



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)

- [Nigeria's Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala becomes the first woman and first African to head the WTO.](#)
- [World merchandise trade volume growth remained strong in the fourth quarter of 2020 after trade rebounded in the third quarter from a deep COVID-19 induced slump based on the WTO Goods Trade Barometer.](#)
- [The second review of the trade policies and practices of Myanmar took place on 15 and 17 February 2021.](#)

United States and Europe

- [United States Department of Commerce \(USDOC\) is correcting the orders for the countervailing duty investigations on forged steel fluid end blocks \(FEBs\) from China, Germany, India and Italy.](#)
- [Strong EU trade enforcement rules enter into force.](#)

The new rules enable EU to react even if the WTO has not delivered a final ruling because the other WTO member blocks the dispute procedure by appealing to the non-functioning Appellate Body and by not agreeing to an alternative arbitration under WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding. This new mechanism also applies to the dispute settlement in relation to regional or bilateral trade agreements to which the EU is party if a similar blockage arises.

India

- [Directorate General of Trade Remedies \(DGTR\) initiated Sunset Review investigation concerning imports of Seamless Tubes, Pipes & Hollow Profiles of Iron, Alloy or Non-Alloy Steel originating in or exported from China PR-reg.](#)
- [DGTR initiated Sunset Review investigation concerning imports of "1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane or R-134a originating in or exported from China PR-reg.](#)
- [DGTR initiated Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Plastic Processing Machines originating in or exported from China PR.](#)
- [Directorate General of Foreign Trade \(DGFT\) notified the procedure for verification of exporters declaration \(self-certification basis\) on the Rules of Origin under GSP Scheme under Chapter-2 of Handbook of Procedures, 2015-2020 by amending para 2.104 of the Handbook of Procedures, 2015-2020.](#)
- [Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs \(CBIC\) amended notification No. 11/2021-Customs dated 01.02.2021 so to exempt Gold & Silver \(and their dore\) imported under export promotion schemes from Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess \(AIDC\).](#)
- [CBIC imposed definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of Aniline originating in or exported from China PR for a period of five years from the date of levy of provisional anti-dumping duty, i.e., 29 July 2020.](#)
- [Bureau of Indian Standards \(BIS\) notified amendments to certain Indian standards.](#)
- [BIS notified the cancellation for certain Indian standards and the time period till when these standards remain in force concurrently.](#)
- [Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade \(DPIIT\) notified the Boiler Operation Rules, 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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