



# Trade Watch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

April 3, 2021

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)

- [The Panel in \*Colombia — Frozen Fries \(DS591\)\* does not expect to issue its final report to the parties before the fourth quarter of 2021.](#)
- [WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, joined by five heads of international organizations, stressed the need to keep global trade flows open to ensure that developing and least-developed countries have access to essential medical goods to control the spread of COVID-19 and are able to use trade to drive sustainable economic recovery.](#)
- [Director-General urges WTO members to deliver concrete results this year.](#)
- [WTO reports that world trade is primed for strong but uneven recovery after COVID-19 pandemic shock.](#)

## United States and Europe

- [United States Trade Representative \(USTR\) requests written comments regarding a potential trade action in connection with the Section 301 investigation of India's Digital Services Tax \(DST\).](#)  
USTR will also convene virtual public hearings and accept rebuttal comments in relation to the potential action.
- [United States releases its statement from the recent WTO Dispute Settlement Body meeting.](#)
- [United Kingdom and Thailand commit to strengthening trade ties.](#)
- [European Commission imposes anti-dumping duties on imports of aluminum extrusions from China.](#)
- [European Commission publishes final Sustainability Impact Assessment and Position Paper on the EU-Mercosur Trade Agreement.](#)

## India

- [Directorate General of Trade Remedies \(DGTR\) issued Final Findings in Sunset review investigation concerning imports of "Normal Butanol" from European Union, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and United States of America.](#)
- [DGTR initiated anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Fluoro Backsheet originating in or exported from China PR.](#)
- [DGTR initiated anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Certain Rubber Chemicals viz., TDQ originating in or exported from China PR, European Union and Russia, PVI originating in or exported from China PR, and CBS originating in or exported from China PR and European Union.](#)
- [DGTR initiated sunset review investigation concerning imports of "Cold Rolled/cold reduced flat steel products of iron or Non-Alloy Steel, or other Alloy Steel of all width and thickness- not clad, plated or coated" originating in or exported from China PR, Japan, Korea RP and Ukraine.](#)
- [DGTR initiated sunset review investigation concerning imports of "Hot-Rolled flat products of alloy or non-alloy steel" from China PR, Japan, Korea RP, Russia, Brazil and Indonesia.](#)
- [Ministry of Finance issued office memorandum deciding to not impose the DGTR's Final Finding recommending countervailing duty imports of Styrene Butadiene Rubber originating in or exported from Korea RP.](#)
- [Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs \(CBIC\) notified the Customs Tariff \(Determination of Origin of Goods under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement between the Republic of India and the Republic of Mauritius\) Rules, 2021. CBIC also notified implementation of India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement \(CECPA\).](#)
- [CBIC imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of Polyethylene Terephthalate \(PET\) resin originating in or exported from China PR for a period of 5 years.](#)
- [CBIC amended notification No. 2/2016-Customs \(ADD\) dated 28 January 2016 to extend the levy of Anti-Dumping duty on Melamine originating in or exported from China PR, up to and inclusive of 30th September, 2021.](#)

- [CBIC amended Notification No. 50/2017-Customs, dated 30.06.2017 to \(i\) increase basic customs duty \(BCD\) on specified parts of x-ray machines as per PMP of x-ray machines, \(ii\) increase BCD on specified goods used for manufacturing electric vehicles as per PMP of electric vehicles and \(iii\) carry out other related changes.](#)
- [CBIC amended Notification No. 08/2020-Customs, dated 02.02.2020 to continue health cess exemption on specified parts of x-ray machines as per PMP of x-ray machines.](#)
- [CBIC amended notification No. 69/2011-Customs dated 29.07.2011 to extend deeper tariff concessions to imports of specified goods from Japan under India-Japan CEPA \(IJCEPA\) with effect from 1st April 2021.](#)
- [CBIC extends the exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation cess up to 31.03.2022 on goods imported against AA/EPCG authorizations.](#)
- [CBIC notified the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transshipment \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2021.](#)
- [Ministry of Finance notified the Double Tax Avoidance Agreement between Iran and India.](#)
- [Directorate General of Foreign Trade \(DGFT\) extended the application of the existing Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 up to 30.09.2021. The validity of the existing Handbook of Procedures, 2015-20 is also extended up to 30 September 2021.](#)
- [DGFT notified amendments to the import of specific items in Chapter-74 and Chapter-76 of ITC\(HS\) 2021.](#)  
Certain aluminum and copper products are now subject to compulsory registration under Non Ferrous Metal Import Monitoring System (NFMIMS).
- [Bureau of Indian Standards \(BIS\) notified amendments to certain Indian Standards.](#)
- [BIS also cancelled the application of Indian Standards for Precast Concrete Pipes and Plastic Translucent Sheets Made from Thermo-Setting Polyester Resin.](#)

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](mailto:insights@elp-in.com).

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