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.

**WTO**

- WTO issues new report on how COVID-19 crisis may push up trade costs.
- India notified to the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) certain testing and certification requirements related to (i) Feedback devices; (ii) Transmission terminal equipment and (iii) Broadband equipment.
  
  These requirements are due to come into force on October 2020. WTO Members have the opportunity to provide their comments on India’s TBT notifications till 30 days from the date of the notification.
- India also notified to the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures certain standards related to (i) Dairy analogues, ghee and other milk fat products, (ii) Khesari dal in grams / pulses and (iii) Shea butter and Borneo tallow / illipe butter. India has not specified when such SPS measure shall come into force.

**Americas and Europe**

- United States Trade Representative (USTR) to modify $7.5 Billion WTO Award in EC – Large Civil Aircraft by reviewing the list of products subject to additional ad valorem duties of 25 percent.
- US Customs and Border Protection notified that imported goods produced in Hong Kong may no longer be marked to indicate “Hong Kong” as their origin but must be marked as “China”.
- Canada announces intent to impose countermeasures against new Sec. 232 tariffs on Canadian aluminum products imposed by the US.
- EU removes Cambodia from receiving duty-free market access under the Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP) over human rights concerns.

**India**

- Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has notified amendment to import policy conditions for imports of various chemicals in Chapter 29, 38 and 39 of ITC (HS), 2017, Schedule – I (Import Policy).
- DGFT notified that Advance Authorization shall not be issued for the export of ‘Gold medallions or coins’ or ‘Gold jewelry/articles’, when these items are manufactured through a fully mechanized process.
- DGFT amended Notification No. 41/2015-2020 to the extent that export of Rice (basmati and non-basmati) to EU and other European countries shall require Certificate of Inspection by Export Inspection Council/Agency from 1 January 2020.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) notified the fixation of Tariff Value of Edible Oils, Brass Scrap, Poppy Seeds, Areca Nut, Gold and Silver.
- Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) issued final findings in Sunset Review Investigation of Anti-Dumping duty imposed on imports of “Phosphoric Acid (excluding Agriculture/Fertilizer Grade)” originating in or exported from Korea RP.
- DGTR issued Preliminary Findings in the anti-subsidy investigation concerning imports of “Flat Products of Stainless Steel” from Indonesia.
- Central Government imposed provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of Black Toner in powder form originating in or exported from China PR, Malaysia and Taipei for a period of 6 months in accordance with DGTR preliminary findings dated 18 June 2020.
- Central Government extends the levy of anti-dumping duty on flax fabrics imported from China and Hong Kong for a period of 3 months till 11 November 2020.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has amended Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 to include standards on wheat bran and non-fermented soybean products like tofu.

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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