

TradeWatch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

INSIGHTS

October 17, 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)

- WTO arbitrators under Article 22.6 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) ruled that the European Union may request for suspension of concessions at a level not exceeding USD 3.9 billion annually as a result of US failure to comply with the reports in the US Large Civil Aircraft (2nd complaint) (DS353) dispute.
- Brazil further requested suspension of panel proceedings in Indonesia Chicken (DS484) till November 8, 2020.
- US and Viet Nam jointly requested the panel to further postpone the circulation of the final report in US Fish Fillets (Viet Nam)
 (DS536) until November 20, 2020.
- WTO members search for compromise as text-based negotiations on fishing subsidies continue.
- 62 WTO members participating in the negotiations on domestic regulation disciplines for trade in services aim to finalize these negotiations by the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference scheduled to take place next year.

United States and Europe

- US Department of Commerce (USDOC) announced affirmative final determinations in the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of forged steel fittings from India and Korea (AD only).
 - U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) is scheduled to make its final injury determinations on or about November 27, 2020.
- <u>USDOC rescinded administrative review of anti-dumping duties on Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from India because all interested parties timely withdrew their requests for administrative review.</u>
- United Kingdom (UK) and Chile held the first Anglo-Chilean Trade Dialogue, in advance of the UK-Chile Association Agreement.

India

- <u>Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) issued Final Findings in Mid-Term Review investigation limited to the product scope of definitive anti-dumping duty imposed on Dimethylacetamide (DMAC) from China PR and Turkey.</u>
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) notified amendment to M.F. (D.R.) Notification No. 31/86-Cus dated February 05, 1986 so as to include ammunitions, explosives and hazardous goods in the schedule with respect to Section 110 (1A) of the Customs Act, 1962.
- CBIC extended the levy of anti-dumping duties on imports of "Plain Medium Density Fibre Board of thickness 6mm and above" originating in or exported from China PR, Malaysia, Sri Lanka & Thailand, for a period of three months i.e. upto January 20, 2021.
- <u>CBIC extended the levy of anti-dumping duties on imports of "Front Axle Beam and Steering Knuckles meant for heavy and medium commercial vehicles" originating in or exported from China PR till November 30, 2020.</u>
- <u>Directorate General of Foreign Trade</u> (**DGFT**) notified that the export of alcohol-based Hand Sanitizers in any form/packaging is free for exports with immediate effect.
- DGFT has amended the import policy of air conditioners with refrigerants under HS Codes 84151010 and 84151090 from 'Free' to 'Prohibited'.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Ninth Amendment Regulations, 2020.

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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