

Trade Watch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

August 1, 2020

Given below are India's recently reported trade statistics and some key news updates from the past week pertaining to international trade and customs both from India and around the world. Please also see a short note on the recent Panel Report in **EU** — **Cost Adjustment Methodologies II (Russia)**.

WTO

- Saudi Arabia appealed the panel report in Saudi Arabia Measures concerning the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (DS567) into the void.
- Goods Council agrees on 2020 chairs for subsidiary bodies.
- The Arbitrator in *India Agricultural Products* (DS430) notified the DSB that it is unable to comply with the time-limits provided for in Article 22.6 of the DSU and will issue its decision in January 2021.
- China has objected to the US request to suspend concessions and has requested that any disagreement on the consistency of its
 measures taken to comply with DSB's rulings in China Agricultural Products (DS511) should be resolved through compliance
 proceedings.
- Panels established in *India Tariff Treatment on Certain Goods* (DS584), India Tariff Treatment on Certain Goods in the <u>Information and Communications Technology Sector (DS588)</u>, Japan Measures Related to the Exportation of Products and <u>Technology to Korea (DS590)</u>, European Union Certain Measures Concerning Palm Oil and Oil Palm Crop-based Biofuels (DS593) and European Union Safeguard Measures on Certain Steel Products (DS595).
- WTO and World Bank launch joint publication on the role of trade in empowering women.
- WHO, WIPO, WTO launch updated study on access to medical technologies and innovation.

US, EU and China

- European Union and China held their 8th High-Level Trade and Economic Dialogue (HED).
- It is reported that the United States' trade deficit in goods fell sharply in June as exports rebounded following several months of decline, suggesting a recovery in global trade after being severely disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- President Trump claims that he will also ban the Chinese TikTok app in the United States.

India

- <u>Directorate General of Foreign Trade</u> (**DGFT**) has notified amendment in the import policy of colored television sets under HS code
 8528 7211 to 8528 7219 from 'Free' to 'Restricted'.
- DGFT has further amended export policy of personal protective equipment (PPE) to the extent that surgical masks, medical goggles have been amended from 'Prohibited' to 'Restricted' and export of face shields has been made 'free'.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) continued the levy of safeguard duty on imports of 'Solar Cells whether or not
 assembled in modules or panels' for a period of one year, in pursuance of final findings of review investigations dated July 18, 2020
 issued by the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).
- CBIC notifies the imposition of definitive Anti-Dumping Duty on import of "Digital Offset Printing Plates" originating in, or exported from People's Republic of China, Japan, Korea RP, Taiwan and Vietnam pursuant to DGTR final findings dated May 15, 2020.
- CBIC notifies imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of Aniline originating in or exported from China PR for a period of six months pursuant to DGTR preliminary findings dated June 12, 2020.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) amended Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 specifying food product standards for <u>frozen beans, cauliflower, peas, and spinach</u> as well as <u>milk and milk products</u>.

- FSSAI has sought objections or suggestions to draft amendments to Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 relating to edible fats, certain milk and milk products as well as grams/pulses. Persons may offer their objections/suggestions by email to regulation@fssai.gov.in.
- Ministry of Finance have notified amendments in the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt instruments) Rules, 2019 and have permitted non-resident Indians (NRIs) to acquire upto 100% stake in Air India under the automatic route.

In the meantime, should you require any information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at insights@elp-in.com.

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