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STOP PRESS

ITA II Concluded in Nairobi

Arun and Asim Goyal from Nairobi

- 201 Products of non-consumer Goods to go on Zero Duty in Next Seven Years
- 65% New Lines Covering 88% of Trade Value will be at Zero in 2016
- Coverage to go up to 89% of Lines in 2019 and 100% by 2024
- Touch Screens, GPS, Software Media, New Generation Chips and Telecom in List.
- Consumer Goods like TV and White Goods like Refrigerators and Microwaves and not in List to Protect Domestic Industry but their Electronic Parts will be at Zero Duty

Nairobi, 16 Dec.. 20:20

The historic ITA II Agreement covering 201 product lines was finally signed at the WTO Ministerial today. Non consumer goods like touch screens, GPS, Software media, New Generation Chips and telecom equipment will get zero duty on imports into the 52 ITA signatory countries. The implementation of the agreement will be phased out over the next seven years ending 2024. The first major tranche will come next year when two third of lines will be under the zero duty regime.

All the electronics super powers, namely the US, Japan, China, Korea, Thailand and Malaysia, the EU and Canada are in the boat. In all, there are 53 signatories in ITA II compared to the 82 in ITA I, The missing 29 include majors like India, Russia, Vietnam and Indonesia in ASEAN. Apart from this group, there are 81 others which include Latin America and the 35 in the Least Developed Countries group who are not members of ITA II. Some of the missing ones may join the Agreement at a later date but would have missed the detailed three and a half year negotiations. Leading up to the historic signing of the second phase of the opening up electronics trade which now accounts for one tenth of total trade.

The non-signatories to ITA II will be "free riders" under the MFN (Most Favoured Nation) clause of the WTO, that is, they will get zero duty on their exports to the ITA signatories but are allowed to charge duty on imports into their country. Thus Kenya can export mobile phones to ITA signatories at zero duty but, in turn, charge 15 percent of these very items from the ITA countries,

Apart from the multinational companies like Apple, the small and medium businesses will gain from the growth of IT trade as they become participants in with supply chains spanning the globe and production moving to areas where the costs are the lowest. Consumers too stand to benefit with falling prices due to production efficiencies and reduction in costs,

Flexibilities

ITA II raises many issues of implementation and administration. Given the fast changing world of business, new products keep coming up in business, the agreements are left behind in terms of nomenclature and coding system, The Harmonised System of coding developed by World Customs Organisation in Brussels is revised only once in five years which makes it out of step with the product market, and the IT Agreement. Thus mobile phones came on the world trade scene only in the beginning of the year 2000, they are recognised upfront only ITA II leading to major disputes in the period between ITA I concluded inn 1996 at the Singapore ministerial and ITA II now finalised,

Future trends

The trends towards sectoral agreements between major players in the fashion now at WTO. The dissenters are being ignored and made to sign the dotted line on the global trade. Countries like India can only negotiate on the strength of their large market and also the supply at competitive price drawing upon cheap labour.

The full detail of the ITA agreement is not yet out. However, the outline presents itself as the new design of world trade. It is time for developing countries like India to take a fresh look at domestic policies like VAT in the electronic sector to clean up the system and make it compatible with modern day agreements like ITA. Actions like this will make India be a part of the global system of IT manufacture and trade.

Academy of Business Studies News Service

Crude is Down to $34!!

Crude Oil (Indian Basket) from 09 - 15 Dec 2015

	9 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec
($/bbl)	36.75	36.65	35.72	34.39	34.25
(Rs/bbl)	2453.22	2447.95	2385.54	2304.13	2296.04
(Rs/$)	66.75	66.79	66.79	66.99	67.04

(Previous Trading Day Price)

Source: Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

WTO Ministerial Begins – Its DDA vs TPP

Arun and Asim Goyal from Nairobi

Ministers gathering in various bilateral and group configurations for all day and all night negotiating sessions to hammer out something positive.

US Trade Representative Michael Froman called on WTO members to acknowledge that the Doha talks were “at the end of the line,” in an op-ed in the Financial Times on 13 December. “It is time for the world to free itself from the strictures of Doha,” he said.

While the mood in the corridors ranged from gloom to ambition to see a possible resolution on both the WTO’s future work, as well as what substantive outcomes might emerge as Nairobi deliverables, key officials publicly pledged to do their utmost to achieve a successful result.

“I don’t think any of us is ready to give up today, we’re not ready to give up tomorrow, we’re not ready to give up on the 17th, nor are we ready to give up on the 18th,” said Amina Mohamed, Kenya’s Cabinet Secretary on Foreign Affairs and Trade and chair of the conference.

Azevêdo, Kenyatta: Paris, Bali as Inspiration

The Nairobi trade talks follow hot on the heels of a historic multilateral emissions-cutting agreement, clinched last week in Paris, France, with various officials and stakeholders on the first day citing the climate negotiations’ success at bridging strong divergences.

“2015 is a year in which we have displayed unparalleled cooperation in agreeing on a number of collective approaches to some of the most pressing problems facing humanity,” said Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta during Tuesday’s opening plenary, referring both to the Paris talks and the UN’s new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“The spirit that has followed us to come together and achieve measures that many thought impossible should also be present at this year’s Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference,” he continued, noting the body’s contribution to global growth, increased international trade, orderly dispute settlement, and integrating poorer countries into the global marketplace.

The memory of the 2013 Bali ministerial conference was recalled by other speakers during the opening plenary, given its success in inking the WTO’s first global trade deal in its history. WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo on Tuesday echoed a quote from Nelson Mandela that he had used on that occasion – “it always seems impossible until it is done” – as a potential source of inspiration in the days ahead.

Froman: Doha is “at the end of the line”

The cautiously optimistic statements in plenary stood in contrast, though, with the mood and dynamics among trade negotiators.

The US stance seemed directly at odds with the position taken by India and numerous other developing countries, many of which have argued that the long-running talks need to be concluded before moving on to new issues.

A joint ministerial statement from the African Group, China, Ecuador, India, and Venezuela issued on Tuesday called for a redoubling of efforts to “proceed towards the full, successful, and multilateral conclusion of the negotiations,” referring to the Doha mandate.

Although not referring specifically to the position taken by Froman, the group highlighted the various benefits they say would come from a successful, “comprehensive” conclusion of the Round with “economically meaningful and balanced outcomes.”

EU Commissioners Cecilia Malmström and Phil Hogan – responsible for trade and agriculture, respectively – joined the fray in a joint public statement, saying that they were “concerned by the deep persisting differences” between governments on the post-Nairobi WTO agenda. While the organisation should “keep working on” the outstanding Doha issues, it should also start to address other issues that are important for today’s global trade, the Commissioners argued.

Separate statements from both the least developed country (LDC) and small, vulnerable economies (SVE) trade ministers issued going into the conference also called for a successful conclusion to the Doha Round trade talks. Sources indicate that African ministers of trade are expected to adopt a similar declaration on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, experts and ministers attending side events on Tuesday at a Trade and Development Symposium reflected over the WTO’s potential future if faced with negotiating stasis in Nairobi, with many noting the shifting realities of trade flows and policymaking. Questions teemed on how to make sure new regional or plurilateral trade agreements remain compatible with the multilateral system and how to tackle emerging issues such as the digital economy.

Agriculture: negotiating groups set out their stands

The Cairns Group of agricultural exporting countries issued a statement calling for the abolition of agricultural subsidies at the ministerial, as well as new disciplines on other agricultural trade policies that have export subsidy-like effects. The conference should also address developing countries’ concerns on cotton, they said.

Another communiqué from the G-33 group of developing countries reiterated the importance of a safeguard to raise tariffs temporarily in the event of sudden import surges or price depressions, as well as a “permanent solution” to difficulties the group’s members say they face in buying food at administered prices for public stocks, under the WTO’s existing farm subsidy rules.

However, the declaration also indicated that the group would be “open to explore future cooperation on other areas in WTO agriculture negotiations where group members see common interests and shared objectives.” The G-33 includes China, India, and Indonesia, as well as numerous smaller developing countries.

Like the Cairns Group countries, the EU commissioners’ statement also argued in favour of an outcome on all forms of export subsidies.

Rules, LDC issues

Outcomes on fisheries have been slated as another potential deliverable from the Doha mandate for MC10, which sources say has started to gain more traction among some groups in recent days, particularly with an eye on demonstrating the WTO can also deliver positive outcomes for a wider sustainability agenda. Mohamed, the conference chair, published an op-ed last Saturday on the importance of tackling the issue at the global trade body.

On LDC issues – also under negotiation in Nairobi – sources say informal consultations on preferential Rules of Origin (RoO) took place on Tuesday. A draft decision seen by Bridges was circulated to delegations by Chair Steffen Smidt of Denmark beforehand in an attempt to suggest compromise language on certain outstanding issues. If adopted, the decision would be an addendum to the 2013 Bali decision.

Sources say that the Danish ambassador has been consulting with several delegations in recent days and preferred to submit a clean text without brackets in an attempt toward reaching convergence.

The draft decision outlines a set of multilaterally agreed guidelines to help make it easier for LDC exports to qualify for preferential market access, detailing specific obligations for preference-granting countries in areas such as the determination of substantial transformation, cumulation, simplification of documentary requirements and implementation, flexibilities, and transparency.

At press time, it appeared that discussion on language regarding the use of terms such as “aim to” versus “consider to” in one section of the draft decision involving how to define the threshold level of value addition to qualify for preferential treatment is proving divisive.

“Rules of origin could very well be a deliverable during this ministerial conference. Discussions on this issue has been so far very constructive,” said a developed country delegate, whose words were echoed by an African official.

EIF: US$90 million pledged

On the eve of the ministerial conference, 15 countries pledged almost US$90 million for the second phase of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) – the only global aid for trade programme with an exclusive focus on least developed countries.

The EIF is a multi-donor programme which supports LDCs to be more active players in the global trading system by helping them tackle supply-side constraints to trade. The new phase of the Enhanced Integrated Framework was launched over the summer and is expected to run from 2016 to 2022.

“We are marking a new and exciting chapter for the EIF partnership today,” said Azevêdo, who

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HR Flat Sheets and Plates of 150mm to 600mm under Safeguard Lens

- SAIL, Essar and JSW Complain of Sudden Rise in Imports
- Provisional Safeguard Duty of 20% Slapped on HR Coils of 600mm plus on 9 September 2015

On 10 December 2015, India notified the WTO's Committee on Safeguards that it initiated on 7 December 2015 a safeguard investigation on Hot-rolled flat sheets and plates (excluding hot rolled flat products in coil form) of alloy or non-alloy steel having nominal thickness less than or equal to 150mm and nominal width of greater than or equal to 600mm.

[Safeguard Investigation Notice F.No. D-22011/47/2015 dated 7 December 2015]

Sub: Initiation of safeguard investigation concerning imports of "Hot Rolled flat sheets and plates (excluding hot rolled flat products in coil form) of alloy or non-alloy steel" into India.

1. An application has been filed before me on 28th October, 2015 under Rule 5 of the Customs Tariff (Identification and Assessment of Safeguard Duty) Rules, 1997 by M/S Steel Authority of India Limited, M/S Essar Steel India Limited, M/S JSW Steel Limited and M/S Jindal Steel & Power Ltd through M/S Lakshmi Kumaran & Sridharan Attorneys, New Delhi, for imposition of Safeguard Duty on imports "Hot Rolled flat sheets and plates (excluding hot rolled flat products in coil form) of alloy or non alloy steel having nominal thickness less than or equal to 150mm and nominal width of greater than or equal to 600mm" hereinafter referred to as 'PUC' (Product under consideration) **into India** to protect the domestic producers of PUC against serious injury/threat of serious injury caused by the increased imports of PUC into India.

2. **Domestic Industry**: The applicants, i.e., M/S Steel Authority of India Limited, M/S Essar Steel India Limited, M/S JSW Steel Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd claimed that their production together accounts for more than 50% of the total production of PUC in India and it represent a major proportion of Indian production of the product under consideration in the country and thus have the standing to file the present application.

3. **Product Involved**: The product under consideration in the present investigation is "Hot Rolled flat sheets and plates (excluding hot rolled flat products in coil form) of alloy or non-alloy steel having nominal thickness less than or equal to 150mm and nominal width of greater than or equal to 600mm" whether or not rolled from universal plate mill including reversible plate mill or hot strip mill or tandem mill or steckel mill or any other similar process with various type of rolling configuration including 2-High, 3-High, 4-High, cluster mill or any similar hot rolling process. The product under consideration is classified under Tariff Heading 7208 and 7225 (722540413, 72254019, 72254020, 72254030 and72259900) which are directly substituting the products manufactured by the DI that fall under the tariff heading 7208) of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. These products include sheets and plates produced either directly from the hot rolling process or cut/sheared from hot rolled coils. These products are flat products of iron, alloy or non-alloy steel, in prime or non-prime condition having 'as-rolled' edge or 'trimmed' edge or "milled" edge or "sheared" edge or "laser-cut" edge or "gas-cut" edge. These products may be pickled or non-pickled (with or without skin-pass or tempering), normalized or un-normalized, ultra-sonically tested or untested or oiled or non-oiled etc. These products may be "as-rolled" or "thermomechani-cally rolled" or "thermo-mechanically controlled rolled" or "controlled rolled" or "normalized rolled" or "normalized" or subject to any other similar process. These products may have patterns in relief / chequered patterns of different types derived directly during hot rolling. These products may be sand blasted or shot blasted or subjected to similar processes. These products may find applications spread across various end-usages including but not limited to structural applications, general engineering & fabrication, automotive, earthmoving & mining equipment, storage tanks, low pressure heaters, treaters, tanks & other low pressure vessels, infrastructure and construction sectors such as port, railway, airport, bridges, flyovers, power generation, transmission & distribution sector, wind-mill, ship building & boats, tube & pipe manufacturing for transporting semi-solid, liquid & gas.

By ample clarification, the following are not included in the scope of the product under consideration:

a) Hot rolled flat products of stainless steel;
b) API grade steel conforming to X-52 and higher API grades for manufacturing pipes used for pipeline transportation systems in the petroleum and natural gas industries;
c) Hot rolled plates for manufacturing boilers and pressure vessels confirming to IS 2002 and IS 2041;
d) Silicon electrical steel;
e) Cladded steel;
f) Quenched and tempered steel;

4. **Period of Investigation (POI):** The applicants have submitted all the data from 2012-13 to 2015-16 (up to Sept., 15). The period for investigation selected is 2012-13 to 2015-16 (A) which is long enough in order to take into consideration the market conditions and to ascertain the need of imposition of Safeguard Duty.

5. **Source of information:** The transaction-wise import data for the 'PUC' has been taken from DGCI&S (Ministry Of Commerce) from 2012-13 to 2015-16 (upto Aug,15) and same has been taken into consideration for analysis. The domestic data from 2012-13 to 2015-16(up to Sept.,15) have been submitted by the domestic industry and the same been taken into consideration for analysis.

6. **Increased Imports (absolute & in relative terms)**: 'PUC' is imported into India primarily from Indonesia, China PR, Japan, Korea RP, Russia and Ukraine. The imports of 'PUC' have shown an increasing trend in absolute terms as well as in relative terms during the period as shown in table below:-

Year	Total Imports (MT)	Trend	All India Production (MT)	Import with respect to total production (%)
2012-13	601,667	100	5264627	11
2013-14	323,723	54	5420737	6
2014-15	599891	100	5001044	12
2015-16(A)	708816	118	5048846	14

7. **Serious Injury**: The applicant have claimed that the increased imports of 'PUC' have caused and are threatening to cause serious injury to the domestic producers of 'PUC' as indicated by the following factors:

(a) **Production**: The production of the domestic industry remained at the same level as shown in the following table:-

Indo-Japan CEPA

Engine of 250cc Plus and Gear Boxes and Parts Duty Slashed w.e.f. 1 January 2016

Seeks to further amend Notification No. 69/ 2011-Customs, dated 29th July, 2011 so as to provide a concessional rate of basic customs duty in respect of tariff item 84082020 [engines of a kind used for the propulsion of motor vehicles – of cylinder capacity exceeding 250 cc] and 87084000 [gear box and parts thereof, of motor vehicles], w.e.f. 1st of January, 2016 at 5.94% and 8.13%, respectively, when imported under the India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IJCEPA).

Ntfn 57 14.12.2015 (DoR) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No.69/2011-Customs dated the 29th July, 2011, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 593 (E), dated the 29th July, 2011, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table,-

(a) against S. No. 521, for the entry in column (4), the entry 5.94 shall be substituted;

(b) against S. No. 746, for the entry in column (4), the entry 8.13 shall be substituted.

2. This notification shall come into force with effect from the 1st day of January, 2016

[F. No. 354/199/2009-TRU]

Year	Production of DI (MT)	Trend
2012-13	4649918	100
2013-14	4237844	91
2014-15	4303683	93
2015-16(A)	4306260	93

(b) **Market Share of domestic producers in domestic demand**: Market share of the applicants has fallen in the most recent period. Applicants had a market share of 73% in 2014-15 which fell to 70% during 2015-16 (A). During the same period, the market share of import increased from 12% to 13%, as shown below:-

Financial Year	Total Import (MT)	Sales of DI (MT)	Captive consumption of DI (MT)	Sales of other Indian Producers (MT)	Total Demand (MT)	Market Share (%)	
						DI	Import
2012-13	601,667	3683111	439569	536201	5260548	70	11
2013-14	323,723	3662331	192398	994887	5173339	71	6
2014-15	599891	3768085	157747	639349	5165072	73	12
2015-16(A)	708816	3771342	227971	694669	5402798	70	13

(c) **Productivity & Employment**: Since the applicant companies are multi-product companies, the employment levels have not undergone any significant change and productivity per day is as under:-

Financial Year	Productivity per day(MT) (Indexed)
2012-13	100
2013-14	91
2014-15	93
2015-16(A)	93

(d) **Capacity Utilisation:** During the period, the capacity utilisation decreased from 45% to 37% during 2012-13 to 2015-16(A) as evident from the table below:

Financial Year	Installed Capacity (MT)	Capacity Utilisation (%)
2012-13	10336260	45
2013-14	11159000	38
2014-15	11305667	38
2015-16(A)	11589959	37

(e) **Profit/loss** – The profitability of the domestic industry has declined sharply in 201516(A) and they have started recording losses as shown in the following table:-

Financial Year	Profitability (Rs. /MT) (Indexed)	ROCE (%) Indexed
2012-13	100	100
2013-14	66	71
2014-15	39	43
2015-16(A)	-230	-1

(f) **Inventory**- The table below depicts the inventory levels which have witnessed a surge from 100 points in 2012-13 to 130 points in 2015-16(A).

Financial Year/ Quarter	Inventory (MT) (Indexed)
2012-13	100
2013-14	104
2014-15	104
2015-16(A)	130

8. The domestic industry has requested for immediate imposition of safeguard measures for a period of four years in their application. The domestic industry has also requested for imposition of provisional safeguard duty in view of steep deterioration in performance of the domestic industry as a result of increased imports of product under consideration.

9. The application has been examined and it has been found that prima facie increased imports of 'PUC' have caused or are threatening to cause serious injury to the domestic producers of 'PUC' and accordingly, it has been decided to initiate an investigation through this notice.

10. All interested parties may make their views known within a period of 30 days from the date of this notice to:

The Director General (Safeguards)
Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan: 2nd Floor, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Gole Market, New Delhi-110 001
Telefax: 011-23741542/ 23741537
E-mail: dgsafeguards@nic.in

11. All known interested parties are also being addressed separately.

12. Any other party to the investigation who wishes to be considered as an interested party may submit its request so as to reach the Director General (Safeguards) on the aforementioned address within 15 days from the date of this notice.

13. A public file containing all relevant material (non-confidential) shall be available for inspection by all interested parties in the office of the Director General (Safeguards) on the aforementioned address.

MEP on Onions including Bangalore Rose Cut to $400/ MT from $700/MT

Effect of this notification: *The Minimum Export Price (MEP) for export of all varieties of onions as described above is revised from US$ 700 F.O.B. per MT to US$ 400 F.O.B. per MT.*

Subject: Export Policy of Onions- revision in Minimum Export Price (MEP).

26-Ntfn
11.12.2015
(DGFT)

In exercise of powers conferred by Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No. 22 of 1992), as amended, read with Para 1.02 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20, the Central Government hereby makes the following amendment, with immediate effect, in Notification No. 1812015-20 dated 24.08.2015 read with Notification No. 73 (RE- 201 3)12009-14 dated 12.03.2014 relating to export of onion.

2. Para2 of Notification No. l8l20l5-20 dated 24.08.2015 is amended to read as:

"Export of onion for the item description at Serial Number 5l &. 52 of Chapter 7 of Schedule 2 of ITC (HS) Classification of Export & Import Items shall be permitted subject to a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of US$ 400 F.O.B. per Metric Ton".

Anti-dumping Duty on Stainless Steel Flats from China, Korea, EU, South Africa and Others to Continue for Another Five Years

Seeks to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on import of Cold Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, Korea, European Union, South Africa, Taiwan (Chinese Taipei), Thailand and USA for a period of five years.

Ntfn 61(ADD)
11.12.2015
(DoR)

Whereas, the designated authority, *vide* notification No. 15/04/2014-DGAD, dated the 17th April, 2014, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, had initiated a review in the matter of import of Cold Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel, (hereinafter referred to as the subject goods), falling under heading 7219 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Tariff Act) and originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, Korea, European Union, South Africa, Taiwan (Chinese Taipei), Thailand and United States of America (USA) (hereinafter referred to as the subject countries / territories), imposed *vide* notification of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 14/2010-CUSTOMS, dated the 20th February, 2010, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), *vide* number G.S.R. 95(E), dated the 20th February, 2010;

And whereas, the Central Government had extended the anti-dumping duty on the subject goods, originating in or exported from the subject countries / territories upto and inclusive of the 21st April, 2015, *vide* notification of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 20/2014-Customs (ADD), dated the 12th May, 2014, published in Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) of the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, *vide* number G.S.R 337(E), dated the 12th May, 2014;

And whereas, in the matter of review of anti-dumping duty on import of the subject goods, originating in or exported from the subject countries / territories, the designated authority in its final findings, published *vide* notification No. 15/ 04/2014-DGAD, dated the 12th October, 2015, in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, has come to the conclusion that -

(i) there is continued dumping of the subject goods from the subject countries/territories though the volume of imports has declined after imposition of duties;

(ii) the performance of the domestic industry has deteriorated in the current injury period due to the impact of the dumped imports from the subject country and diversion of imports to product ranges outside the scope of the product under consideration;

(iii) the dumping is likely to continue and the performance of the domestic industry is likely to deteriorate, should the present anti-dumping duty is revoked,

and has recommended the imposition of definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of the subject goods originating in, or exported, from the subject countries / territories;

Table

SNo.	Tariff heading	Description of goods	Specification	Countries/Territories of origin	Countries/ Territories of export	Producer	Exporter	% of landed value
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1	7219	Cold-rolled Flat products of stainless steel	All Grades, All Series except the exclusions as per Note below	People's Republic of China	Any	Any	Any	57.39%
2	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	People's Republic of China	Any	Any	57.39%
3	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Korea RP	Korea RP	POSCO	1. Hyundai Corporation 2. Daewoo International Corporation	5.39%
4	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Korea RP	Korea RP	Any combination other than above combination		13.44%
5	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Korea RP	Any	Any	Any	13.44%
6	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	Korea RP	Any	Any	13.44%
7	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Chinese Taipei	Any	Any	Any	15.93%
8	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	Chinese Taipei	Any	Any	15.93%
9	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	South Africa	South Africa	Columbus Stainless (Pty) Ltd	Columbus Stainless (Pty) Ltd	12.34%
10	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	South Africa	South Africa	Any combination other than above combination		36.91%
11	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	South Africa	Any	Any	Any	36.91%
12	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than subject countries/territories	South Africa	Any	Any	36.91%
13	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Thailand	Thailand	POSCO Thainox	1. POSCO Thainox 2. Hyundai Corporation	4.58%
14	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Thailand	Thailand	Any combination other than above combination		5.39%
15	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Thailand	Any	Any	Any	5.39%
16	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	Thailand	Any	Any	5.39%
17	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	USA	Any	Any	Any	9.47%
18	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	USA	Any	Any	9.47%
19	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	European Union	European Union	Acerinox Europa SAU, Spain	Acerinox Europa SAU, Spain	29.41%
20	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	European Union	European Union	Any combination other than above combination		52.56%
21	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	European Union	Any	Any	Any	52.56%
22	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	Any country other than the subject countries/territories	European Union	Any	Any	52.56%

Note: The subject goods include cold-rolled Flat products of stainless steel of width of 600 mm upto 1250 mm of all series not further worked than Cold rolled (cold reduced) with a thickness of up to 4 mm (width tolerance of +30 mm for Mill Edged and +4 mm for Trimmed Edged), excluding the following:

(i) the subject goods of width beyond 1250 mm (plus tolerances);

(ii) Grades AISI 420 high carbon, 443, 441, EN 1.4835, 1.4547, 1.4539, 1.4438, 1.4318, 1.4833 and EN 1.4509;

(iii) product supplied under Indian Patent No. 223848 in respect of goods comprising Low Nickel containing Chromium-Nickel Manganese-Copper Austenitic Stainless steel and representing Grades YU 1 and YU 4, produced and supplied by M/s Yieh United Steel Corp (Yusco) of Chinese Taipei (Taiwan).

2 The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be levied for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be payable in Indian currency.

Explanation - For the purposes of this notification, "Landed Value" shall be the assessable value as determined under the Customs Act 1962 (52 of 1962) and all duties of customs except duties levied under sections 3, 3A, 8B, 9 and 9A of the Customs Tariff Act.

[F. No. 354/87/2009-TRU(Pt.-III)]

Anti-dumping Duty of $31.22 per kg on Gliclazide from China Notified for Five Years on Petition of Bal Pharma, Bangalore

Ntfn 59(ADD) 08.12.2015 (DoR)

Whereas, in the matter of Gliclazide (hereinafter referred to as the subject goods), falling under tariff item 2942 00 90 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Tariff Act), originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the subject country), and imported into India, the designated authority in its final findings published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, *vide* notification number 14/5/2014-DGAD, dated the 20th October, 2015, has come to the conclusion that

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

(ii) the domestic industry has suffered material injury;

(iii) the material injury has been caused by the dumped imports of the subject goods from subject country;

(iv) the injury has been caused cumulatively by the imports from the subject country,

and has recommended imposition of definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of the subject goods, originating in, or exported from subject country and imported into India, in order to remove injury to the domestic industry;

Table

SNo.	Tariff item	Description of goods	Specification	Country of origin	Country of export	Producer	Exporter	Amount	Unit	Currency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1.	2942 00 90	Gliclazide	Any specification	Peoples Republic of China	Peoples Republic of China	Shandong Keyuan Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd	Shandong Keyuan Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd	20.86	Kg	US Dollar
2.	2942 00 90	Gliclazide	Any specification	Peoples Republic of China	Peoples Republic of China	Zhejiang Jiuzhou Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.	Zhejiang Jiuzhou Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.	18.26	Kg	US Dollar
3.	2942 00 90	Gliclazide	Any specification	Peoples Republic of China	Peoples Republic of China	Any combination other than Sl. No.1 and 2		31.22	Kg	US Dollar
4.	2942 00 90	Gliclazide	Any specification	Peoples Republic of China	An country other than Peoples Republic of China	Any	Any	31.22	Kg	US Dollar
5.	2942 00 90	Gliclazide	Any specification	Any country other than Peoples Republic of China	Peoples Republic of China	Any	Any	31.22	Kg	US Dollar

2. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be paid in Indian currency.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this notification, rate of exchange applicable for the purpose 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. 354/199/2015-TRU]

CBEC Clarifies Biodiesel is an Oleochemical Derived from Vegetable Oils or Animal Fats

[CBEC Instruction F.No.528/22/2015-STO(TU) dated 11th December 2015]

Subject: Clarification on classification of Biodiesel under oleochemicals.

Representations have been received from the trade on the subject above.

2. The matter has been examined by the Board and it is observed that 100% Biodiesel (referred to as B100) is an oleochemical derived from vegetable oils or animal fats.

3. Suitable Public Notice/Standing Order may be issued for the benefit of all stakeholders and Departmental officers.

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

Anti-dumping Duty Slapped on Albendazone from China for Five Years

Seeks to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on Abendazole, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, for a period of five years

Ntfn 62(ADD) 14.12.2015 (DoR)

Whereas, in the matter of Albendazole (hereinafter referred to as the subject goods), falling under tariff item 2933 29 50 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Tariff Act), originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the subject country), and imported into India, the designated authority in its final findings published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1, *vide* notification number 14/31/2013-DGAD, dated the 5th November, 2015, has come to the conclusion that

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

(ii) the domestic industry has suffered material injury;

(iii) the material injury has been caused by the dumped imports of the subject goods from subject country,

and has recommended imposition of definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of the subject goods, originating in, or exported from subject country and imported into India, in order to remove injury to the domestic industry;

Table

SNo.	Tariff item	Description of goods	Specification	Country of origin	Country of export	Producer	Exporter	Amount	Unit	Currency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1.	2933 29 50	Albendazole	Any specification	People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Changzhou Yabang Pharma-chem Co. Ltd, China PR (Yabang-QH)	Changzhou QH Pharmaceutical & Technology Co. Ltd. China PR (QHPT)	9.31	Kg	US Dollar
2.	2933 29 50	Albendazole	Any specification	People's Republic of China	Any country other than People's Republic of China	Any	Any	10.02	Kg	US Dollar
3.	2933 29 50	Albendazole	Any specification	Any country other than People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China	Any	Any	10.02	Kg	US Dollar

2. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be paid in Indian currency.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this notification, rate of exchange applicable for the purpose 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. 354/204/2015-TRU]

Provisional Anti-dumping Duty Imposed on PTA from China, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan on RIL and MCC PTA India Complaint

Korea and Thai Already in Hit List from July 2014

Seeks to levy provisional anti-dumping duty on Purified Terephthalic Acid, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan for a period not exceeding six months.

Ntfn 60(ADD) 10.12.2015 (DoR) Whereas, in the matter of Purified Terephthalic Acid including its variants Medium Quality Terephthalic Acid and Qualified Terephthalic Acid (hereinafter referred to as the subject goods), falling under tariff item 2917 36 00 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Tariff Act), originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and Taiwan (hereinafter referred to as the subject countries), and imported into India, the designated authority in its preliminary findings published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1,*vide* notification number 14/8/2015-DGAD, dated the 12th November, 2015, has come to the provisional conclusion that

(i) the subject goods have been exported to India from subject countries below its normal value, thus resulting in dumping;

(ii) the domestic industry has suffered material injury due to dumping of the subject goods from the subject countries;

(iii) the material injury has been caused by the dumped imports of subject goods from the subject countries,

and has recommended imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of the subject goods, originating in, or exported from subject countries and imported into India, in order to remove injury to the domestic industry;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (2) of section 9A of the 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, after considering the aforesaid preliminary findings of the designated authority, hereby imposes on the subject goods, the description of which is specified in column (3) of the Table below, falling under tariff item of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act as specified in the corresponding entry in column (2), originating in the countries as specified in the corresponding entry in column (4), exported from the countries as specified in the corresponding entry in column (5), produced by the producers as specified in the corresponding entry in column (6), exported by the exporters as specified in the corresponding entry in column (7), imported into India, an anti-dumping duty at the rate equal to the amount as specified in the corresponding entry in column (8) in the currency as specified in the corresponding entry in column (10) and as per unit of measurement as specified in the corresponding entry in column (9) of the said Table, namely:-

Table

SNo.	Tariff item	Description of goods	Country of origin	Country of export	Producer	Exporter	Amount	Unit	Currency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1.	2917 36 00	Purified Terephthalic Acid	Peoples Republic of China	Peoples Republic of China	Any	Any	80.13	MT	US Dollar
2.	2917 36 00	-do-	Peoples Republic of China	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Any	Any	80.13	MT	US Dollar
3.	2917 36 00	-do-	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Peoples Republic of China	Any	Any	80.13	MT	US Dollar
4.	2917 36 00	-do-	Indonesia	Indonesia	Any	Any	76.13	MT	US Dollar
5.	2917 36 00	-do-	Indonesia	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Any	Any	76.13	MT	US Dollar
6.	2917 36 00	-do-	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Indonesia	Any	Any	76.13	MT	US Dollar
7.	2917 36 00	-do-	Iran	Iran	Any	Any	108.28	MT	US Dollar
8.	2917 36 00	-do-	Iran	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Any	Any	108.28	MT	US Dollar
9.	2917 36 00	-do-	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Iran	Any	Any	108.28	MT	US Dollar
10.	2917 36 00	-do-	Malaysia	Malaysia	Any	Any	98.15	MT	US Dollar
11	2917 36 00	-do-	Malaysia	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Any	Any	98.15	MT	US Dollar
12	2917 36 00	-do-	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Malaysia	Any	Any	98.15	MT	US Dollar
13	2917 36 00	-do-	Taiwan	Taiwan	Any	Any	56.94	MT	US Dollar
14	2917 36 00	-do-	Taiwan	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Any	Any	56.94	MT	US Dollar
15	2917 36 00	-do-	Any country other than subject to anti-dumping duty	Taiwan	Any	Any	56.94	MT	US Dollar

Note: Purified Terephthalic Acid includes its variants- Medium Quality Terephthalic Acid and Qualified Terephthalic Acid.

2. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period not exceeding six months (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be paid in Indian currency.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this notification, rate of exchange applicable for the purpose 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. 354/285/2015-TRU]

Zero Duty Concession for Goods for Advance Technology Vessels Program (ATVP) of Min of Defence Import Extended Indefinitely, Expiry Date of 1 Jan 2016 Removed

Seeks to further amend notification No 39/96-Customs dated 23.07.1996

Ntfn 56 11.12.2015 (DoR) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendment in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No.39/96-Customs, dated the 23rd July, 1996, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number G.S.R. 291(E), dated the 23rd July, 1996, namely:-

In the said notification, in the TABLE, against S.No.13, in column (3), the Explanation shall be omitted.

[F.No. 354/190/2015-TRU]

MEIS Claims for Wrongly Filed Shipping Bills for Exports between 1 June to 30 Sept 2015 Allowed

***Effect of the Public Notice**: Shipping bills, where declaration of intent 'Y' has not been marked and 'N' has been ticked inadvertently in the 'reward item box' while filing shipping bills in Customs for exports made between 01.06.2015 to 30.09.2015, shall be transmitted by CBEC to DGFT.*

Subject: Declaration of intent under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS).

47-PN 08.12.2015 (DGFT) DGFT by Public Notice No. 40 dated 09th October 2015, had prescribed a procedure to be followed for claiming rewards under MEIS where exports had been made through EDI generated shipping bills between 01.04.2015 to 31.05.2015 and the exporter had inadvertently marked '**N**' in the "reward item box" and wished to seek MEIS benefit.

2. Subsequently representations have been received from exporters and trade & industry that such procedure should also be made applicable to exports made beyond 31.05.2015.

3. To suitably address the matter, in exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 of the Foreign Trade Policy(FTP) (2015-2020) read with para 3.14 of the Handbook of Procedures of FTP 2015-20, the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby allows the following procedure to be followed where exports have been made between 1.6.2015 to 30.9.2015 through EDI generated shipping bills, and where the exporter has inadvertently marked "N" in the "reward item box" but has declared his intention in the affirmative on the shipping bill.

4. The concerned RA will consider such applications for issue of scrip subject to the following conditions:

(a) Item level details for Shipping Bills related to exports from 01.6.2015 to 30.9.2015 that were not transmitted to DGFT(due to declaring 'N' at item level and thus showing negative intent for the Reward Scheme) shall be identified and transmitted by Director General (Systems) to Director General of Foreign Trade(DGFT). This would enable exporters to file reward applications electronically with DGFT in such cases. Physical Export Promotion(EP) copy of each Shipping Bill will be submitted by the exporters to concerned Regional Authority(RA) (in all cases of 'N' declaration) to verify that the declaration of intent was made by exporter as provided in Para 3.14 of Handbook of Procedure(HBP) 2015-20 before allowing reward, subject to other provisions of FTP/HBP.

(b) Where Shipping Bills for exports from 01.06.2015 to 30.9.2015 have been otherwise transmitted to DGFT {being Advance Authorisation (AA) / Export Promotion Capital Goods(EPCG)/ Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) scheme Shipping Bills} but 'N' has been declared in the 'Reward item' field, the exporter shall submit EP copy of shipping bills and reward may be issued by concerned RA after confirming declaration of intent on physical EP copy of the shipping bills as provided in Para 3.14 of HBP 2015-20.

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explained that the will to deliver outcomes for the world's poorest nation is "real" and that a successful pledging conference would be an important part of that effort.

During the conference, trade officials from Australia, Denmark, Estonia, the EU, Finland, France, Germany, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom reaffirmed their strong support for this Aid-for-Trade programme, while the Netherlands joined as a new donor.

The amount of funding needed to run the programme in the next seven years has been estimated at between US$274-320 million.

Most donors have indicated that owing to budgeting cycles they were not in a position to commit for more than two years, while noting that further contributions would be made available in this second EIF phase. Some stressed that progress was needed towards more effectiveness and ownership of the funds allocated.

Some developed country delegates suggested that the amount pledged constituted a "very strong basis," given the pressures many core donors face due to humanitarian emergencies and a difficult economic context. One LDC delegate said, however, that more was expected as US$90 million was not even half of the funding required.

ITA waiting game

At press time, it remained unclear whether the group of WTO members involved in the negotiations to expand the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) will have a completed deal to announce this week, though sources indicated potential signs of progress. Azevêdo told reporters on Tuesday morning that he was confident of there being an ITA result.

Customs Valuation Exchange Rates

4 December 2015		Imports	Exports
Schedule I [Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equipment to Indian Rupees]			
1	Australian Dollar	49.45	48.00
2	Bahrain Dinar	183.05	171.75
3	Canadian Dollar	50.55	49.45
4	Danish Kroner	9.60	9.35
5	EURO	71.65	69.85
6	Hong Kong Dollar	8.70	8.55
7	Kuwaiti Dinar	226.00	212.70
8	New Zealand Dollar	45.05	43.70
9	Norwegian Kroner	7.80	7.60
10	Pound Sterling	100.70	98.50
11	Singapore Dollar	47.80	46.80
12	South African Rand	4.75	4.50
13	South Arabian Riyal	18.30	17.30
14	Swedish Kroner	7.75	7.60
15	Swiss Franc	66.25	64.60
16	UAE Dirham	18.70	17.70
17	U.S. Dollar	67.25	66.25
Schedule II [Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees]			
1	Japanese Yen	54.75	53.50
2	Kenyan Shilling	67.20	63.45

(Source: Customs Notification 136(NT)/03.12.15)

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