

## TradeWatch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

August 22, 2020

Given below are some key news updates from the past week pertaining to international trade and customs both from India and around the world.

## **WTO**

- Trade policy review (TPR) of certain Members have been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown measures. India's TPR has been postponed to January 2021.
- Brazil has requested for suspension of the panel in *Indonesia Chicken* (DS484) pursuant to Article 12.12 of the DSU.
- Members notified status reports regarding implementation of the DSB recommendations and rulings in (i) <u>US Section 110(5)</u> <u>Copyright Act (DS160)</u>; (ii) <u>US Hot-Rolled Steel (DS184)</u>; (iii) <u>EC Biotech (DS291)</u>; (iv) <u>US Washing Machines (DS464)</u>; (v) <u>US Anti-Dumping Methodologies (China) (DS471)</u> and (vi) <u>Indonesia Import Licensing Regimes (DS477)</u>.
- WTO's goods barometer confirms steep drop in trade but hints at nascent recovery.

## **United States of America**

- United States Trade Representative (USTR) to hold a hearing on China's compliance with WTO commitments..
- Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) in the US Department of Commerce (USDOC) restricted Huawei Technologies and its non-U.S. affiliates access to U.S. technology and adds another 38 affiliates to the Entity List, which imposes export licensing requirements.
- <u>USTR Robert E. Lighthizer gives his opinion on "How to Set World Trade Straight" in the Wall Street Journal discussing his views on the WTO can be "reset".</u>

## India

- Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has notified amendment to export policy of textile raw material for masks and coveralls
  amended to the extent that only melt blown fabric is prohibited and all other non-woven fabrics of are freely allowed for exports.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has notified the Manufacture and Other Operations in Special Warehouse Regulations, 2020.
- CBIC has notified the Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 specifying procedure for import of goods into India where the importer seeks to claim preferential rate of duty under India's trade agreements
- <u>CBIC amended the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016 omitting Rule 4 that required an eligible importer to inform the Principal Commissioner of Customs or the Commissioner of Customs to avail the benefits of deferred payment.</u>
- <u>Central Government extends the levy of anti-dumping duty on imports of "Caustic Soda" originating in or exported from China PR</u> and Korea RP, for a period of three months i.e. up to 17th November, 2020.
- <u>Central Government imposed anti-dumping duty on the imports of Phosphoric Acid of all grades and concentrations (excluding Agriculture or Fertilizer grade), originating in or exported from Korea RP for a period of five years.</u>
- <u>Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) initiated Sunset Review Investigation concerning Anti-Dumping Duty imposed on imports of "Front Axle Beam and Steering Knuckles meant for heavy and medium commercial vehicles" originating in or exported from China PR.</u>
- DGTR issued Preliminary Findings in the Anti-Dumping Original Investigation concerning imports of "Dimethyl Formamide" (DMF)
   originating in or exported from China PR and Saudi Arabia.
- <u>DGTR issued Preliminary Findings in the Anti-dumping Investigation concerning imports of "Phenol" into India originating in or exported from Thailand and United States of America.</u>
- DGTR issued Final Findings in the Anti-dumping investigation on the import of Clear Float Glass originating in or exported from Malaysia.
- DGTR issued Final Findings in Sunset Review of Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of "Woven Fabric (having more than 50% Flax content)" commonly known as "Flax Fabric" originating in or exported from China PR & Hong Kong.
- DGTR initiated anti-dumping Investigation concerning imports of Aceto Acetyl Derivatives also known as Arylides from China PR.

In the meantime, should you require any information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:insights@elp-in.com">insights@elp-in.com</a>

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