automobile parts, pharmaceuticals, and chicken, among others.

The agreement might also allow Argentina to make inroads into the Egyptian wheat market. Egypt is the world's largest importer of the prod-

Mercosur Adopts Customs Code for Full Customs Union

Mercosur, South America's largest trade bloc, finalised at long last its customs code at the 39th Mercosur Summit in Argentina on Tuesday, 3 August. The agreement, which took years to establish, now makes Mercosur a genuine customs union and will be phased in over the next year and a half before fully taking effect in 2012.

Much of the final negotiations came down to a tête-à-tête between Argentina President

Cristina Fernández de Kirchner and Uruguayan President José Mujica, according to Argentine newspaper La Nación, with Kirchner speaking on behalf of both her country and Mercosur's two other members, Brazil and Paraguay.

Uruguay has long disagreed with its Mercosur partners over who should have the authority to impose export duties, with Montevideo arguing that the Mercosur bloc should hold that power. Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, meanwhile,

Dollar-Rupee rate at NSE Futures

Trade Date	Open Price	High Price	Low Price	Close Price	Daily Settlement Price	Open Interest	No. of Contracts	Value (Rs. lakhs)	RBI Reference rate
9-Aug-10	46.3325	46.3325	46.1500	46.2675	46.2675	617220	1035487	478549.72	46.0700
6-Aug-10	46.3150	46.3150	46.1125	46.2975	46.2975	634485	1624509	750656.24	46.0200
5-Aug-10	46.3325	46.4025	46.2825	46.3250	46.3250	638666	1292249	598887.75	46.2300
4-Aug-10	46.3000	46.4750	46.3000	46.3500	46.3500	610355	1406571	652382.54	46.2200
3-Aug-10	46.2950	46.4225	46.2175	46.3275	46.3275	599337	1538359	713195.23	46.2200

[Source: NSE and RBI Website]

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WEEKLY INDEX OF CHANGES

Provisional Anti-dumping Duty on PVC Flex Film from China

Ntfn 79
30.07.2010
(DoR)

Whereas in the matter of imports of PVC Flex Film (hereinafter referred to as the subject goods), falling under Chapter 39 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the said Customs Tariff Act), originating in, or exported from, People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the subject country) and imported into India, the designated authority in its preliminary findings *vide* notification No.14/04/2010-DGAD, dated the 22nd June, 2010, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, dated the 22nd June, 2010, had come to the conclusion that-

(i) the subject goods had been exported to India from the subject country below its normal value;

(ii) the domestic industry had suffered material injury;

(iii) the injury had been caused by the dumped imports from subject country;

(iv) domestic industry was materially retarded due to the increased imports from the subject country in the domestic market;

and had recommended imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty on the imports of subject goods, originating in, or exported from, the subject country;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 9A of the said Customs Tariff Act read with rules 13 and 20 of the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-dumping Duty on

Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995, the Central Government, on the basis of the aforesaid findings of the designated authority, hereby imposes on the goods, the description of which is specified in column (3) of the Table below, falling under sub heading of the First Schedule to the said Customs Tariff Act specified in the corresponding entry in column (2), originating in the country specified in the corresponding entry in column (4), and exported from the country specified in the corresponding entry in column (5) and produced by the producer specified in the corresponding entry in column (6) and exported by the exporter specified in the corresponding entry in column (7), and imported into India, an anti-dumping duty at the rate equal to the amount indicated in the corresponding entry in column (8), in the currency specified in the corresponding entry in column (10) and per unit of measurement specified in the corresponding entry in column (9) of the said Table.

Table

SNo.	Sub. Heading	Description	Country of origin	Country of export	Producer	Exporter	Amount	Unit of Measurement	Cur-rency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1	39201019 or 39201012 or 39204900 or 39219026 or 39219029 or 39269099 or 39199090 or 39181090 or 39189090 or 39269080	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Zhejiang Hailide New Material Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Hailide New Material Co., Ltd.	0.152	Kg	US Dollar
2	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	M/s Shanghai Nar Industrial Co. Ltd (NAR)	M/s Shanghai Nar Industrial Co. Ltd (NAR)	0.346	Kg	US Dollar
3	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	M/s Shanghai Nar Industrial Co. Ltd (NAR)	M/s Shanghai Inflex Signage Co. Ltd.	0.346	Kg	US Dollar
4.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Jiangyin Nanwei Plastic Co., Ltd	Jiangyin Nanwei International Trade Co. Ltd.	0.370	Kg	US Dollar
5.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Zhejiang Botai Plastic Co. Ltd.	Zhejiang Botai Plastic Co. Ltd.	0.365	Kg	US Dollar
6.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Zhejiang Ganglong New Material Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Ganglong New Material Co., Ltd.	0.374	Kg	US Dollar
7.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Heytex Technical Textiles (Zhangjiagang) Co. Ltd.	Heytex Technical Textiles (Zhangjiagang) Co. Ltd.	0.143	Kg	US Dollar
8.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Zhejiang Tianchang Plastic Fabric Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Tianchang Plastic Fabric Co., Ltd.	0.450	Kg	US Dollar
9.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Cixi Linyun Plastics Wart CO., LTD	Cixi Linyun Plastics Wart CO., LTD	0.340	Kg	US Dollar
10.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Zhejiang Yuli Plastic Co., Ltd	Zhejiang Yuli Plastic Co., Ltd	0.545	Kg	US Dollar
11.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Any combinations other than at Serial No. 1-10 above	Any combinations other than at Serial No.1-10 above	0.545	Kg	US Dollar
12.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	People's Republic of China	Any other than People's Republic of China	Any	Any	0.545	Kg	US Dollar
13.	-do-	'PVC Flex Film'	Any other than People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Any	Any	0.545	Kg	US Dollar

*as amended by corrigendum F.No.14/04/2010-DGAD, dated 7th July, 2010.

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World Bank Pinksheet issued in August 2010 covers price movements in 43 energy and non-energy products. This Pink Sheet focuses on price movements in July 2010.

Grains, Veg Oils and Sugar on the Rise

- Crude and Coal down.
- Cocoa down. Coffee and Tea up.
- Copra and Coconut oil up. Groundnut oil down. Palm oil, Palm Kernel oil and Soybean oil on the rise. Soybean meal and Soybeans up.
- Thai Rice up, Maize, Sorghum and Barley up.
- Wheat up. Bananas, US and Oranges up.
- Meat, beef up. Fishmeal down.
- World Sugar on the rise.
- Logs, Plywood, Woodpulp and Sawnwood up.
- Cotton and Rubber down.
- DAP, TSP and Urea up. Phosphate rock steady. Potassium Chloride up.
- Gold and Silver down.
- Iron ore steady. Aluminium, Copper, Lead, Nickel, Tin and Zinc up.
- Steel products down. Steel sheets steady.



	Monthly averages			Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2010			2009		2010			2008	2009	2010
	May	Jun	Jul	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Jul

Energy

Coal, Australia \$/mt	100.13	98.19	96.44	66.48	71.31	77.66	95.19	99.49	127.10	71.84	97.21
Crude oil, average \$/bbl	75.62	74.73	74.58	59.19	68.21	75.50	77.06	78.18	96.99	61.76	77.18
Crude oil, Brent \$/bbl	76.25	74.84	74.74	59.13	68.37	74.97	76.65	78.69	97.64	61.86	77.25
Crude oil, Dubai \$/bbl	76.87	73.98	72.65	58.93	68.07	75.46	75.86	77.98	93.78	61.75	76.31
Crude oil, West Texas Int. \$/bbl	73.73	75.35	76.35	59.52	68.21	76.08	78.67	77.85	99.56	61.65	77.99
Natural gas Index 2000=100	143.7	155.3	155.8	142.9	123.3	149.4	170.3	147.6	267.9	153.5	158.5
Natural gas, Europe \$/mmbtu	7.27	7.74	8.04	8.18	6.91	7.81	8.84	7.51	13.41	8.71	8.16
Natural gas, US \$/mmbtu	4.16	4.79	4.63	3.70	3.17	4.36	5.15	4.32	8.86	3.95	4.72
Natural gas LNG, Japan \$/mmbtu	11.39	10.70	10.40	7.60	7.91	9.33	10.32	11.02	12.53	8.94	10.63

Beverages

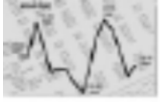
Cocoa ¢/kg	317.8	323.1	322.2	257.9	296.4	341.8	329.7	321.0	257.7	288.9	324.9
Coffee, Arabica ¢/kg	382.0	420.9	448.0	320.2	322.7	341.7	353.7	392.0	308.2	317.1	383.6
Coffee, robusta ¢/kg	155.7	169.6	188.0	165.3	160.1	156.4	150.8	161.0	232.1	164.4	160.5
Tea, auctions (3) average ¢/kg	279.9	286.1	286.4	266.1	303.6	301.9	279.0	281.1	242.0	272.4	281.0
Tea, Colombo auctions ¢/kg	321.9	300.1	304.5	299.1	356.1	338.0	335.1	316.2	278.9	313.7	322.6
Tea, Kolkata auctions ¢/kg	284.8	334.8	319.9	271.3	273.0	284.4	215.8	288.3	225.5	251.5	261.8
Tea, Mombasa auctions ¢/kg	233.0	223.5	235.0	228.0	281.7	283.2	286.1	238.9	221.8	252.0	258.6

Fats and Oils

Coconut oil \$/mt	932	993	1,031	779	711	734	834	955	1,224	725	914
Copra \$/mt	624	651	689	513	469	491	557	634	816	480	609
Groundnut oil \$/mt	1,353	1,342	1,300	1,166	1,133	1,152	1,359	1,352	2,131	1,184	1,347
Palm oil \$/mt	811	798	807	743	679	732	808	813	949	683	810
Palmkernel oil \$/mt	1,030	1,051	1,059	763	700	761	922	1,034	1,130	700	990
Soybean meal \$/mt	348	338	356	424	431	412	369	342	424	408	356
Soybean oil \$/mt	865	859	907	863	856	921	917	876	1,258	849	898
Soybeans \$/mt	407	408	429	461	454	439	417	409	523	437	415

Grains

Barley \$/mt	143.0	145.9	156.4	129.5	122.0	145.5	143.6	146.9	200.5	128.3	146.8
Maize \$/mt	163.4	152.7	163.8	176.0	151.3	167.8	162.7	157.7	223.1	165.5	160.7
Rice, Thailand, 5% \$/mt	451.3	440.0	442.8	552.4	539.0	542.3	535.3	452.4	650.2	555.0	486.6
Rice, Thailand, 25% \$/mt	396.7	392.0	396.3	458.7	441.4	462.8	477.0	399.1	n.a.	458.1	432.1
Rice, Thailand, 35% \$/mt	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Rice, Thai, A.1 \$/mt	329.0	329.5	349.3	326.3	309.7	346.1	400.7	333.8	482.3	326.4	364.7



	Monthly averages			Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2010			2009			2010	2008	2009	2010	
	May	Jun	Jul	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Jul
Sorghum \$/mt	147.3	131.0	132.4	155.8	139.3	163.8	156.9	142.6	207.8	151.1	147.2
Wheat, Canada \$/mt	256.5	261.3	287.5	325.6	271.2	283.4	279.0	260.9	454.6	300.5	272.4
Wheat, US, HRW \$/mt	181.6	157.7	195.8	250.5	208.8	205.4	195.4	177.4	326.0	224.1	187.7
Wheat, US SRW \$/mt	190.3	182.6	222.3	195.6	165.2	195.6	193.5	186.9	271.5	186.0	194.8
Other Food											
Bananas EU \$/mt	999	1,037	959	1,288	1,118	1,032	1,014	1,029	1,188	1,145	1,013
Bananas US \$/mt	799	962	985	858	826	813	781	862	844	847	845
Fishmeal \$/mt	1,821	1,747	1,715	1,097	1,276	1,535	1,660	1,814	1,133	1,230	1,734
Meat, beef ¢/kg	347.8	319.7	321.0	262.8	273.2	273.5	314.2	342.4	313.8	263.6	327.2
Meat, chicken ¢/kg	173.3	174.7	176.1	174.1	173.9	165.1	167.2	173.0	169.6	171.7	170.9
Meat, sheep ¢/kg	484.3	520.1	462.3	428.7	453.3	450.1	447.6	486.8	458.5	427.6	466.5
Oranges \$/mt	1,055	1,201	1,302	870	861	1,107	1,009	1,084	1,107	909	1,083
Shrimp, Mexico ¢/kg	1,025	n.a.	n.a.	970	970	864	827	945	1,069	945	874
Sugar EU ¢/kg	42.10	40.91	42.77	53.76	55.43	49.11	46.38	42.66	69.69	52.44	44.27
Sugar US ¢/kg	68.11	72.37	73.28	47.89	57.31	70.48	84.31	69.62	46.86	54.88	76.44
Sugar, world ¢/kg	33.51	35.01	38.49	33.89	46.98	50.29	51.82	34.93	28.21	40.00	42.68
Timber											
Logs, Cameroon \$/cum	403.5	390.8	421.4	394.8	414.9	449.5	431.4	408.0	526.9	421.5	419.9
Logs, Malaysia \$/cum	253.7	260.8	274.9	284.5	279.6	271.1	253.6	253.5	292.3	287.2	256.6
Plywood ¢/sheets	566.8	567.5	569.7	565.8	561.5	558.4	557.2	566.3	645.5	564.6	562.9
Sawnwood, Cameroon \$/cum	772.9	770.4	794.5	721.2	779.0	806.3	804.1	787.1	958.3	748.9	795.5
Sawnwood, Malaysia \$/cum	836.5	841.1	871.2	829.7	771.4	807.4	787.8	832.6	889.1	805.5	818.9
Woodpulp \$/mt	879.1	896.9	915.0	550.0	627.7	715.6	780.9	875.5	820.2	614.6	840.6
Other Raw Materials											
Cotton A Index ¢/kg	198.6	205.1	185.5	132.4	141.9	157.7	178.8	199.3	157.4	138.2	188.5
Cotton Memphis ¢/kg	199.1	202.7	n.a.	137.5	148.8	172.4	183.6	200.1	161.3	145.3	191.0
Rubber RSS1, US ¢/kg	374.6	371.0	349.7	187.0	221.0	284.7	345.2	381.5	284.1	214.6	361.4
Rubber RSS3, SGP ¢/kg	366.8	356.6	327.4	166.4	199.3	256.5	318.6	372.7	258.6	192.1	343.1
Fertilizers											
DAP \$/mt	460.6	448.0	461.3	303.6	309.6	316.9	464.8	458.2	967.2	323.1	461.4
Phosphate rock \$/mt	125.0	125.0	125.0	113.3	90.0	90.0	102.1	125.0	345.6	121.7	115.2
Potassium chloride \$/mt	315.0	319.0	320.0	726.7	506.8	423.0	334.0	316.1	570.1	630.4	324.3
TSP \$/mt	352.8	346.8	360.0	247.7	224.7	235.7	316.9	357.4	879.4	257.4	340.4
Urea \$/mt	229.6	229.3	249.5	241.1	241.6	248.3	281.0	237.2	492.7	249.6	257.8
Metals and Minerals											
Aluminum \$/mt	2,041	1,931	1,988	1,485	1,812	2,003	2,163	2,096	2,573	1,665	2,110
Copper \$/mt	6,838	6,499	6,735	4,663	5,859	6,648	7,232	7,027	6,956	5,150	7,074
Gold \$/toz	1,205	1,233	1,193	922	960	1,102	1,109	1,196	872	973	1,158
Iron ore ¢/dmtu	167.0	167.0	167.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	167.0	140.6	101.0	138.7
Lead ¢/kg	188.3	170.4	183.7	149.9	192.8	229.3	222.1	195.0	209.1	171.9	205.0
Nickel \$/mt	22,008	19,389	19,518	12,920	17,700	17,528	19,959	22,476	21,111	14,655	20,975
Silver ¢/toz	1,842	1,853	1,794	1,376	1,477	1,760	1,693	1,838	1,500	1,469	1,769
Steel products index 2000=100	247.3	242.1	231.8	215.5	210.8	207.4	211.5	241.1	289.3	227.1	227.1
Steel cr coilsheet \$/mt	850	850	850	700	700	700	725	838	966	783	791
Steel hr coilsheet \$/mt	750	750	750	600	600	600	625	738	883	683	691
Steel rebar \$/mt	630	618	540	450	500	522	546	621	760	486	577
Steel wire rod \$/mt	780	755	694	1,007	857	814	751	767	1,010	969	750
Tin ¢/kg	1,757	1,732	1,819	1,351	1,459	1,517	1,721	1,786	1,851	1,357	1,763
Zinc ¢/kg	196.8	174.3	184.4	147.3	176.1	221.4	228.9	202.6	187.5	165.5	211.3

\$ = US dollar; ¢ = US cent; bbl = barrel; cum = cubic meter; dmtu = Dry Metric Ton Unit; kg = kilogram; mmbtu = million British thermal units; mt = metric ton; toz = troy oz; n.a. = not available; n.q. = no quotation

Note: PVC Flex Film includes PVC flex banners, PVC flex sheets for advertising signage, billboards, PVC films and tarpaulins, PVC flex sheets in Rolls (flex banner frontlit / backlit), but does not includes PVC rigid films and cotton / canvas tarpaulins.

2. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective upto and inclusive of the 29th day of January, 2011 and shall be payable in Indian currency.

Explanation. - For the purposes of this notification, rate of exchange applicable for the purposes of calculation of such anti-dumping duty shall be the rate which is specified in the notification of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), issued from time to time, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), and the relevant date for the determination of the rate of exchange shall be the date of presentation of the bill of entry under section 46 of the said Customs Act.

[F.No.354/108/2010 –TRU]

Value Addition Norms of 8% for Petroleum Products

Subject: Amendment in Appendix 11B for Value addition (notified vide Public Notice No. 42 dated 16.2.2010).

88-PN(RE) In exercise of powers conferred under Paragraph 2.4 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 04.08.2010 2009-14, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following (DGFT) amendments in the Handbook of Procedures (Vol.1), 2009-14 with immediate effect.

1. Sl. No. 2 shall be added in **Appendix 11B** in the HBP v.1, as follows:

SNo.	Export product	Minimum value addition
2.	Petroleum product(s) covered under SION Sl. No. A-2688, A-2689 and A-2690 of the product Group "Chemicals & Allied Products" i.e.: (i) Light Ends (LE) viz., Naphtha, Motor Spirit, Gasoline, Solvents, Reformate, Hexane, TAME, excluding C3, C4 Hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof; (ii) Middle Distillates (MD) viz., ATF, SKO, HSD, Gas Oil, MTO, LABFS, AROMEX, JBO, LDO, VGO, Solvents; and (iii) Heavy Ends (HE) viz. FO, Furnace Oil, Fuel Oil, LSHS, HPS, Puch, Asphalt, Petroleum Bitumen, Raw Petroleum Coke & Calcined Petroleum Coke, Slack Wax, Paraffin Wax, Microcrystalline Wax, CBFS, RPO, Sulphur. (Excluding lubricating oils and petrochemical products like Benzene, Toluene, MTBE etc.)	8%

This issues in public interest.

Boric Acid is only in HS 2810

Insecticide Use Variety will be in 3808

Import Licence must in Both 2810 and 3808

Subject: Import of Boric Acid – clarification.

24-CBEC Attention is invited to Board's 04.08.2010 Circular No.61/2004 dated (DoR) 28.10.2004, Circular No.37/2005-Customs dated 06.09.2005 and Customs instruction dated 6.10.2006 on the issue of classification and importability of Boric Acid.

2. In this context, attention is also invited to Board's Circular No.34/2007–Customs dated 17.9.2007 which clarifies that *the classification of Boric Acid, in supersession of earlier Circulars, would be under heading 2810; technical grade pesticides for insecticidal use or Boric Acid put up for retail sale or other specified forms as preparations or articles alone will be classifiable under heading 3808.* Whereas the issue of classification stands settled, representations have been received in the Board from the trade and industry regarding difficulties being faced by them on the issue of importability of Boric Acid

on account of Board's instruction dated 6.10.2006.

3. The issue has been examined in the Board. Accordingly, it is clarified that with the issuance of Board Circular No.34/2007-Customs dated 17.9.2007, all the earlier Circulars and instructions on the issue of classification and importability of Boric Acid have been superseded. However, provisions of Foreign Trade Policy as regards import of Boric Acid shall be adhered to.

4. Pending assessments, if any, may be finalised accordingly.

5. Suitable Public notice/ Standing Order may be issued to guide the trade and staff.

6. Difficulty faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Board.

F.No.528/9/2004-Cus(TU)

Wheat Quota of 2 Lac MTs to Bangladesh for FCI

Subject: Prohibition on export of wheat – exemption for export of wheat to Bangladesh

56-Ntfn(RE) In exercise of the powers 06.08.2010 conferred by Section 5 read (DGFT) with Section 3(2) of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No.22 of 1992) and Para 1.3 and Para 2.1 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2009-2014, the Central Government hereby makes the following amendment in Notification No. 40/2009-14 dated 12.05.2010 read with Notification No. 33(RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 08.10.2007, as amended from time to time (pertaining to prohibition on export of wheat and wheat products).

2. With immediate effect, the existing entry against para 2.10 in the Notification No. 40 / 2009-2014 dated 12.05.2010 is substituted to read as under:-

"2.10 The prohibition imposed by this notification on export of wheat shall not be applicable to export of 2,00,000 MT of wheat to Bangladesh through Food Corporation of India."

3. There shall be no other change in Notification No. 40/2009-14 dated 12.05.2010.

4. This issues in Public Interest.

Rice Quota of 3 LT for Bangladesh

FCI Sole Agency through Central Pool, STC etc Dropped

Subject: Prohibition on Export of Non-basmati Rice – exemption.

55-Ntfn(RE) In exercise of the powers 06.08.2010 conferred by Section 5 read (DGFT) with Section 3(2) of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No.22 of 1992) and also read with Para 1.3 and Para 2.1 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2009-2014, the Central Government hereby makes, with immediate effect, the following amendment to Notification No.38 (RE-2007)/2004-2009, dated 15.10.2007 read with Notification No. 93 (RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 1.4.2008 and also read with Notification No. 42 /2009-2014 dated 18.05.2010, as amended from time to time.

2. With immediate effect, the existing entry at para (2) & (3) of Notification No. 42 /2009-2014 dated 18.05.2010 is substituted to read as under:-

"2.1.13 the ban on export of Non-Basmati rice shall also not be applicable on export of 3 lakh tonnes of parboiled non-Basmati rice to Bangladesh from the Central Pool at prevalent economic cost through FCI."

3. All other provisions of the Notification No.93 (RE-2007)/2004-09 dated 1st April, 2008, as amended from time to time, shall remain unchanged, and shall continue to apply.

4. This issues in public interest.

Certificate from Chief Engineer CEA Required for Setting up of Mega Power Project

31-CE In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 5A of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944), the Central Government, on 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. 6/2006-Central Excise, dated the 1st March, 2006, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary vide number G.S.R. 96(E) dated 1st March, 2006, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Annexure, for condition No. 28 and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

Condition No.	Conditions
28.	(a) such goods are exempted from the duties of customs leviable under the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) and the additional duty leviable under Section 3 of the said Customs Tariff Act when imported into India;
	(b) an officer not below the rank of Chief engineer in the Central Electricity Authority certifies that the said goods are required for the setting up of the said mega power project under Government of India initiative, indicating the quantity, description, and specification thereof; and
	(c) the Chief executive officer of the project furnishes an undertaking to the Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise or the Assistant Commissioner of Central Excise, as the case may be, having jurisdiction, to the effect that –
	i. the said goods will be used only in the said project and not for any other use; and
	ii. in the event of non compliance of sub-clause (i) above, the project developer will pay the duty which would have been leviable at the time of clearance of goods, but for this exemption.

[F. No. 354/59/2010- TRU]

Administrative Control Over Port EOUs Transferred to Excise from Customs

Sub: Administrative Control over Export Oriented Units by the Central Excise formations.

932-CBEC Vide DGEP letter of even No. dt. 18.5.2010 (copy enclosed), the decision of the Board on the above subject was circulated to all the Chief Commissioners/ Director Generals under CBEC.

2. The above said DGEP letter dt. 18.5.2010 may be read as Circular No. 932/22/2010-CX dated 04/8/2010.

Customs Valuation Exchange Rates

August 2010	Imports	Exports	
Schedule I			
1 Australian Dollar	42.85	41.65	
2 Canadian Dollar	46.05	44.85	
3 Danish Kroner	8.30	8.05	
4 EURO	61.80	60.15	
5 Hong Kong Dollar	6.10	5.95	
6 Norwegian Kroner	7.75	7.50	
7 Pound Sterling	73.60	71.75	
8 Swedish Kroner	6.55	6.35	
9 Swiss Franc	45.30	44.10	
10 Singapore Dollar	34.85	33.95	
11 U.S. Dollar	47.35	46.45	
Schedule II			
1 Japanese Yen	54.75	53.15	

Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian Rupees

Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees

(Source: Customs Notification 67(NT)/28.07.2010)

Commodity Spot Prices in India – 06-09 August 2010

These commodity prices are taken from Multi Commodity Exchange of India (Mumbai) at 6 pm every day.

(Rs.)					
Commodity	Unit	Market	06-Aug	07-Aug	09-Aug
CER (Carbon Trading)	1 MT	Mumbai	741	735.5	735.5
Chana	100 KGS	Delhi	2260	2255	2253
Masur	100 KGS	Indore	3323	3325	3353
Potato	100 KGS	Agra	358.1	357.9	357.3
Potato TKR	100 KGS	Tarkeshwar	NA	NA	NA
Areca nut	100 KGS	Mangalore	NA	NA	NA
Cashew kern	1 KGS	Quilon	NA	NA	NA
Cardamom	1 KGS	Vandanmedu	1553.1	1537.6	1546.1
Coffee ROB	100 KGS	Kushalnagar	NA	NA	NA
Jeera	100 KGS	Unjha	NA	NA	NA
Pepper	100 KGS	Kochi	NA	NA	NA
Red Chili	100 KGS	Guntur	NA	NA	NA
Turmeric	100 KGS	Nzmbad	15025	15025	14900
Guar Gum	100 KGS	Jodhpur	NA	NA	NA
Maize	100 KGS	Nzmbad	1066	1062	1063.5
Wheat	100 KGS	Delhi	1248.8	1250.8	1253.8
Mentha Oil	1 KGS	Chandausi	774.7	778.9	790.4
Cotton Seed	100 KGS	Akola	NA	NA	NA
Castorsd RJK	100 KGS	Rajkot	3674	3676.5	3676.5
Guar Seed	100 KGS	Bikaner	2220	2205	2227
Soya Bean	100 KGS	Indore	2072	2065	2115.5
Mustardsd JPR	20 KGS	Jaipur	553.25	552	556.9
Sesame Seed	100 KGS	Rajkot	6225	6225	6250
Coconut Oil Cake	100 KGS	Kochi	NA	NA	NA
RCBR Oil Cake	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Kapaskhali	50 KGS	Akola	1135	1132.1	1119.5
Coconut Oil	100 KGS	Kochi	5876	5876	5928
Refsoy Oil	10 KGS	Indore	496	498.25	506.4
CPO	10 KGS	Kandla	413	412.7	422.5
Mustard Oil	10 KGS	Jaipur	553.3	551.2	552.8
Gnutoilexp	10 KGS	Rajkot	860	858.3	870
Castor Oil	10 KGS	Kandla	NA	NA	NA
Crude Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	3791	3714	3714
Furnace Oil	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Sourcrd Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Brent Crude	1 BBL	Mumbai	3773	3689	3689
Gur	40 KGS	Muzngr	NA	NA	NA
Sugars	100 KGS	Kolhapur	2425	NA	2427
Sugarm	100 KGS	Delhi	2725	2715	2710
Natural Gas	1 mmBtu	Hazirabad	212.6	205.6	205.6
Rubber	100 KGS	Kochi	18889	18696	18572
Cotton Long	1 Candy	Kadi	NA	NA	NA
Cotton Med	1 Maund	Sriganganagar	NA	NA	NA
Jute	100 KGS	Kolkata	2760	2748	2694
Gold	10 GRMS	Ahmd	18000	18155	18175
Gold Guinea	8 GRMS	Ahmd	14458	14582	14598
Silver	1 KGS	Ahmd	28980	29150	29200
Sponge Iron	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Steel Flat	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Steel Long	1 MT	Gobindgarh	25405	25430	25365
Copper	1 KGS	Mumbai	341.8	339.15	339.15
Nickel	1 KGS	Mumbai	1016.2	1016.2	1039.5
Aluminium	1 KGS	Mumbai	102	102	101.4
Lead	1 KGS	Mumbai	99.75	99.75	100
Zinc	1 KGS	Mumbai	97	97	98.05
Tin	1 KGS	Mumbai	957	957	989.5

(Source: MCX Spot Prices)

3. Wide publicity may please be given to this Circular by way of issuance of Trade/ Public Notice.

F.No.DGEP/EOU/120/2007 dated 18th May 2010

Sub: Administrative Control over Export Oriented Units by the Central Excise formations.

Vide Circular No. 31/2003-Customs dated 7.04.03, the administrative control over EOUs, (including EHTP and STP) in the port cities, falling within the territorial jurisdiction of Commissioner of Customs, is with the concerned Commissioners of Customs. At other places, administrative control is with the jurisdictional Commissioner of Central Excise. The only exception is Bangalore Customs.

2. In view of implementation of Automation of Central Excise and Service Tax (ACES) the

issue of administrative control over EOUs/EHTP/STP, presently under Customs formations, was discussed by the Board on 16.4.10.

3. It has been decided by the Board in the meeting held on 16.4.10 that the jurisdiction over the EOU/EHTP/STP even in the port cities should be with the Central Excise formations. This will facilitate uniform and better administration/control of such EOUs, and, also facilitate the shift to GST regime in future. It has been decided that the shift in the process of administration, including handing over of all the records etc. of EOUs from Customs formations to the respective Central Excise formations can be effected **latest by 31st July 2010.**

4. The above decision of Board may please be circulated to all the field formations and Trade for necessary compliance.

Caviar Exports Disputes over Quotas

Beluga black caviar will return to the global marketplace after producing countries on the Caspian Sea agreed to allowable quotas for wild-caught sturgeon. A de facto ban was implemented in 2009 when the five Caspian States - Russia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan - failed to agree on scientifically based quotas as required by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The quota agreement has been in place since 2002, when high levels of poaching and illegal trade led to the near complete collapse of the sturgeon population in the Caspian Sea. CITES member states agreed that countries sharing access to sturgeon stocks should be required to work together to ensure the industry is sustainable.

After a June meeting in the Iranian capital of Tehran, the countries agreed on export quotas, which were published by CITES on 23 July. The total 2010 caviar quota is 81 tonnes - five tonnes less than the total quota in 2008 and 200 tonnes less than the 2001 quota. "They are not huge differences but the trend is going down," said Carlos Vasquez, a spokesman for CITES.

Caviar quotas for Caspian States amount to 3 tonnes of the prized beluga, 17 tonnes of sevruga, and 61 tonnes of osetra.

Environmentalists call for complete ban

The wild sturgeon population of the Caspian Sea provides 90 percent of the world's black caviar - unfertilised sturgeon eggs. Due the popularity of the delicacy, stocks have been declining steadily since the early 1990s, when the industry was tightly regulated by Soviet Moscow. All species of Caspian sturgeon are now listed as "critically endangered" by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Still, all species - including the rapidly declining beluga - remain listed under CITES Appendix II, which restricts their trade on a scientific basis, but does not ban it entirely; trade is illegal only for species listed under Appendix I of CITES.

Of particular concern to environmental groups is the beluga sturgeon, which has been banned in the United States since 2005. The 2010 Beluga export quotas have dropped from their 2008 levels with Iran at 800 kilos from 1,000 in 2008, Kazakhstan at 1,500 kilos from 1,700 and Azerbaijan at a quota of zero from 300 kilos in 2008.

Mounting demand and limited supply will lead to an increase in the price of wild caviar but it will take at least a month for the prices to settle. Petrossian estimated that prices would be as much as US\$500 an ounce. Some experts say wild caviar could cost more than double that of the highest quality farmed caviar.

In the absence of wild caviar, many consumers have become accustomed to the widely available, consistent and less costly farmed caviar, which is now produced at high quality.

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uct, while Argentina is one of its major exporters. Though Argentina did not export wheat to Egypt last year, that could change with the signing of this deal.

The Mercosur trade bloc is negotiating similar agreements with Jordan, Morocco, and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) - a six-member union that includes Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Summit attendees also addressed the issue of setting up a trade and cooperation agreement with the EU. The two parties re-launched talks in May, despite some pushback from EU member states who fear their farming sectors would suffer from increased competition with South American producers. The foreign affairs ministers from Mercosur's four member countries said they hoped the EU would agree to Mercosur's latest offer and accelerate progress toward an agreement.

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