

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 September 2023

I. Trade Performance

- Merchandise exports during September 2023 were USD 34.47 Billion.
- For the month of September 2023, under merchandise exports, 12 of the 30 key sectors exhibited positive growth in September 2023 as compared to same period last year (September 2022). These include Iron Ore (8054.78%), Oil Meals (72.66%), Ceramic Products & Glassware (50.49%), Cotton Yarn/Fabs./Made-Ups, Handloom Products Etc. (27.39%), Meat, Dairy & Poultry Products (19.4%), Cereal Preparations & Miscellaneous Processed Items (17.65%), Tobacco (9.18%), Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (9.01%), Oil Seeds (8.77%), Carpet (7.51%), Engineering Goods (6.79%) and Marine Products (4.66%).

II. Bilateral Trade

- The 6th round of India – Australia CECA negotiations was held on 14th and 15th September 2023 through virtual mode.
- 13th round of India-UK FTA negotiation in Trade in Services was held on 18th to 22nd September, 2023 in UK.
- The 15th Joint Working Group on Trade Meeting between India and Bangladesh was held on 26th and 27th September 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Bilateral issues such as removal of port restrictions, groundwork on commencement of CEPA, harmonization of standards, supply of essential commodities to Bangladesh, development of road and rail infrastructure, regional connectivity through multi-modal transportation, creation/strengthening of infrastructure in Land Customs Stations/Integrated Check Posts, border haats, etc. were discussed.
- A virtual meeting with Indian Missions/ Posts of top 10 countries (bilateral trade-wise) in Sub Saharan African (SSA) region was held on 4th September, 2023, to discuss, inter-alia, the overall economic and commercial relations with the SSA region countries, export performance, other issues (Non-Tariff Barriers, Trade Remedy Measures etc.) acting as impediments to bilateral trade, promotional efforts being undertaken to enhance exports, new areas of collaboration that could be explored, etc.
- A meeting of CIM was held with Mrs. Doris Anite, Trade Minister of Nigeria on 6th September, 2023. During the meeting, various issues to strengthen bilateral trade relations for mutual benefit were discussed.

- US Ambassador Eric Garcetti met the Commerce Secretary on 6th September 2023 to discuss the issues related to bilateral forums.
- A virtual meeting with Indian Missions in GCC Countries was held on 25th September 2023 to discuss the NTBs/Market access and export.
- Inter-Ministerial Consultation for meeting of the Committee on “Trade in Goods” established under India-UAE CEPA was held on 29th September 2023.

III. **G-20**

- G20 Summit was held in New Delhi from 9th – 10th September 2023.
- Indispensability of WTO for a rules-based, non-discriminatory, fair, open, inclusive, equitable, sustainable and transparent multilateral trading system was reaffirmed by the G20 Leaders.
- Commitment to work constructively to ensure positive outcomes at the WTO’s Thirteenth Ministerial Conference (MC13) in 2024 was expressed.
- Significance of Jaipur Call for Action was underlined by the G20 Leaders.
- Adoption of G20 Generic Framework for Mapping Global Value Chains (GVC) was also hailed for its potential in identifying risks and building supply chain resilience.
- G20 Leaders agreed to make efforts to encourage implementation, and encourage other countries to consider the High-Level Principles on Digitalization of Trade Documents.
- G20 Leaders recognized the importance of WTO’s ‘Aid for Trade’ initiative to enable developing countries, notably LDCs to effectively participate in global trade, including through enhanced local value creation.

IV. **SEZ**

- Development Commissioners of various SEZs during the month of September 2023 have approved the proposals for investment of Rs. 867.97 crore, which will also provide employment to approx. 10,834 persons.
- The Board of Approval (BOA) in its 116th held on 5th September 2023 approved a proposal for setting up a new SEZ in Warangal District, Telangana.

V. **Export Promotion**

- Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) organized virtual Awareness Program regarding Anti-dumping investigation on imports of sanitary ware made of (Porcelain or Chinese porcelain or others) from China PR and India started by GCC-TSAIP on 1st September 2023.

- Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXIL) jointly organised a webinar on custom valuation with M/s. NuCov Facili Trade India on 1st September 2023.
- Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) organised a VC-meeting on 5th September 2023, with international delegates on the agenda to promote India Plastics in Japan.
- PLEXCONCIL organised India pavilion at T-Plas, Bangkok, Thailand from 20th 23rd September 2023. T-Plas exhibition which is one of the leading plastic Exhibition in Thailand and ASEAN region.
- Shellac Export Promotion Council (SHEFEXIL) jointly with Indian Chamber of Commerce organised the 2nd Workshop on Export Control of Dual-Use Items for India's Eastern Region' on 1st September 2023.
- Projects Export Promotion Council of India (PEPC) was one of the endorsement partners at 5th Edition Power Tech Africa organised by Bricasa Consulting Pvt Ltd at Addis Abba-Ethiopia on 18th-19th September 2023. This was a 2-day exclusive closed door gathering of senior renewable practitioners from both public and private sectors across the world with a keen interest to participate in the growth and development opportunities in the renewable energy sector in the African region.
- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) organized a delegation visit of 15 Indian Electronics and IT companies to Kenya and Tanzania from 11th -16th September 2023. Buyer Seller Meets were held in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam on 11th September and 14th September 2023 respectively with good participation from the local industry.
- ESC in association with Indian Business and Professionals Council (IBPC) Qatar organised a virtual B2B between Indian and Qatari electronics and IT companies on 14th September 2023.
- ESC organised the India-Guatemala B2B meet between industries on both sides on 21st September 2023.
- Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) organized an Indian Pavillion in Jewellery & Gems World Hong Kong in Hong Kong from 18th -24th September, 2023.
- GJEPC organised the Brand India Promotion at Hong Kong 2023 (Fashion Show) in Hong Kong on 21st September 2023.

VI. **MPEDA**

- MPEDA has enrolled 84 farms, formed 41 new cluster farms and organised 128 campaigns benefitting 1758 beneficiaries during September 2023.

- 10 exporters, 2 processing plants, 2 storages and 1 peeling shed were issued certificate of registration. Currently 431 EU approved seafood processing establishments and 69 EU approved cold storages are present.

VII. Export Credit and Insurance

During September 2023, ECGC Ltd. has supported exports of Rs 65,084 Crore, earned a premium of Rs 151.69 Crore, issued 1,156 policies, added 1,112 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs 105.85 Crore.

VIII. DGFT

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued 15,759 Authorizations/Scrips under various FTP Schemes viz., 12,630 under Importers/Exporters Code (IEC), 17 under Service Exports from India's (SEIS), 1,864 under Advance Authorizations and 1,248 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during September 2023.
- Extension of RoDTEP scheme for exports made from 01.10.2023 notified vide Notification No. 33/2023 dated 26/09/2023.
- Export of Non-Basmati White Rice (under HS Code 10063090) to UAE through National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) notified vide Notification No. 32/2023 dated 25/09/2023.
- Amendment in Export Policy of Food Supplements containing botanicals notified vide Notification No. 31/2023 dated 11/09/2023.
- Pre-shipment and Post-shipment Export Credit and Packing Credit in Foreign Currency (PCFC) for E-Commerce Exports notified vide Trade Notice No. 26/2023 dated 04/09/2023.

IX. DGTR

- **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has issued Final Findings on the following in the month of September 2023:**
 - a. Sunset Review Investigation concerning imports of "Synthetic Grade Zeolite 4A (Detergent Grade)" originating in or exported from China PR.
 - b. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Industrial Laser Machines, used for cutting, marking, or welding" originating in or exported from China PR.
 - c. Mid Term Review of anti-dumping duty imposed on the imports of "Natural mica-based pearl industrial pigments excluding cosmetic grade" originating in or exported from China.
 - d. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Wheel Loaders" originating in or exported from China PR

- e. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Gypsum Board / Tiles with lamination at least on one side” originating in or exported from China PR and Oman.
 - f. Anti-dumping Investigation concerning imports of "Synthetic Grade Zeolite 4A" originating in or exported from Iran and Thailand.
 - g. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Viscose Ravon Filament Yarn” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - h. Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Metronidazole” originating in or exported from China PR
- **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has issued Initiation(s) in the following cases:**
 - a. Initiation of Sunset Review Investigation concerning imports of “Textured Tempered Coated and Uncoated Glass” originating in or exported from Malaysia.
 - b. Initiation of Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of “Vacuum Insulated Flask or other Vessels of Stainless Steel” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - c. Initiation or Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Sulphur Black” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - d. Initiation or Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (EVA) Sheet for Solar Module” from China PR.
 - e. Initiation or Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Telescopic Channel Drawer Slider” from China PR.
 - f. Initiation of Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning Imports of “Unframed Glass Mirror” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - g. Suo-motu initiation of an anti-dumping investigation on imports of “Fasteners” originating in or exported from China PR
 - h. Initiation of Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Epichlorohydrin” originating in or exported from Korea PR, Thailand and China PR.
 - i. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Isopropyl alcohol” (IPA) originating in or exported from China PR.
 - j. Initiation of countervailing duty / anti-subsidy investigation concerning imports of “Epichlorohydrin” originating in or exported from Thailand.
 - k. Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU)” originating in or exported from China PR.

- l. Initiation of countervailing duty investigation concerning imports of “Digital Offset Printing Plates” originating in or exported from China PR and Taiwan.
 - m. Initiation of a midterm review investigation limited to change of name of producer/exporter from Singapore regarding anti-dumping duty imposed on imports of Acetone originating in or exported from European Union, Singapore, South Africa' and United States of America.
 - n. Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Poly Vinyl Chloride Paste resin” originating in or exported from China PR, Korea RP, Malaysia, Norway, Taiwan & Thailand.
 - o. Initiation of Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of Trichloro Isocyanuric Acid originating in or exported from China PR, and Japan.
 - p. Initiation of sunset review investigation concerning imports of anti-dumping duties concerning imports of “Digital Offset Printing Plates” (DOPP) originating in or exported from China PR, Japan, Korea RP, Vietnam, and Taiwan.
 - q. Initiation of sunset review investigation of countervailing duty concerning imports of Welded Stainless-Steel Pipes and Tubes originating in or exported from China PR and Vietnam.
 - r. Initiation of Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of “Soft Ferrite Cores” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - s. Initiation of Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Halobutyl-Rubber (HIIR)” originating in or exported from Japan, Russia, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United State of America.
 - t. Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Cellophane Transparent Film” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - u. Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Roller Chains” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - v. Initiation of Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of Welded Stainless-Steel Pipes and Tubes originating in or exported from Thailand and Vietnam.
 - w. Initiation of sunset review investigation concerning imports of “Aluminum Alloy Road Wheel” originating in or exported from China PR.
- **Trade Defence Wing (TDW):**

During the month of September 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
06/09/2023	Certain Non-Refillable Steel Cylinders from India	C-533-913	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Supplemental Questionnaire Response
07/09/2023	Brass Rod from India	C-533-916	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Supplemental Questionnaire Response
13/09/2023	Certain Non-Refillable Steel Cylinders from India	C-533-913	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Supplemental Questionnaire Response for Question 1 & 2
13/09/2023	Granular PTFE from India	C-533-900	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Questionnaire Response
14/09/2023	Common Alloy Aluminium Sheet from India	C-533-896	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Initial Questionnaire Response
29/09/2023	Certain New Pneumatic Off-the-Road Tires from India	C-533-870	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed Initial Questionnaire Response
