

F.No.1/14/2019-EPL-I
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
(EPL-I Section)

Subject: Major Achievements of Department of Commerce during October 2022

I. Trade Performance

- India has achieved merchandise export of USD 29.78 Billion in October 2022.
- Non-petroleum and non-gems & jewellery exports in October 2022 were USD 21.72 Billion.
- Major export commodity groups exhibiting positive growth in October 2022 are Oil seeds (78%), Oil Meals(64.6%), Electronic Goods(37.6%), Tobacco(20.4%), Tea(11.5%) and Rice(1.7%).

II. Export Infrastructure

- During October 2022, under Trade Infrastructure for Export Schemes, Rs. 32.61 crore was released for the following projects-
 - i. Rs. 2.41 crore released for Border Haat at Huroi (East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya).
 - ii. "Development of Export Warehousing Facility at AEP, Gajuwaka, Vishakapatnam" supported with financial assistance of Rs. 1.40 crore.
 - iii. Total TIES grant of Rs. 20.46 crore released for establishment of Plug and Play Infrastructure at Belagavi, Gulbarga, Doddaballapur Industrial area (Bengaluru Rural), and Dharwad, Districts in Karnataka.
 - iv. Rs. 2.88 crore released for 'Integrated Export Pack house for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, Bihta, Patna' project in Bihar.
 - v. 'Upgradation of Marine export Unit of Karnataka Fisheries Development Corporation at Kulai, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka' project supported with financial assistance of Rs. 5.46 crore.

III. Export Promotion

- Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) participated in Gulf Information Technology Exhibition (GITEX) 2022 in Dubai from 10th-14th October, 2022.

- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) organized Indian ICT companies' participation in GITEX 2022 in Dubai from 10th-14th October 2022.
- ESC organized Startup Conclaves in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
- ESC organized a Virtual B2B meet between Indian electronic components exporters and Buyers from Brazil.
- Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) conducted a webinar programme with Indian Institute of Packaging, Chennai, on "Role of IIP, Packaging for Export & UN Certification on 19th October 2022.
- The leading exporters to Russia and CAPEXIL's Official attended the Virtual Meeting held on 28th October, 2022 under the chairmanship of Commerce Secretary.
- Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics and Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXIL) held a meeting with the Visakhapatnam Chamber of Commerce & Industry for Capacity Building Initiative in Visakhapatnam on 13th October 2022.
- The Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) and Plastindia Foundation organized K Fair 2022- an exhibition for plastics at Germany from 19th to 26th October 2022. The trade fair witnessed over 147+ MSMEs who showcased 'Made in India' products and technology to the collective plastics world.
- On 13th October, 2022, PLEXCONCIL had a detailed meeting with Head of the Trade Representation of the Russian Federation in Mumbai, India and Embassy of the Russian Federation in Delhi, India to boost bilateral trade in plastics between India and Russia.
- Shellac & Forest Products Export Promotion Council (SHEFEXIL) has extended Membership to 11 new Companies during October, 2022.

IV. MPEDA

- MPEDA enrolled 195 farms, formed 3 new cluster farms and organized 106 campaigns benefitting 1176 farmers during October 2022.
- 10 exporters, 1 processing plant, 1 storage and 1 handling facility and 1 peeling shed were issued certificate of registration. Currently 429 EU approved seafood processing establishments and 69 EU approved cold storages are present.

V. Promotion of Plantation Sector

- Rubber Board initiated rubber planting in North East under NE MITRA Project with a commitment of financial support to the tune of Rs.1,000 crore from four participating tyre companies for five years from 2021 to 2025 for developing 200,000 ha rubber plantations. The maximum support for rubber plantation development as committed by the contributing tyre companies is Rs 50,000 per ha. The planting in North East under this project for 2022 season is nearing completion and planting completed in 23,081 ha so far.

VI. Export Credit, Insurance and MAI Assistance

- During October 2022, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has supported exports of Rs 45,501 crore, earned a premium of Rs 82 crore, issued 681 policies, added 1081 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs 137 crore.

VII. Bilateral Trade

- An expert level meeting was held on 18th October 2022 to finalize the protocol of the 10th India-Kyrgyzstan Inter Governmental Commission meeting.
- India and EU are negotiating an FTA. During October 2022, second round of negotiations under India-EU FTA was held.
- A meeting between HCIM and Swiss Federal Counsellor, Mr. Guy Parmelin was held on 4th October 2022 in New Delhi to discuss the bilateral economic relations, collaboration in Innovation & Start-ups, progress on India- European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations and Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT). On India-EFTA TEPA, HCIM reiterated India's viewpoints that India's demands in Services would require positive consideration from EFTA for India to consider EFTA's demands in Goods. During the meeting HCIM specifically flagged India's redlines on Gold and dairy and also conveyed India's stand on Trade in Goods on the basis of exemptions on Services, as the EFTA countries are not willing to open their services sector or accepting the demands of Indian side citing various reasons like constitution amendment, domestic sensitivities etc.
- The 2nd Session of India-Croatia Joint Economic Commission was held on 13th October, 2022 to discuss bilateral trade and economy, investment cooperation, cooperation in the field of Industry (Railways, Shipbuilding, Pharma, Start-ups and India-Croatia Start-up bridge), Agriculture, Defence, Healthcare, Digital Sphere, audio – visual, tourism, science & education, renewable energy & power. During the JEC, both sides agreed to sign an MoU in Audio- Visual Cooperation and renew the MoU for cooperation in Agriculture. Besides, the Cooperation between the Chambers was also discussed and the Croatian Chamber of Economy (CCE) and Indian Chambers of Commerce, namely, FICCI and CII agreed to strengthen their cooperation.

VIII. DGFT

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued 12,923 Authorizations/Scripts under various FTP Schemes viz., Importers/Exporters Code (IEC), Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Service Exports from India's (SEIS), Advance Authorizations and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during October 2022.
- Extension of Validity regarding Export of Raw Sugar to USA under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for the Fiscal Year 2022 from 30.09.2022 to 31.12.2022. (Public Notice No. 29/2015-20 dated 12/10/2022)

- Inclusion of Paragraph 2.79C (D) in the Handbook of Procedures of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 to notify the procedure for General Authorisation for Export after Repair in India (GAER). (Public Notice No. 31/2015-20 dated 14/10/2022)
- Export Quota of only broken rice (HS Code 10064000) for the year 2022-23. (Notification No. 38/2015-20 dated 12/10/2022)
- Extension of date for restriction on export of sugar beyond 31st October, 2022. (Notification No. 40/2015-20 dated 28/10/2022).

IX. DGTR

- Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has issued final findings in the following case:
 - i. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG)” originating or exported from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and USA.

X. GeM

- During October 2022, total 120 training sessions and 18 events were conducted for various Buyer and Seller organizations with a total participant count of 9705 with 6000+ Buyers and 3000+ sellers.
- Features and functionality related enhancements undertaken are as follows-
 - i. Names of multiple L1 bidders in bids are now being displayed in alphabetical order for better visibility.
 - ii. As directed by the HCIM the default best match has been removed from the marketplace and made from price lower to higher.
 - iii. Several Enhancements have been implemented in the e-sign solution to reduce the operation issues.
- The buyer can now view the status of execution of any contract issued on GeM. This will expedite the technical evaluation of the bid if the bidder has given the reference of past successfully executed contracts issued on GeM.
- List of Major services made live for buyers and sellers during October are as under-
 - i. DTH/Cable Service-Channel based
 - ii. Hiring of Agency for achieving Climate Action Targets
 - iii. Manpower Outsourcing Service-Man days based
 - iv. Language Service-Interpretation Services.
