

**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 July 2023**

**I. Trade Performance**

- Merchandise exports during July 2023 were recorded at USD 32.25 Billion.
- Under merchandise exports, 11 of the 30 key sectors exhibited positive growth in July 2023 as compared to same period last year (July 2022). These include Iron Ore (962.82%), Oil Meals (34.24%), Oil Seeds (32.83%), Ceramic Products & Glassware (20.82%), Fruits & Vegetables (18.94%), Electronic Goods (13.09%), Coffee (11.9%), Cotton Yarn/Fabs./Made-Ups, Handloom Products Etc. (6.62%), Rice (5.38%), Cereal Preparations & Miscellaneous Processed Items (2.56%) and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (0.09%).
- Exports of Electronic goods increased by 13.09 percent during July 2023 at USD 2.05 Billion as compared to USD 1.81 Billion in July 2022. During April-July 2023 electronic goods exports were recorded at USD 9.01 Billion as compared to USD 6.55 Billion during April-July 2022, registering a growth of 37.60 percent.

**II. Export Infrastructure**

- 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Empowered Committee on Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) was held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**III. SEZ**

- Development Commissioners of various SEZs during the month of July, 2023 have approved the proposals of investment of Rs. 3412.68 crore, which will also provide employment to approx. 24708 persons.

**IV. Export Promotion**

- Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) organised a webinar 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 on "Authorised Economic Operator Scheme".
- Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXIL) organised a webinar on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 on "Transporting Dangerous Goods- The Challenges and The Need for Managing Them" and an online interactive session on opportunities for Indian chemical industry on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and CHEMEXIL also participated in China Interdye Event 2023 from 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) organised a meeting with industry members on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 on export strategy and a webinar on "Areas of Disputes under GST regime" to create awareness among the trade about the major area of disputes under GST Regime on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

## **V. MPEDA**

- MPEDA has enrolled 170 farms, formed 12 new cluster farms and organised 106 campaigns benefitting 986 beneficiaries during July 2023.
- 18 exporters, 2 processing plants, 2 handling facilities, 3 storages and 2 peeling sheds were issued certificate of registration. Currently 431 EU approved seafood processing establishments and 69 EU approved cold storages are present.

## **VI. Export Credit and Insurance**

- During July 2023, ECGC Ltd. has supported exports of Rs 52,257 Crore, earned a premium of Rs 93.37 Crore, issued 971 policies, added 1,379 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs 24.22 Crore.

## **VII. Bilateral Trade**

- CIM Level Meetings:
  - a. On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023, CIM held a brief meeting with the Australian Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in New Delhi.
  - b. CIM visited London during 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Meetings were held with UK's Secretary of State for Business and Trade; UK PM's Chief Economic Adviser and Business and Industry stakeholders.
  - c. During 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 the CIM visited London, and met EFTA delegation accompanied by the industry stakeholders from Pharmaceutical, Machinery and Electronics of EFTA States to expedite the India-EFTA TEPA Negotiations.
  - d. Bilateral meeting between CIM and Vice Chancellor and Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany was held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss bilateral trade and investment issues.
  - e. CIM and Canadian Trade Minister reviewed the negotiation through VC on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to discuss the ongoing India-Canada CEPA/EPTA and other issues related to Canada.
- Commerce Secretary Level Meetings:
  - a. During 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Commerce Secretary hold meetings with UK Delegation lead by Permanent Secretary of the Department for Business and Trade including Director General for Trade Negotiations; Chief Executive and Comptroller General, IP Office and Director General for Borders & Trade were held in UK. A luncheon meeting with UK PM's Economic Adviser was also held.
  - b. A meeting to discuss bilateral issues was held by Commerce Secretary with Foreign Secretary, Royal Government of Bhutan on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in New Delhi.
  - c. A meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 under the co-chairmanship of Commerce Secretary and Secretary (East), MEA with the Ambassadors/Heads of Indian Missions of LAC countries in India and the Heads of Indian Missions in LAC (hybrid mode) to mobilize participation for the CII India LAC Conclave.

- Chief Negotiators Level Meetings:
  - a. An EFTA delegation visited India during 3<sup>rd</sup>– 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 for a round of discussions under India-EFTA TEPA negotiations; and negotiations were conducted in New Delhi.
  - b. 6<sup>th</sup> India-Arab Partnership Conference on "New Horizons in Investment, Trade & Services" was held from 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in New Delhi.
  - c. The 4<sup>th</sup> round of India-Australia CECA negotiations were held during 12<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023 in New Delhi.
  - d. 9<sup>th</sup> round of negotiation of India- Canada EPTA was held in from 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 through virtual mode.
  - e. Chief Negotiator level discussions were held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to discuss the issues and way forward in India-UK FTA negotiations.

## **VIII. DGFT**

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued 15,522 Authorizations/Scripts under various FTP Schemes viz., 1980 under Importers/Exporters Code (IEC), 378 under Service Exports from India's (SEIS), 11788 under Advance Authorizations and 1376 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during July 2023.
- Amendment in Export Policy:
  - a. Foods Supplements containing botanicals notified vide Notification No.22/2023 dated 31/07/2023.
  - b. De-Oiled Rice Bran notified vide Notification No. 21/2023 dated 28/07/2023.
  - c. Non-Basmati rice under HS code 1006 30 90 notified vide Notification No. 20/2023 dated 20/07/2023.
- Amendment in Import Policy and policy condition:
  - a. Gold Covered under HS code 71131911, 71131919 & 71141910 of Chapter 71 of Schedule –I (Import Policy) of ITC (HS) 2022 notified vide Notification No. 19/2023 dated 12/07/2023.
  - b. Revision of General Notes under Schedule 1(Import Policy) ITC (HS), 2022 – reg notified vide Notification No. 18/2023 dated 10/07/2023.
  - c. ITC (HS) 08028010 of Chapter 08 of ITC (HS) 2022, Schedule – I (Import Policy) notified vide Notification No.17/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
  - d. ITC(HS) code 07019000 of Chapter 07 of ITC (HS), 2022, Schedule - I (Import Policy) notified vide Notification No.16/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
- Procedure for allocation of quota for export of Broken Rice on humanitarian and food security grounds, based on requests received from
  - a. Governments of other Countries notified vide Trade Notice No.19/2023 dated 28/07/2023, Trade Notice No .16/2023 dated 20/07/2023, Trade Notice No. 13/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
  - b. Government of Mali and Government of Bhutan notified vide Trade Notice No. 18/2023 dated 28/07/2023.

- Procedure for allocation of quota for export of Wheat, Wheat Flour (Atta) and Maida/Semolina on humanitarian and food security grounds, based on requests received from Government of Bhutan notified vide Trade Notice No. 17/2023 dated 28/07/2023.
- Introduction of a Searchable Database for Ad-hoc Norms fixed under Para 4.07 of HBP-reg. notified vide Trade Notice No. 15/2023 dated 17/07/2023.
- Curriculum for Skilling and Mentorship Obligation for Status Holders as per Para 1.30 of FTP 2023 - reg notified vide Trade Notice No. 14/2023 dated 12/07/2023.

## IX. DGTR

- **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has issued Final Findings** in the Sunset Review investigation of anti-dumping duty on the imports of “flax yarn of below 70 lea count”.
- **Trade Defence Wing (TDW):**

During the month of July, 2023 Trade Defence Wing (TDW) submitted various questionnaire responses, briefs and comments before different investigating authorities in the following Countervailing Duty (CVD) and Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD) investigations and reviews initiated by other WTO member countries against exports from India:

Date of Submission/Response	Product	Case No	Issuing Authority	Type of Proceeding	Remarks
24/07/2023	Ductile Iron Pipes and Tubes	R779	EC	Refund Application	Filed comments on EC's note verbale regarding application of facts available
31/07/2023	Glycine	C-533-884	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed case brief
31/07/2023	Paper file folders	C-533-911	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed case brief

## X. G-20

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) was held at Kevadia, Gujarat. Annex documents to the Ministerial statement were negotiated for two days from 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- 4<sup>th</sup> TIWG is planned from 21<sup>st</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 followed by a Ministerial Meeting from 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August at Jaipur.

## **XI. GeM**

- On 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023, GeM organized Chintan Shivir at the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. The event was attended by Buyers/Sellers, Associations and GeM Officials. This collaborative approach was intended to identify additional features and functionalities to make GeM even more Transparent, Efficient & Inclusive.
- Vivad se Vishwas- II (Contractual Dispute) functionality has launched a very useful feature into GeM to resolve buyer and seller disputes up to 500 Cr.
- A 2-day National Level Workshop was organised by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (CSC SPV) in association with GeM for CSC State SPOCs at IIT, Delhi during 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- During the month 178 training sessions and 30 events were conducted for various Buyer and Seller organizations with a total participant count of 9996 with 7700+ Buyers and 2200+ sellers.

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