



Trade Watch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

September 19, 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.

World Trade Organization (WTO)

- [Panel Report circulated in *United States – Tariff Measures on Certain Goods from China \(DS543\)*](#)
The WTO panel rules in favour of China challenging the US tariff measures placed on certain Chinese goods implemented on account of the US Section 301 investigation against Chinese intellectual property practices.
- [Panel grants parties' request to suspend panel proceedings in *Indonesia – Chicken \(DS484\)* till 8 October 2020.](#)
- [WTO issues report on measures to expedite access to COVID-19 critical goods, services.](#)
- [WTO Members narrowed field of candidates selected for the position of Director General \(DG\).](#)
- WTO members selected (i) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria, (ii) Yoo Myung-hee of South Korea, (iii) Amina C. Mohamed of Kenya, (iv) Mohammad Maziad Al-Tuwaijri of Saudi Arabia and (v) Liam Fox of the United Kingdom to be considered for the post of DG.
- [WTO Committee on Agriculture due to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the agricultural sector and will exchange information on their agricultural policies.](#)
- [WTO Services barometer signals resilience in key sectors despite overall decline.](#)

United States and Europe

- [US Department of Commerce \(USDOC\) prohibits WeChat and TikTok transactions to protect the national security of the United States.](#)
- [US resumes duty-free treatment of unwrought aluminum from Canada retroactive to September 1, 2020.](#)
- [European Commission and the Member States participated in the second negotiation round on the modernization of the Energy Charter Treaty \(ECT\) that took place from 8 - 11 September 2020 by video conference.](#)
- [UK Government has launched a 3-week public consultation on the raw cane sugar autonomous tariff rate quota \(ATQ\) to set volume of raw cane sugar to enter the UK tariff free.](#)

Interested parties are requested to download the questionnaire and e-mail it to sugarreview@trade.gov.uk by 5 October 2020

India

- [Directorate General of Trade Remedies \(DGTR\) initiated anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Sodium Hydrosulphite" originating in or exported from China PR and Korea RP.](#)
- [DGTR initiated Anti-Circumvention investigation concerning alleged circumvention of Anti-dumping duty imposed on the imports of 'Axle for Trailers' originating in or exported from China PR.](#)
- [DGTR initiated Mid-Term Review limited to change of name of producer/exporter from Korea RP in the anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Aluminium and Zinc coated flat products" originating in or exported from China PR, Vietnam and Korea RP.](#)
- [DGTR issued Final Finding in Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Non-Woven Fabric originating in or exported from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Saudi Arabia and China PR remanded by Hon'ble CESTAT through Final Order No. 50231/2020 dated 12th February 2020.](#)
- [Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs \(CBIC\) notified the amendment to Bill of Entry \(Forms\) Regulations, 1976 incorporating changes specified in the Customs \(Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements\) Rules, 2020.](#)
- [Directorate General of Foreign Trade \(DGFT\) notified that exports of all varieties of onion are prohibited.](#)

- [DGFT notified import policy for goods in Chapter 85 and 94 of ITC \(HS\) to enable random sampling of LED products and Control Gear for LED products under Electronic and Information Technology Goods \(Requirement of Compulsory Registration\) Order, 2012.](#)
- [Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade \(DPIT\) has allowed foreign direct investment \(FDI\) in the defense sector up to 74% under automatic route as compared to 49% previously.](#)
- [DPIT amended the Public Procurement \(Preference to Make in India\) Order, 2017.](#)

Several amendments have been made to the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017 such as allowing for greater local content requirement, prohibiting participation of entities of countries which do not allow Indian companies to participate in their government procurement and requirement of Ministries/Department to notify any project exceeding 1000 crores per annum.

- [DPIT extends date of mandatory compliance with Bureau of Indian Standards \(BIS\) standards for Toys until 1 January 2021.](#)

We trust you find this useful. 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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