

TradeWatch Weekly Bulletin (International Trade and Customs)

INSIGHTS

May 22, 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)

- At a negotiating meeting of the structured discussions on investment facilitation for development, participating members made good progress, with a view to achieving a concrete outcome at the 12th Ministerial Conference at the end of the year.
- Pursuant to Article 12.1(b) of the Agreement on Safeguards, the United Kingdom submitted a notification on finding serious injury
 or threat thereof caused by increased imports to the domestic industry producing certain steel products.
- The United States (U.S.) submitted a proposal to The TBT Committee on "Improving Member Adherence to TBT Obligations Through Domestic Process Improvements".
- Canada and Australia wish notified the WTO Dispute Settlement Body that they have reached a mutually agreed solution to the matter raised by Australia in Canada – Measures Governing the Sale of Wine (WT/DS537).

United States

- The United States Trade Representative and European Commission announced the start of discussions to address global steel and aluminum excess capacity, acknowledging the need to chart a path that ends the WTO disputes following the U.S. application of tariffs on imports from the EU under section 232. In furtherance of this, the EU and US have also mutually agreed to temporarily suspend tariffs in the steel disputes.
- <u>U.S. Department of Commerce initiates "Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations" on Raw Honey from Argentina, Brazil, India, Ukraine, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.</u>
- The U.S. Department of Commerce confirms that the stay of the "Aluminum Import Monitoring and Analysis System" will be lifted on June 28, 2021.

India

- <u>Directorate General or Trade Remedies (DGTR) initiates Anti-Dumping Investigation on imports of Solar Cells Whether or Not</u>
 Assembled into Modules r Panels originating in or exported from China PR, Thailand and Vietnam.
- DGTR issues final findings in : Anti-dumping investigation concerning the imports of Phthalic Anhydride (PAN) originating in or exported from China PR, Indonesia, Korea RP and Thailand.
- DGTR initiates Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of Uncoated Copier Paper originating in or exported from Indonesia and Singapore.
- Union commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal has written to his EU counterpart Valdis Dombrovskis last week to initiate the
 process for resumption of trade and investment negotiations following a decision in this regard arrived at the India-EU Leaders'
 Summit on May 8.

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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