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 members narrowed the field of candidates to be the next Director-General to Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria and H.E. Yoo Myung-hee of Korea.
- WTO launches new import licensing platform providing import licensing information, analysis and reporting and streamlines notification procedures for WTO members.
- Panel composed in India – Tariff treatment on goods (DS584), dispute filed by Japan.
- Qatar has proposed to Saudi Arabia an appeal-arbitration arrangement under Article 25 of the DSU in Saudi Arabia – Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (DS567) dispute in view of Saudi Arabia appealing the panel report in this dispute into the void.

**United States and Europe**

- US Department of Commerce (USDOC) issues affirmative preliminary antidumping duty determinations on Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet From 18 Countries, including India. Duty applicable for exporter/producer from is India is 0 % for Manaksia Aluminium Company Limited and 47.92 % for Hindalco Industries Limited as well as other exporters/producers.
- USDOC initiated a changed circumstances review (CCR) to determine if a certain producer is the successor-in-interest to another in the context of the antidumping duty order on certain frozen warmwater shrimp from India.
- United States Trade Representative (USTR) initiates two Section 301 investigations against Vietnam’s currency manipulation and importation and use of illegally harvested timber.
- EU foreign investment screening mechanism becomes fully operational.

**India**

- Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) notified amendment to notification No.13/2020- Customs dated 14.02.2020 to extend the validity of the RoSCTL scheme from 31.03.2020 to 31.03.2021 or until such date till the scheme is merged with RoDTEP.
- Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified that export of Bangalore Rose Onions and Krishnapuram Onions (Serial Number 52, Chapter 7), up to quantity of 10,000 MT each, has been allowed for the period up to 31st March, 2021, with immediate effect.
- DGFT notified an amendment to the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2015-20 by inserting a sub-para to give effect to para 6.3 of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. 14/26/2016-IT (Vol-II) dated 07.03.2019, as amended vide Notification No. 12015/11/2020-TP dated 09.06.2020 regarding the issue of duty credit scrips under Scheme for Rebate of State Levies.
- DGFT amended FTP 2015-20 by inserting a new sub-para (d) under para 4.25 for disallowing import of “tyres” under DFIA Scheme.

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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