

Ban on Plastic Pouches Containing Gutkha



The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 on 7 February 2011. It replaces the earlier Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999 (amended in 2003). These Rules have been brought out following detailed discussions and consultations with a wide spectrum of stakeholders including civil society, industry bodies, relevant Central Government Ministries and State Governments.

Releasing the Rules the Minister of Environment and Forests, Mr. Jairam Ramesh said " It is impractical and undesirable to impose a blanket ban on the use of plastic all over the country. The real challenge is to improve municipal solid waste management systems. In addition to the privatization and mechanization of the municipal solid waste management systems we must be sensitive to the needs and concerns of the lakhs of people involved in the informal sector"

Some of the salient features of the new Rules are ban on use of plastic materials in sachets for storing ,packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala, no food stuffs will be allowed to be packet in recycled plastics or compostable plastics, recycled carry bags to have specific BIS standards, colour to the prescription by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), uniform thickness shall not be less than 40 microns in carry bags etc.

One of the major provisions under the new Rules is the explicit recognition of the rule of waste pickers. The new Rules require the municipal authority to constructively engage agencies or groups working in waste management including these waste pickers. This is the very first time that such a special dispensation has been made.

The Municipal authority shall be responsible for setting up, operationalisation and coordination of the waste management system and for performing the associated functions, This include to ensure safe collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste:, no damage to the environment during this process, setting up of the collection centers for plastic waste involving manufacturers, its channelization to recyclers:, to create awareness among all stakeholders about their responsibilities , and to ensure that open burning of plastic waste is not permitted.

I. Salient Features

Some of the salient features of the new Rules are:-

- Use of plastic materials in sachets for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala has been banned.
- Under the new Rules, foodstuffs will not be allowed to

HC Wants Show to Comply with Customs Act, 1962

The high court on Friday directed that customs rules and notifications should be adhered to, and customs duties collected from participants at Aero India Show-2011.

Chief justice JS Khehar and justice AS Bopanna were, on Friday, hearing a PIL filed by Right to Information activist Saurabh Lakhani and customs expert Arun Goyal, who contended that ever since the first aero show in the city in 1996, customs rules had been breached.

The court directed that the Customs Act, 1962, be observed stringently. The rules require filing entry for aircraft, and bills for re-ex-goods brought in for exhibition, including civil and military aircraft.



The petitioners said that over 100 civil and military aircraft, worth more than US \$10 billion, have been imported in the past seven aero shows, without bills of entries and re-export shipping bills, causing losses and endangering national security.

The petitioners questioned whether dues on fuel, stocks and give-away gift items for prospective buyers were ever collected.

The court took a serious view of the matter and directed the customs commissioner to appear before it in person in the afternoon.

Customs commissioner of Bangalore, B Bhattacharya appeared before the court in the second half of the hearing and said that all rules and notifications would be complied with.

The division bench disposed the public interest litigation after the customs commissioner's statement, with directions that all customs rules and notifications be complied with in the aero show this year.

(We have covered the story earlier under "Aero Show in Bangalore 09-13 Feb 2011" in the Weekly Issue Vol. 27 No. 40 dated 29 December 2010 – 04 January 2011)

[Source: DNA, Bangalore dated Saturday, February 5, 2011]

be packed in recycled plastics or compostable plastics.

- Recycled carry bags shall conform to specific BIS standards.
- Plastic carry bags shall either be white or only with

those pigments and colourants which are in conformity with the bar prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). This shall apply expressly for pigments and colourants to be used in plastic products which come in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water.

- Plastic carry bags shall not be less than 40 microns in thickness. Under the earlier Rules, the minimum thickness was 20 microns. Several State Governments in the meanwhile, had stipulated varying minimum thickness. It is now expected that 40 microns norms will become the uniform standard to be followed across the country.
- The minimum size (of 8x12 inches) for the plastic carry bags prescribed under the earlier Rules has been dispensed with.
- Carry bags can be made from compostable plastics provided they conform to BIS standards.

One of the major provisions under the new Rules is the explicit recognition of the role of waste pickers. The new Rules require the municipal authority to constructively engage agencies or groups working in waste management including these waste pickers. This is the very first time that such a special dispensation has been made.

II. Role of Implementing Authority

The Municipal authority shall be responsible for setting up, operationalization and coordination of the waste management system and for

performing the associated functions, namely;

- To ensure safe collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste;
- To ensure that no damage is caused to the environment during this process;
- To ensure setting up of collection centres for plastic waste involving manufacturers;
- To ensure its channelization to recyclers;
- To create awareness among all stakeholders about their responsibilities;
- To ensure that open burning of plastic waste is not permitted.

III. Additional Safeguards

- No carry bags shall be made available free of cost to consumers. The municipal authority may determine the minimum price for plastic carry bags.
- The municipal authority may also direct the manufacturers to establish plastic waste collection centres, either collectively or individually, in line with the principle of 'Extended Producers Responsibility'.
- The new Rules have stipulated provisions for marking or labeling to indicate name, registration number of the manufacturer, thickness and also to indicate whether they are recycled or compostable.

[Full text of the Notification available at our website www.worldtradesScanner.com]

[Source: PIB (MoEF) Press Release dated 7 February 2011]

holders, the Task Force identified 44 issues and taken up with the relevant Ministries and after consultations with them, it was agreed to implement 32 of these issues. "Of these, 21 issues have been implemented and another 2 are likely to be implemented in a couple of months. The remaining issues are under the process of examination and consultations for implementation. It is expected that implementation of 23 issues is likely to mitigate the transaction cost by approximately Rs.2100 crore. Permanent reduction of transaction cost through these initiatives will have a long term positive impact on the competitiveness of India's exports."

Highlights

Agriculture

1. The five major Regional Plant Quarantine Stations have been fully equipped to perform their function of preventing the introduction of any insect, fungus or other pest, which is or may be destructive to crops, to facilitate safe global trading in agriculture.
2. The plant quarantine services at International Airports Chennai and Mumbai will now be available round the clock. Also, the issuances of Phytosanitary Certificate necessary for trading will be expedited.
3. A committee of experts is constituted to look into providing Animal Quarantine and Certification Station (AQCS) facilities at ICD Kanpur and Jalandhar. Also, it has been decided in-principle to allow imports of raw leather at ICD Kanpur, modalities will be notified shortly.

Civil Aviation

4. The Delhi International Airport has reduced the charges levied for screening express cargo and courier shipments from Rs 6 to Rs 1.65 per kg for the export courier at its Express Courier Terminal at IGI Airport.

Commerce/DGFT

5. As per the Public Notices No. 3/ (RE: 2010)/ 2009-2014, dated 23/08/2010, DGFT has done away with the requirement of submitting Chartered Engineer's Certificate while submitting application for Advance authorization under paragraph 4.7 of the hand book of procedures.
6. The norms approved by Norms Committee for same export and import products for authorization obtained under paragraph 4.7 (ad-hoc norms) will now be valid for one year (both past and future). Earlier these norms covered only prospective authorization.
7. DGFT vide its Public Notice No.24/2009-2014 dated 17/1/2011 has dispensed with requirement of submitting Performa invoice for obtaining an import authorization.
8. There would be no need to submit Performa Invoice for obtaining export authorization for restricted items (except SCOMET items) as per the Public Notice No.20 dated 5/1/2011.

Finance Minister Releases Report of Task Force on Transaction Cost in Exports

Reduction of Transaction Cost to Impact on Competitiveness of India's Exports – to Benefit SMEs

The Report of Task Force on Transaction Cost in Exports was released on 8 February by the Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee in the presence of Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Minister of State for commerce and Industry. The Task Force chaired by Mr. Scindia was constituted in October 2009 to identify and suggest ways to achieve significant improvement in the functioning of export processes and reduce time and money spent in export transactions, with a view to enhance the competitiveness of Indian exports. The function was attended by Rahul Khullar, Commerce Secretary; Dr. Anup K Pujari, Director General of Foreign Trade

(DGFT); and representatives from the trade and apex chambers.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sharma said that the average cost to an exporter on account of transaction costs has been monetized at a level of US\$ 945 per container as compared to US\$ 460 in China, US\$ 450 in Malaysia and US\$ 625 in Vietnam. The e-Trade Project under the Department of Commerce was conceived with an objective of ensuring electronic delivery of services to provide 24 hour access to users and to simplify procedures, making them transparent."

While delivering his address, Mr. Scindia said that based on the interactions with stake-

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
7-Feb-11	45.7875	45.8000	45.6000	45.6325	45.6325	858746	1840692	840839	45.5900
4-Feb-11	45.8500	45.8500	45.7325	45.7525	45.7525	844026	1582260	724464	45.6400
3-Feb-11	45.8025	45.8400	45.7325	45.7600	45.7600	860450	1596040	730681	45.6300
2-Feb-11	45.8125	45.8850	45.7300	45.8075	45.8075	864219	2047013	937718	45.6300

[Source: NSE and RBI Website]

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Modalities for Registration of Cotton Yarn Quota with DGFT

Subject: Conditions and modalities for applications for grant of quota for export of cotton yarn.

15-Pol.Cir Attention is invited to
01.02.2011 Notification No. 14 (RE-2010)/
(DGFT) 2009-14 dated 22.12.2010
whereby export of cotton yarn

under ITC(HS) codes 5205 , 5206 & 5207 was placed under the restricted category with export allowed subject to licensing. The data for export made from 1/4/2010 to 15/1/2011 is being collected and allocation will be made for the balance quantity keeping in view the decision of GoM to limit the export of cotton yarn to 720 Million Kg. during the year 2010-11. Accordingly, it has been decided to invite applications for allocation of quota for export of cotton yarn from 02.02.2011 to 07.02.2011 (till 5.00 PM).

2. All applications for grant of quota shall be sent only through E-mail at cottonyarnexport-dgft@nic.in. Annexure-1 of this Policy Circular gives a sample email for the purpose.

3. Allocation will be made after scrutiny of applications, as per the following criteria:-

(i) Allocation will be done on a prorata basis. The maximum that an applicant can apply is 100,000 Kg. per IEC or what has been exported by such IEC holder during 2009-10, whichever is more. (Example: if an applicant has exported 120,000 kg in 2009-10, then such applicant can apply for a maximum amount of 120,000 kg only; similarly an applicant who has not exported at all in 2009-10 can apply upto 100,000 kg)

(ii) Only one application per IEC will be accepted and any subsequent application made by the same IEC holder will be rejected and not considered for allocation.

(iii) After the allocation is made, the applicants will be required to submit applications in prescribed format (i.e. ANF 2D) to concerned RAs from 11th February 2011 to 18th February 2011. The concerned RAs will then issue the export authorizations for the allocated quantities after scrutiny of the documents. The following documents will be submitted by allottees to the RA's:

(a) Application form (ANF 2D) duly filled and signed,

(b) Copy of Export Contract alongwith:
either (i) A copy of irrevocable Letter of Credit(LC) duly authenticated by an Indian Bank.

Or (ii) FIRC showing receipt of remittance from the concerned foreign buyer as proof of having received 100% Advance Payment.

Or (iii) FIRC showing a minimum of 25% Advance Payment and balance Cash Against Delivery(CAD),

(c) Copy of IEC (against which the original application to DGFT has been sent)

The process of issuance of authorizations would be completed by 18th February, 2011. The export under such authorizations would need to be completed before 31st March, 2011 so as to ensure export of 720 Million Kg. of cotton yarn as per GoM decision.

(iv) Applicants who fail to submit the stipulated documents within prescribed time or where documents are found to be incorrect or erroneous, that applicant shall be declared ineligible. They will forfeit their right to seek further allocation.

(v) Failure to export the allocated quantity within the stipulated time would invite debarment from further allocation. In addition, penal action as per Section 11(2) of the Foreign Trade (D&R) Act would be initiated. For ready reference Section 11(2) is extracted below:-

“11(2). Where any person makes or abets or attempts to make any export or import in contravention of any provisions of this Act or any rules or order made thereunder or the Foreign Trade Policy, he shall be liable to a penalty of not less than ten thousand rupees and not more than five times the value of the goods or services or technology in respect of which any contravention is made or attempted to be made, whichever is more.”

4. Calendar for process of applications, issue of Export Authorizations and export is provided in Annexure-2 to this Policy Circular.

5. This issues with the approval of Commerce Secretary.

Annexure-1 to Policy Circular No. 15 (RE-2010)/2009-14 dated: 01.02.2011

Sample Format for Sending Application by E-mail to (cottonyarnexport-dgft@nic.in)

Subject header of E-mail: IE Code- Name of the Firm/Applicant-Quantity applied for

(Example: 0500030001-ABC Exports-10,000 Kg.)

(Fill this in the "Subject" field)

Message (Content of E-mail) Body

Line 1: IE Code (Example: 0500030001)
Line 2: Name (Example: ABC Exports)
Line 3: Quantity applied for (In gs., both in figure and words).(Example 10,000 Kg., Ten Thousand kilorams)
Line 4: ITC(HS) Code (Example : 5205 or 5206 or 5207)

Line 5: Blank
Lines 6-7: Export of cotton yarn made by applicant in 2009-10.
Line 6: Export quantity in Kg. in figures (Example: 250,000 Kg.)
Line 7: Export quantity in Kg. in words (Example: Two hundred fifty thousand Kg.)
Lines 8-15: Any other information that the applicant wishes to submit.

Guidelines on Gold, Silver Import by MMTC/STC etc –DGFT Withdraws Circulars on Procedures

Subject: Guidelines for import and supply of precious metal by the Nominated Agencies.

14-Pol.Cir DGFT Policy Circular
01.02.2011 No. 77(RE-2008) dated
(DGFT) 31.3.2009 and DGFT Policy Circular No. 24(RE-2009-14) dated 11.2.2010 stand withdrawn.
This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Lines 16-26: Details of Applicant

Line 16: Name of the Applicant (in whose name IEC has been issued) (Example: ABC Exports)
Line 17: I Exact Postal Address
Line 18: I (Example: D-402, 1st Floor, Karim Nagar, New Delhi- 110010)
Line 19: I
Line 20: Phone Number(s) with STD Code (Example: 011-23456789)
Line 21: Fax Number (Example: 011-23456793)
Line 22: E-mail (Example: abcexports@yahoo.com)
Line 23: Alternative E-mail (Example: ashokbhalla@gmail.com) (Application must be from one of these two E-mails)
Line 24: Name of the authorised person sending the application (Example: Ashok Bhalla)
Line 25: E-mail of the authorised person (Exam:ashokbhalla@gmail.com)
Line 26: Phone No of the authorized person (Landline & Cell phone)
End of E-mail

**Annexure -II
Calendar of Events**

1. Policy Circular to be issued on	1 st February 2011
2. Receipt of Application by E-mail	
Start Date:	1200 hours, 2 nd February 2011
Close Date:	1700 hours, 7 th February 2011
3. Compilation Work	8 th , 9 th & 10 th February 2011
4. Declaration of Allocation	Thursday, 10 th February 2011
5. Document submission, Scrutiny & Issue of Export Authorizations (with the respective Regional Authorities)	
Start Date:	1000 hours, Friday 11.02. 2011
Close Date:	1700 hours, Friday 18.02.2011
6. Date by which Exports must be completed	Thursday, 31 st March 2011

World Bank Pink Sheet – February 2011

World Bank Pinksheet issued in February 2011 covers price movements in 43 energy and non-energy products. This Pink Sheet focuses on price movements in January 2011.

Iron Ore Shoots Up

(Note: New Entries in the List - Rice, Vietnam 5%; Rubber TSR20, SGP; Iron Ore, spot, cfr China. **Deletions:** Rice, Thailand, 35%; Cotton Memphis; Rubber RSS1, US).

Up ↑

Crude, Coal, and Natural gas
Cocoa, Coffee and Tea
Copra and Coconut oil. Edible oils
Barley, Maize and Sorghum.
Wheat, Bananas, EU and World Sugar
Fishmeal and Meat
Logs, Sawwood and Plywood

Cotton and Rubber

DAP, TSP, Rock Phosphate and Potassium Chloride.

Aluminium, Copper, Iron Ore, Lead, Nickel, Steel, Tin and Zinc.

Down ↓

Tea, Kolkata, Thai Rice, Bananas US, Meat chicken, Urea, Gold and Silver

Steady ↔

Shrimp, Mexico, Woodpulp, Cotton Memphis, and Steel Sheets



	Monthly averages			Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2010		2011	2009	2010			2009	2010	2011	
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Jan

Energy

Coal, Australia \$/mt	103.20	115.24	137.00	↑	77.66	95.19	99.49	93.55	105.30	71.84	98.38	137.00
Crude oil, average \$/bbl	84.53	90.01	92.69	↑	75.50	77.06	78.18	75.51	85.42	61.76	79.04	92.69
Crude oil, Brent \$/bbl	85.67	91.80	96.29	↑	74.97	76.65	78.69	76.41	86.79	61.86	79.64	96.29
Crude oil, Dubai \$/bbl	83.70	89.07	92.37	↑	75.46	75.86	77.98	74.04	84.37	61.75	78.06	92.37
Crude oil, West Texas Int. \$/bbl	84.24	89.15	89.41	↑	76.08	78.67	77.85	76.08	85.09	61.65	79.43	89.41
Natural gas Index 2000=100	151.1	158.8	170.6	↑	149.4	170.3	147.5	155.1	151.6	153.5	156.1	170.6
Natural gas, Europe \$/mmbtu	8.59	8.74	9.61	↑	7.81	8.84	7.51	8.26	8.54	8.71	8.29	9.61
Natural gas, US \$/mmbtu	3.73	4.24	4.49	↑	4.36	5.15	4.32	4.28	3.80	3.95	4.39	4.49
Natural gas LNG, Japan \$/mmbtu	10.84	10.75	11.70	↑	9.33	10.32	10.95	11.22	10.91	8.94	10.85	11.70

Beverages

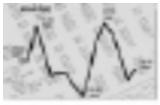
Cocoa ¢/kg	291.0	306.0	316.5	↑	341.8	329.7	321.0	305.9	296.6	288.9	313.3	316.5
Coffee, Arabica ¢/kg	514.7	547.1	581.5	↑	341.7	353.7	392.0	468.5	513.9	317.1	432.0	581.5
Coffee, robusta ¢/kg	202.9	207.4	222.9	↑	156.4	150.8	161.0	183.2	199.4	164.4	173.6	222.9
Tea, auctions (3) average ¢/kg	302.7	304.2	304.6	↑	301.9	279.0	276.4	295.1	303.5	272.4	288.5	304.6
Tea, Colombo auctions ¢/kg	339.8	350.3	355.9	↑	338.0	335.1	316.2	322.1	342.4	313.7	329.0	355.9
Tea, Kolkata auctions ¢/kg	316.6	293.7	263.4	↓	284.4	215.8	274.0	320.6	311.7	251.5	280.5	263.4
Tea, Mombasa auctions ¢/kg	251.8	268.7	294.5	↑	283.2	286.1	238.9	242.7	256.3	252.0	256.0	294.5

Fats and Oils

Coconut oil \$/mt	1,512	1,715	2,063	↑	734	834	955	1,159	1,546	725	1,124	2,063
Copra \$/mt	1,013	1,154	1,354	↑	491	557	634	769	1,038	480	750	1,354
Groundnut oil \$/mt	1,728	1,753	1,788	↑	1,152	1,359	1,352	1,301	1,604	1,184	1,404	1,788
Palm oil \$/mt	1,109	1,228	1,279	↑	732	808	813	875	1,108	683	901	1,279
Palmkernel oil \$/mt	1,626	1,820	2,128	↑	760	922	1,034	1,161	1,619	700	1,184	2,128
Soybean meal \$/mt	429	433	452	↑	412	369	342	378	424	408	378	452
Soybean oil \$/mt	1,247	1,322	1,384	↑	921	917	876	984	1,242	849	1,005	1,384
Soybeans \$/mt	526	547	572	↑	439	417	409	452	522	437	450	572

Grains

Barley \$/mt	179.1	189.6	195.2	↑	145.5	143.6	146.9	161.9	181.1	128.3	158.4	195.2
Maize \$/mt	238.2	250.4	264.9	↑	167.8	162.7	157.7	181.7	241.5	165.5	185.9	264.9
Rice, Thailand, 5% \$/mt	514.5	532.0	516.8	↓	542.3	535.3	452.4	457.0	510.8	555.0	488.9	516.8
Rice, Thailand, 25% \$/mt	477.5	479.8	467.6	↓	462.8	477.0	399.1	418.5	471.4	458.1	441.5	467.6
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.	n.a.
Rice, Thai, A.1 \$/mt	427.8	413.4	405.0	↓	346.1	400.7	333.8	376.9	423.1	326.4	383.7	405.0
Rice, Vietnam 5% \$/mt	508.0	533.0	521.1	↓	n.a.	433.2	366.1	411.1	506.2	n.a.	429.1	521.1



	Monthly averages			Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2010		2011	2009	2010			2009	2010	2011	
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Jan
Sorghum \$/mt	203.2	221.6	246.3	↑ 163.8	156.9	142.6	153.6	208.6	151.1	165.4	246.3
Wheat, Canada \$/mt	376.2	408.9	440.5	↑ 283.4	279.0	260.9	326.1	383.6	300.5	312.4	440.5
Wheat, US, HRW \$/mt	274.1	306.5	326.6	↑ 205.4	195.4	177.4	237.9	283.6	224.1	223.6	326.6
Wheat, US SRW \$/mt	278.5	308.6	320.4	↑ 195.6	193.5	186.9	253.4	284.9	186.0	229.7	320.4
Other Food											
Bananas EU \$/mt	1,035	1,062	1,197	↑ 1,032	1,014	1,029	933	1,033	1,145	1,002	1,000
Bananas US \$/mt	909	900	892	↓ 813	781	862	922	909	847	868	900
Fishmeal \$/mt	1,609	1,520	1,600	↑ 1,535	1,660	1,814	1,663	1,613	1,230	1,687	1,600
Meat, beef ¢/kg	343.9	374.4	409.7	↑ 273.5	314.2	342.4	330.9	353.2	263.6	335.1	409.7
Meat, chicken ¢/kg	171.3	171.1	170.4	↓ 165.1	167.2	173.0	176.0	172.1	171.7	172.1	170.4
Meat, sheep ¢/kg	553.6	562.8	568.4	↑ 450.1	447.6	486.8	508.0	555.6	427.6	499.5	568.4
Oranges \$/mt	823	724	735	↑ 1,107	1,009	1,084	1,163	878	909	1,033	735
Shrimp, Mexico ¢/kg	1,240	1,246	1,246	↔ 864	827	945	n.a.	1,222	945	1,246	1,246
Sugar EU ¢/kg	44.55	43.19	43.67	↑ 49.11	46.38	42.66	43.29	44.38	52.44	44.18	43.67
Sugar US ¢/kg	85.62	84.69	84.79	↑ 70.48	84.31	69.62	78.20	84.86	54.88	79.25	84.79
Sugar, world ¢/kg	58.09	61.69	65.28	↑ 50.29	51.82	34.93	42.98	58.01	40.00	46.93	65.28
Timber											
Logs, Cameroon \$/cum	450.2	436.5	441.3	↑ 449.5	431.4	408.0	426.3	448.5	421.5	428.6	441.3
Logs, Malaysia \$/cum	313.3	306.5	308.8	↑ 271.1	253.6	253.5	293.5	312.1	287.2	278.2	308.8
Plywood ¢/sheets	581.0	582.4	583.8	↑ 558.4	557.2	566.3	572.3	580.5	564.6	569.1	583.8
Sawnwood, Cameroon \$/cum	843.8	832.1	827.8	↑ 806.3	804.1	787.1	811.8	847.8	748.9	812.7	827.8
Sawnwood, Malaysia \$/cum	901.5	897.0	907.8	↑ 807.4	787.8	832.6	879.8	892.9	805.5	848.3	907.8
Woodpulp \$/mt	897.2	880.8	880.7	↔ 715.6	780.9	875.5	912.9	897.8	614.6	866.8	880.7
Other Raw Materials											
Cotton A Index ¢/kg	341.0	370.3	394.5	↑ 157.7	178.8	199.3	205.2	330.1	138.2	228.3	394.5
Cotton Memphis ¢/kg	338.5	381.5	381.3	↔ 172.4	183.6	200.1	215.0	335.0	145.3	233.4	381.3
Rubber RSS1, US ¢/kg	464.3	490.3	580.9	↑ 284.7	345.2	381.5	360.7	459.1	214.6	386.6	580.9
Rubber RSS3, SGP ¢/kg	431.2	474.6	552.0	↑ 256.5	318.6	372.7	337.5	432.8	192.1	365.4	552.0
Rubber TSR20, SGP ¢/kg	423.8	468.9	533.2	↑ 251.6	309.8	302.3	314.4	425.9	180.0	338.1	533.2
Fertilizers											
DAP \$/mt	588.0	593.9	595.8	↑ 316.9	464.8	458.2	494.1	585.6	323.1	500.7	595.8
Phosphate rock \$/mt	140.0	140.0	155.0	↑ 90.0	102.1	125.0	125.0	140.0	121.7	123.0	155.0
Potassium chloride \$/mt	340.6	354.0	367.5	↑ 423.0	334.0	316.1	334.2	343.2	630.4	331.9	367.5
TSP \$/mt	463.8	472.5	475.0	↑ 235.7	316.9	357.4	389.6	463.8	257.4	381.9	475.0
Urea \$/mt	366.4	375.1	374.1	↓ 248.3	281.0	237.2	279.2	357.0	249.6	288.6	374.1
Metals and Minerals											
Aluminum \$/mt	2,333	2,351	2,440	↑ 2,003	2,163	2,096	2,090	2,343	1,665	2,173	2,440
Copper \$/mt	8,470	9,147	9,556	↑ 6,648	7,232	7,027	7,243	8,637	5,150	7,535	9,556
Gold \$/toz	1,370	1,391	1,356	↓ 1,102	1,109	1,196	1,227	1,367	973	1,225	1,356
Iron ore, contract, fob Brazil ¢/dmt	182.0	182.0	194.0	↑ 101.0	101.0	152.0	212.0	182.0	101.0	161.7	194.0
Iron ore, spot, cfr China \$/dmt	163.9	173.7	182.6	↑ 101.2	133.4	166.0	145.2	164.4	82.9	152.2	182.6
Lead ¢/kg	237.7	241.3	260.2	↑ 229.3	222.1	195.0	203.2	239.0	171.9	214.8	260.2
Nickel \$/mt	22,909	24,111	25,646	↑ 17,528	19,959	22,476	21,191	23,609	14,655	21,809	25,646
Silver ¢/toz	2,657	2,937	2,855	↓ 1,760	1,693	1,838	1,901	2,647	1,469	2,020	2,855
Steel products index 2000=100	233.5	233.5	240.9	↑ 207.4	211.5	241.1	232.4	233.9	227.1	229.7	240.9
Steel cr coilsheet \$/mt	850	850	850	↔ 700	725	838	850	850	783	816	850
Steel hr coilsheet \$/mt	750	750	750	↔ 600	625	738	750	750	683	716	750
Steel rebar \$/mt	550	550	600	↑ 522	546	621	533	550	486	563	600
Steel wire rod \$/mt	650	650	663	↑ 814	751	767	678	653	969	712	663
Tin ¢/kg	2,552	2,616	2,747	↑ 1,517	1,721	1,786	2,055	2,601	1,357	2,041	2,747
Zinc ¢/kg	229.2	228.1	237.2	↑ 221.4	228.9	202.6	201.3	231.5	165.5	216.1	237.2

\$ = 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

Laos Included in ASEAN FTA Origin List

08-Cus(NT) In exercise of the powers
02.02.2011 conferred by sub-section (1)
(DoR) of section 5 of the Customs
Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975),
the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Customs Tariff [Determination of Origin of Goods under the Preferential Trade Agreement between the Governments of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of India] Rules, 2009, namely:-

1. These rules may be called the Customs Tariff [Determination of Origin of Goods under the Preferential Trade Agreement between the Governments of Member States of the

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of India] First Amendment Rules, 2011.

2. In the Customs Tariff [Determination of Origin of Goods under the Preferential Trade Agreement between the Governments of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of India] Rules, 2009, in **Annexure IV**, after **S.No. 7**, the following S. No. and entry shall be **inserted**, namely:-

"S.No.	Name of the Country
8.	Lao PDR

[F. No. 467/68/2004-Cus.V/ICD]

19 Pre-shipment Inspection Agencies Delisted from the List

Subject: Delistment of Pre-shipment Inspection Agencies from Appendix 5 of Handbook of Procedures Vol-I (Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms) 2009-2014.

27-PN(RE) In exercise of powers
04.02.2011 conferred under paragraph 2.4
(DGFT) of the Foreign Trade Policy,
2009-2014, the Director
General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendment in Appendix-5 (List of Inspection and Certification Agencies) of Handbook of Procedures Vol.I (Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms) 2009-2014.

The following agencies are hereby delisted from Appendix 5 of H.B.P. (Vol-I):

SNo.	Sr. in Appendix 5	Name of the agency
01	49	Intertek Testing Services Korea 10F, Imkwang Building 267 Mikeun-Dong Seodaemoon-Ku Seoul 120-020, Korea Tel: (82) 23605255 Fax: (82) 23605266 Info.seoul@intertek.com
02.	32	Intertek Testing Services 19/F Golden Centre 188 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2310 9923 Fax: (852) 2370 2284 Info.hongkong@intertek.com
03.	46	Intertek Testing Services do Brasil Ltda A.V. Indianapolis 2181, Sao Paulo-SP 04063-064 Brazil Tel: (55) 1150719200 Fax: (55) 115585 1362 Info.saopaulo@intertek.com
04.	39	Intertek Testing Services Victor Emilio Estrada 114 Entre Balsamos y Circunvalacion Norte Urdesa Central Guayaquil, Ecuador Tel: (593) 4 2 880150/699/784/ 881 876, Fax:(593)42880140/ 142/152 info.ecuador@intertek.com

05.	31	Intertek Testing Services Ltd. FTS/INTECO Divisions Transversal 14 No.126A-10 Oficina 501, Santa Fe de Bogota DC, Colombia Tel: (57)1615 5654/615 5664/ 615 5670 Fax: (57)16271953/627 1956 Info.bogota@intertek.com
06.	36	Intertek Testing Services AMR Office Park, 1st Floor Concord Road East Bedfordview, Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA Postal Address P.O. Box 280, Bedfordview 2008 Gauteng Province, South Africa Tel: (27) 11 455 2568 Fax: (27) 11455 4017/ 455 4018 Info.Johannesburg@intertek.com
07.	59	Intertek Testing Services, Singapore Intertek Testing Services International (Hong Kong) Ltd. – Singapore Branch, Foreign Trade Standards 5 Pereira Road, No.04-01 Asiawide Industrial Building Singapore 368025 Tel: (65) 6 2857557 Fax: (65) 6 382 8662 info.Singapore@intertek.com
08.	68	Bureau Veritas Galerie de 1' Esplanade, B.P. 1005, Libreville Tel: 241 740146 Fax: 241 762663 Mail: Christophe.draux@ga. bureauveritas.com
09.	72	Bureau Veritas Batiment C2 – Village des Jeux Ankorondrano, 101, Antanangrivo Madagascar Tel: +261 202225330 / 39800 Fax: +261 202225383 Mail: veritas@simicro.mg

10.	87	Bureau Veritas Zone Potuiare, B.P. 7219,Routed' Akodessewa, Lome, republic du Togo Tel: +228 2272624 Fax: +228 2274818 Mail: georges.vittu@civ. bureauveritas.com
11.	15	NQA quality Systems Registrar 720, International Trade Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110 019. Tel : 6411913 Tlx : 031-71053 QMI IN Fax : 6467487
12.	11	"Underwriters Laboratory's inc, (Liason Office), 205-209, Second Floor, Prestige meridian- I 29, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001 Tel. 080-5581773/74/75 Fax No: 080-5581771
13.	80	BIVAC North America 8200, N.W. 33rd Street Suite # 300, Miami, FL 33122 USA Tel: +305 4361242 Fax: +305 594 7432 /593 1783 Mail: ken.holden@us. bureauveritas.com
14.	81	BIVAC International Jamaica Road Junction, Monrovia, Liberia Tel: +231 227910 /226491 Fax: +231 227998
15.	83	RWTUV Middle East W.L.L P.O. Box 5021 Sitra Industrial Area, Kingdom of Baharin Tel: (+973) 17-456010 FAX:(+973) 17-456020 Website: www.rwtuv.net E-mail: rwtuvlan@batelco. com.bh
16.	07	Director General STQC Directorate Department of Electronics Electronics Niketan 6, CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110 003 Tel : 4362831, Tlx : 65103/66536/ 66590, Fax : 4363083
17.	61	Alex Stewart [Assayers] Ltd Caddick Road, Knowsley Business Park, Knowsley, Merseyside L34 9ER, England Tel. +44 (0) 151 548 7777 Fax: +44 (0) 151 548 0714 Website: www.alexstewart.com
18.	03	Bureau of Indian Standards 9. Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110 002. Tel : 3317991/3310131/3311375 Tlx : 031-65870, Fax : 3314062
19.	09	Indian Register Quality Systems 52-A, Adi Shankaracharya Marg, Opp. Powai Lake, Bombay - 400 072. Tel : 022-5793627 (4 Lines) 022-5787124 Fax : 022 5793611

Effect of Public Notice

The agencies which are not interested and /or not performing the job of pre-inspection are being delisted from Appendix 5 and made ineligible to issue Pre-shipment Inspection Certificate.

Intertek and Worldwide Logistic Suspended as PSI Agencies

Subject: Temporary suspension of Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) Agencies listed under Appendix – 5 of the Handbook of Procedures Vol-I (Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms) 2009-2014.

16-Pol.Cir It is observed that the following Pre-shipment
04.02.2011 Inspection (PSI) Agencies listed under Appendix – 5 of
(DGFT) the Handbook of Procedures had issued wrong
Preshipment-Inspection certificates. It has, therefore,
been decided not to accept the PSI Certificates issued by these agencies.
These agencies are:

SNo.	Sr. in Appendix 5	Name of the agency
1	43	Intertek International Ltd. P.O. Box No.802 10 Wallace Johnson Street, 2nd Floor Freetown, Sierra Leone Tel: 232 (0) 22 227198 Fax: 232 (0) 22 228620
2	95	Worldwide Logistic, Survey and Inspection(WLSI) Group and Affiliates, 18 Keyport Crescent, Glendenning, NSW 2761, Sydney (Australia), Tel: 61-412262272, 61-412209123, 61-2-97645884, Fax: 61-2-97645885 Email: info@wlsi.us

The Trade and Industry is hereby informed that certificates issued by these agencies will not be accepted by Customs till a final decision is taken in the matter. This issues with the approval of DGFT.

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- In case of the DEPBB Scrip, if the application has been filled online, there would be no need to submit hard copies of DEPBB EDI Shipping Bills.
- MDA approvals would now be made in the name of organization and not individual. In this new scenario, even if the nomination changes at the last moment for participation in international fairs, company would still be able to avail MDA benefit.
- Exporters would now be able to club Annual Advance Authorisation with Advance Authorisation.
- Now the exporters would be able to file EPCG application and Advance Authorisation off line and submit at a later time. This would facilitate speedier filing and ease burden on DGFT server.

Department of Revenue

- 24X7 customs clearance would now be available at eight custom ports, namely- Vizag, Kolkata, Jamnagar, Mangalore, JNPT, Mumbai, Bhubeneshwar and Chennai.
- The Recognised Status Holders have been extended benefit of Accredited Clients Programme (ACP) to provide them assured facilitation

Customs Valuation Exchange Rates

February 2011	Imports	Exports	
Schedule I			
1 Australian Dollar	45.85	44.60	
2 Canadian Dollar	46.55	45.15	
3 Danish Kroner	8.50	8.20	
4 EURO	62.95	61.25	
5 Hong Kong Dollar	5.90	5.75	
6 Norwegian Kroner	8.00	7.75	
7 Pound Sterling	73.75	71.85	
8 Swedish Kroner	7.05	6.80	
9 Swiss Franc	48.60	47.30	
10 Singapore Dollar	36.05	35.05	
11 U.S. Dollar	45.95	45.05	
Schedule II			
1 Japanese Yen	56.00	54.30	

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

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

(Source: Customs Notification 06(NT)/27.01.2011)

Commodity Spot Prices in India – 05-08 February 2011

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

Commodity	Unit	Market	5-Feb	7-Feb	8-Feb
CER (Carbon Trading)	1 MT	Mumbai	709.5	709.5	700
Chana	100 KGS	Delhi	2640	2683	2661
Masur	100 KGS	Indore	3374	3328	3307
Potato	100 KGS	Agra	NA	NA	NA
Potato TKR	100 KGS	Tarkeshwar	NA	NA	NA
Arecanut	100 KGS	Mangalore	NA	NA	NA
Cashewkern	1 KGS	Quilon	NA	NA	NA
Cardamom	1 KGS	Vandanmedu	1260	1267	1255.5
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	12888	12705	12713
Guar Gum	100 KGS	Jodhpur	NA	NA	NA
Maize	100 KGS	Nzmbad	1043	1041.5	1052.5
Wheat	100 KGS	DELHI	1361.7	1353.8	1351.7
Mentha Oil	1 KGS	Chandausi	1135.9	1135.4	1144.7
Cotton Seed	100 KGS	Akola	NA	NA	NA
Castorsd RJK	100 KGS	Rajkot	4869.5	4849	4849
Guar Seed	100 KGS	Bikaner	2868	2792	2650
Soya Bean	100 KGS	Indore	2472	2462	2456
Mustrdsd JPR	20 KGS	Jaipur	572	572.65	571.9
Sesame Seed	100 KGS	Rajkot	5475	5375	5394
Coconut Oil Cake	100 KGS	Kochi	NA	NA	NA
RCBR Oil Cake	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Kapaskhali	50 KGS	Akola	1163.5	1174.6	1196.3
Coconut Oil	100 KGS	Kochi	9880	10088	10088
Refsoy Oil	10 KGS	Indore	644.2	641.35	639.25
CPO	10 KGS	Kandla	580	580.3	581.7
Mustard Oil	10 KGS	Jaipur	625.2	623.4	634.4
Gnutoilexp	10 KGS	Rajkot	735.7	740	738.3
Castor Oil	10 KGS	Kandla	NA	NA	NA
Crude Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	4063	4063	3988
Furnace Oil	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Sourcrd Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Brent Crude	1 BBL	Mumbai	4556	4556	4525
Gur	40 KGS	Muzngr	NA	NA	NA
Sugars	100 KGS	Kolhapur	NA	2718	2716
Sugarm	100 KGS	Delhi	2911	2915	2909
Natural Gas	1 mmBtu	Hazirabad	196.7	196.7	187.1
Rubber	100 KGS	Kochi	23703	23758	23704
Cotton Long	1 Candy	Kadi	NA	NA	NA
Cotton Med	1 Maund	Sriganganagar	NA	NA	NA
Jute	100 KGS	Kolkata	3422	3452	3478
Gold	10 GRMS	Ahmd	20088	20015	19982
Gold Guinea	8 GRMS	Ahmd	16135	16076	16050
Silver	1 KGS	Ahmd	44305	44400	44375
Sponge Iron	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Steel Flat	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Steel Long	1 MT	Gobindgarh	30540	29900	29540
Copper	1 KGS	Mumbai	460.8	460.8	459.85
Nickel	1 KGS	Mumbai	1281.2	1294.2	1289.2
Aluminium	1 KGS	Mumbai	115.15	114.95	115.05
Lead	1 KGS	Mumbai	120.4	121.7	119.1
Zinc	1 KGS	Mumbai	112.55	113.45	112.4
Tin	1 KGS	Mumbai	1412.25	1421.25	1421.75

(Source: MCX Spot Prices)

vide CBEC Circular No.29/2010-Customs dated 20th August, 2010.

15. A single factory stuffing permission valid for all customs ports has been introduced; subject to certain condition vide Circular No.20 dated 22/7/2010.

16. The CEBC has issued instructions to all its administrative staff to ensure timely refund of credit balance in CENVAT account to exporters.

17. There would be no need to submit Mate Receipt to Central Excise for establishing date of export.

Department of Financial Services (Banking)

18. RBI has instructed all the Banks to ensure post shipment credit is available at prescribed rates up to 180 days as stipulated incase of over due bills.

19. Leading banks have reduced the processing charges for renewal of Annual Limit.

20. Booking charges for the foreign currency

have been reduced from Rs 750 per transaction to Rs 400-500 per transaction.

21. The leading banks have again been instructed by RBI and have confirmed to extending the Pre-shipment credit in foreign currency at LIBOR+2% with no additional charges levied.

Issues under implementation

22. A single bond would now be required to be submitted by the organization for multiple authorizations to be obtained from customs reducing the unnecessary paper work both at custom and organization level. This would be implemented in few months time and would save transaction cost of Rs 400 crores.

23. With a view to expedite refund of service tax on output services, it is proposed to introduce an "All Industry Service Tax Rate" on the lines of "All Industry Rate of Duty Drawback."

[Source: PIB (MoC&I) Press Release dated 8 February 2011]

for nine months or more.

The Thai physical price remained at a record 184.05 baht (\$5.97) per kilogram 6 February, supported by car sales and supply concerns, the Rubber Research Institute of Thailand said.

The Shanghai market is closed for the Lunar New Year holiday. May-delivery rubber in Shanghai climbed to a record 41,850 yuan (\$6,350) a tonne on Jan. 31.

Natural-rubber consumption in China may rise 9 percent to 3.6 million tonnes this year, while rubber use in India may gain 5.2 percent to 991,000 tonnes, according to the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries.

Natural-rubber output in India, the fourth-biggest producer, gained 2.8 percent in the 10 months through January as favorable weather and record prices boosted production, the state-run Rubber Board said on 6 February.

Production totaled 749,950 metric tonnes in the April-January period, compared with 729,250 tonnes a year earlier, the board said in an e-mailed statement. Output was 98,800 tonnes last month, little changed from 97,500 tonnes a year earlier, it said.

Rubber Climbs to Near Record as China Ups Purchases

Rubber increased as a price decline on 6 February spurred investors to buy amid speculation China, the world's largest user, may step up purchases after the New Year holiday to replenish stockpiles.

The July-delivery contract gained as much as 2.1 percent to 501.3 yen a kilogram (\$6,090 a metric tonne) before trading at 499.3 yen on the Tokyo Commodity Exchange as of 11:57 a.m. The most-active contract had the biggest one-day drop since Jan. 26, retreating from a record 504 yen reached Feb. 4.

China will resume trade on 8 February after the weeklong holiday. Natural-rubber inventories monitored by the Shanghai Futures Exchange stood at 58,673 tonnes, 61 percent below last year's peak of 151,832 tonnes, the bourse said Feb. 1.

Farmers reduce tapping during the so-called wintering period from February to May, when rubber trees shed leaves and latex production

declines. Some plantation areas in northeast Thailand have already entered the low-output season, according to the Rubber Research Institute of Thailand.

Rubber users tend to increase stockpiles of raw material before the low-production period begins in major growing areas. Thai rubber production usually shrinks as much as 60 percent from peak levels, according to the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries.

La Nina

Rubber futures have gained 20 percent this year, extending last year's 50 percent rally, as rising car sales led by China and India improved demand for tires. Supplies from Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, the top growers representing 70 percent of global supply, were curbed as a La Nina has led to higher-than-average rains in parts of Southeast Asia. The weather event started in June and usually lasts

Chinese Steel Drill-Pipe Face US Dumping Duties

Chinese makers of steel pipe used to drill for oil will face dumping and subsidy duties averaging 86 percent, after the U.S. International Trade Commission ruled that domestic competitors may be hurt by the low-cost imports.

The independent panel on 6 February voted 3-to-3, a tie that affirmed the complaint by U.S. companies and makes the action final. Duties will take effect this month.

Companies such as closely held VAM Drilling USA Inc. in Houston and a U.S. subsidiary of Moscow-based OAO TMK sought the duties on imports of the pipe, valued at \$109 million for 2009. After the complaint, imports from China fell by more than two-thirds to \$24 million in the first half of 2010, according to U.S. Commerce Department data.

U.S. Steel Corp., the nation's largest producer of the metal by volume, and the United Steelworkers union supported the complaint.

Oil-service companies that use the pipe sought to fend off the duties, arguing that U.S. makers are enjoying steady profits and the tariffs will raise their costs.

Three Cases

The U.S. has completed three cases targeting China pipes used by the oil and natural-gas industry. The complaints said Chinese makers are dumping their products at a discount in the U.S. and benefiting from unfair government subsidies.

Under a Commerce Department ruling last month, DP Master Manufacturing Co. received a dumping rate of 69.32 percent, while Baoshan Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. had no dumping duty applied. That rate was applied to three other companies, while all other Chinese producers must pay 429.95 percent. The so-called countervailing duty rate for all companies was set at 18.18 percent.

WORLD TRADE SCANNER

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