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In the December Edition of the Luthra and Luthra Law Offices India – ‘International Trade Law Newsletter’, we cover some of the most pertinent developments in the international trade law over the last month.

WTO, FTAS:

No progress at WTO agri talks; stockholding issue eludes consensus

The negotiations at the WTO’s mini-ministerial meeting on agriculture this month failed to make expected progress as politically sensitive issues such as public stockholding for food security and domestic support for farmers continue to divide the developed and developing nations such as India. This assumes significance for New Delhi as its public stockholding programme was challenged by large food grain exporters such as the US and Canada on the grounds that it is highly subsidised, especially for rice, and that this is distorting the global foodgrain market.

Pandemic is still alive; need to extend TRIPS waiver to Covid diagnostics, therapeutics

Four countries, including India and South Africa, have asked the WTO members to extend patent waiver to Covid-19 diagnostics and therapeutics as the pandemic is still alive and the risk of new variants remains real, an official said. These four member countries of the World Trade Organization WTO

raised the demand in an informal meeting of TRIPS Trade-Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Council in Geneva on Wednesday, the official said. In June last year, members of the WTO agreed to grant a temporary patent waiver for the manufacturing of Covid-19 vaccines for five years.

Türkiye considers VN top priority economic partner in Asia-Pacific: Minister

Vietnam is Türkiye’s top priority economic partner in the Asia-Pacific, affirmed Turkish Minister of Trade Omer Bolat at his meeting with Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh in Ankara on November 29. PM Chinh, who is on an official visit to the country, proposed the Turkish ministry and the minister himself continue to coordinate with relevant departments and sectors of both countries to study the early initiation of negotiations for the Vietnam- Türkiye FTA at an appropriate time. Suggesting the organisation of the 8th meeting of the countries’ inter-governmental committee, he emphasised a need to step up trade promotion and investment activities between Vietnamese and Turkish enterprises and localities.

COP28: Unilateral carbon taxes coercive trade measure, say BASIC nations

Unilateral and coercive climate change-related measures such as new carbon border taxes constitute a disguised restriction on international trade and should be avoided, the BASIC grouping



of nations has said ahead of the upcoming COP28 summit in Dubai. Comprising Brazil, South Africa, India, and China, the bloc has often argued together at COP and has maintained a common minimum position. The grouping especially opposed any measures to restrict trade and investment through the setting up of new 'green trade barriers' such as unilateral carbon border taxes.

WTO agrees dispute panel to review EU import duties on Indonesian biodiesel

World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement body has agreed to establish a panel to review countervailing duties imposed by the European Union (EU) on imports of biodiesel from Indonesia, the global trade body said late on November 27. Indonesia has requested WTO dispute consultations with the EU regarding the bloc's imposition of duties on imports of biodiesel from the Southeast Asia nation in August. However, after the consultation failed to reach an agreement, last month the world's biggest palm oil producer requested WTO to establish a dispute settlement body, which EU previously did not accept.

Turkiye launches Anti-Circumvention Investigation on imports of solar panels originating from Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Croatia, and Jordan

On 25 November 2023, the Government of Türkiye initiated an anti-circumvention investigation on solar panel products originating from Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Croatia, and Jordan. The investigation commenced following a petition filed by GÜNDER-Uluslararası Güneş Enerjisi Topluluğu Türkiye Bölümü, Sunlego Enerji Sistemleri San. ve Tic. A.Ş. and Kalyon Güneş Teknolojileri Üretim A.Ş.

WTO Members consider seven regional trade agreements, discuss improvements to Committee's work

WTO members considered five regional trade agreements (RTAs) between the United Kingdom and various trading partners, namely Central America, the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and Mozambique, Moldova, Albania and Georgia at the 20, 21 and 27 November meetings of the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements (CRTA). They also considered two RTAs between the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and two trading partners — Ecuador and Indonesia. In addition, they continued their discussions on improvements to the functioning of the CRTA and adopted the Committee's annual report.

EU-New Zealand: Council gives final green light to free trade agreement

The Council on November 27 adopted a decision on the conclusion of a free



trade agreement (FTA) between the EU and New Zealand. This decision clears the path, on the EU side, for the entry into force of the agreement. Once New Zealand also completes its legal requirements and procedures, the agreement can enter into force, probably in early 2024.

Intermediate goods exports continue to fall in second quarter of 2023

World exports of intermediate goods (IGs) fell by 8% year-on-year in the second quarter of 2023 to US\$ 2.3 trillion, continuing the slump recorded since last year amid stagnating commodity prices and a marked contraction in global consumer demand due to high inflation and interest rates.

WTO Committee agrees to Brazil's terms of accession to Civil Aircraft Agreement

The Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft agreed on 17 November to Brazil's terms of accession to the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft, among other items. 14 WTO members (counting the European Union as one) are signatories to the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft, a plurilateral agreement. Brazil's accession request is the first to be reviewed by the signatories in this Committee. All other members that acceded to the Agreement since 1995 did so in the context of their accession to the WTO.

The United States extends its strategic partnership with the STDF until 2028

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has committed to a five-year agreement with the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), dispersing funds from 2023-2028. The STDF will use the new contribution from the USDA to strengthen the ability of small-scale farmers, producers and traders to access global and regional food markets by developing and implementing innovative and collaborative SPS projects.

Uzbekistan injects renewed momentum into WTO accession process

At the latest meeting of the Working Party on the Accession of Uzbekistan on 16 November, WTO members commended the Uzbek Government for stepping up its efforts to advance its accession negotiations, evidenced by strengthened domestic institutions.

WTO members examine proposals to deepen discussions on trade and environment

At the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) meeting held on 13, 14 and 16 November, members considered several proposals to reinvigorate discussions on climate change and sustainable development at the WTO.



Report finds strong expansion of global value chains but warns of increased vulnerability

The report, titled "[GVC Development Report 2023: Resilient and Sustainable GVCs in Turbulent Times](#)", noted that global value chains (GVCs) continued to expand in 2022, as indicated by the growing share of foreign inputs in exports and the increasing participation rates of economies worldwide. However, the report also flags increasing risks from the dependence on a small number of economies for certain products and highlights the vulnerability of GVCs to rising trade tensions and global crises.

Members agree on changes to improve the functioning of the Customs Valuation Committee

WTO Members adopted a series of changes to improve the functioning of the Committee on Customs Valuation as part of the work towards WTO reform. At a formal meeting of the Committee on November 15, 2023 delegates also reviewed national customs valuation legislation notified by 35 members and agreed to use the eAgenda platform to assist the work of the Committee.

Members discuss product safety in e-commerce, use of digital tools, air 65 trade concerns

At meetings of the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) on 6 to 10 November, WTO members discussed challenges in ensuring online-purchased

goods conform with safety and quality standards. Members also discussed how digital technologies and tools can improve regulatory practices. Members adopted guidelines to enhance regulatory transparency.

WTO members address trade and development dimension of cotton, potential MC13 outcome

The trade and development dimension of cotton was at the heart of a series of meetings among WTO members on 7 November. Discussions also took place regarding the WTO's 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13) taking place next February, with the Cotton-4 countries (C-4, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali) along with Côte d'Ivoire announcing plans to put forward a proposal for an MC13 decision on cotton.

TRADE POLICY:

India-

Centre extends PMGKAY free foodgrain scheme for another 5 years till 2029

Ahead of the 2024 general elections, the Union Cabinet on November 29 gave its approval to extend the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), a free foodgrain scheme that benefits over 800 million people, for five years, starting from the new year. The scheme was set to expire at the end of this calendar year after several extensions.



The extension of the scheme could provide some relief to marginalised sections from high cereal prices. The retail price inflation in rice remained in double digits until October this calendar year, while that for wheat remained at an elevated level of 7.61 per cent in October.

Promoting district-level products through e-commerce detrimental to small businesses: CAIT

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) came down heavily on the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for promoting e-commerce players to leverage district-specific products and their exports from the country. Terming the idea of the foreign trade policy formulator idea as “good,” it noted that it would be detrimental to the interest of small businesses and the manufacturers located in districts. It is apprehended that such e-commerce players will monopolise the small businesses of the districts to their own interests, said CAIT.

BD opposes India's new jute duty amid anti-dumping struggle

Dhaka has urged Delhi not to impose countervailing duty -- also known as anti-subsidy duty -- on raw jute and jute goods, citing the existing anti-dumping duty already in place for these products in the Indian market, sources said. Jute goods exported from Bangladesh have

already been facing significant anti-dumping duty since 2017. This anti-dumping duty, ranging from \$6.03 to \$351.72 per tonne, was imposed based on allegations of dumping goods such as jute yarn, twine, jute sacking bags and hessian fabric. Dhaka is currently pursuing diplomatic and political channels to persuade Delhi against imposing a countervailing duty.

New FTAs, lower cost of power and logistics to help boost exports: PHDCCI report

Measures like comprehensive trade pacts, reduction in cost of capital, power, and land reforms will help boost India's exports of goods and services to USD 2 trillion by 2030, as per PHDCCI's report. The report also recommended schemes for 75 potential export products including marine items, iron ore, some chemicals, pharma, cotton, aluminium, and tankers to promote shipments.

DGFT, Amazon ink MoU to promote MSMEs' ecommerce exports

In order to boost exports from India's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) sector, e-commerce company Amazon India announced signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Under the MoU, Amazon and DGFT will co-organize capacity building sessions, training and workshops in a phased manner for MSMEs across 75 districts identified



under the districts as Export Hubs initiative outlined in the latest Foreign Trade Policy to export and grow via e-commerce.

Netherlands to Saudi Arabia: India's key export hubs witness high growth.

India's exports to countries such as the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, and Indonesia have witnessed consistent growth during the past five years (2018–19 through 2022–23) and are set to emerge as major growth destinations for the country's outbound shipments, according to a report prepared by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI).

India slows palm oil imports as prices rally amid negative margins

Indian buyers curtailed purchases of palm oil for December and January shipments due to rising prices and as refiners face negative margins after making heavy imports in the past few months, industry officials told Reuters. Lower purchases by the world's biggest importer of vegetable oils could lead to higher stocks of palm oil in key producers Indonesia and Malaysia, weighing on benchmark futures which are trading near their highest in level in two months.

Prolonged regulatory approval processes in UK impact India's medical devices exports to

Britain: GTRI

India's medical device exports to the UK are impacted by prolonged regulatory approval processes, according to think tank GTRI. To promote exports of these devices, GTRI said, India should negotiate a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) to expedite the entry of medical devices into the UK market, particularly for devices with CDSCO (Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation) license or Quality Council of India's Indian Certification of Medical Devices (ICMED) certification.

India eyes EU, Japan, S Korea, Australia for expanding cashew export market

India, the second largest exporter of cashew products in the world, is looking at new geographies such as Japan, the European Union, South Korea, Taiwan and Australia to develop new export markets. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) also plans to modernize cashew processing units to international levels after the Kerala High Court vacated the 2020 order of the government, transferring the export promotion activities of cashews to APEDA from the Cashew Export Promotion Council.

Finmin imposes definitive anti dumping duty on detergent-grade Zeolite 4A imports from China

Indian Finance Ministry has imposed definitive anti-dumping duty on "Synthetic Grade Zeolite 4A (detergent grade)" imports



from China. Based on the recommendations of the Designated Authority in its Sunset Review investigations, the revenue department has now imposed definitive anti-dumping duty of \$163.90 per tonne on Zeolite 4A (detergent grade) produced by Chalco Shangdong Advance Material Co Ltd. and exported to India. For all other producers/exporters from China, the anti-dumping duty has been pegged at \$207.72 per tonne.

India developing sea protocols for fresh fruits, vegetables to promote exports through ocean routes

India is developing sea protocols for fresh fruits and vegetables like bananas, mangoes, pomegranates, and jackfruit to promote their exports through ocean routes. The protocols include understanding voyage time, scientific understanding of ripening, harvesting timing, and farmer training. At present, most of these exports are happening by air route because of lower volumes and different ripening periods.

India developing sea protocols for fresh produce to boost ocean exports

India is developing sea protocols for various fresh fruits and vegetables like bananas, mangoes, pomegranates and jackfruit to promote their exports through ocean routes, a senior government official said. At present, most of these exports are happening by air route because of lower volumes and different ripening periods.

India continues to explore alternatives to counter CBAM impact on exports

Ahead of the second round of regulations related to EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) coming in, Indian officials are reportedly discussing probable alternatives, which will factor in the carbon tax to ensure that exports are not hit. Post carbon tax coming in, the aluminium sector is anticipating a 2-5% impact on prices (at existing LME), which they say is a big impact.

UAE: Sugar prices to drop as India set to resume exports

Sugar prices in the UAE have increased by up to eight per cent in the past couple of months due to a surge in global prices. But UAE prices are expected to drop soon as India is set to export sugar under an arrangement through the National Cooperative for Exports Ltd (NCEL), which was established to help cooperative societies tap the global export market and support them to produce and manufacture products that are in line with international standards.

RBI permits banks to open current account for export proceeds in addition to special rupee vostro accounts

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) permitted banks to open additional current account for exports proceeds in addition to special rupee vostro accounts with a view to provide greater operational flexibility to exporters. In July 2022, the RBI had asked banks to



put in place additional arrangements for export and import transactions in Indian rupees in view of increasing interest of the global trading community in the domestic currency.

India seen keeping rice export bans into 2024, holding up global prices

India, a leading rice exporter, is set to prolong restrictions on overseas sales, maintaining the staple grain at its highest price levels since the food crisis of 2008. Ensuring supplies are available to back the country's free food program, which benefits more than 800 million people, is a top government priority. Retail prices of rice in New Delhi are up 18% from a year earlier, while wheat is 11% more expensive, according to data compiled by the food ministry.

UK seeks higher protection for its GI products from agri sector under FTA with India

In the ongoing negotiations for a free trade agreement between the UK and India, the demand for heightened protection of Geographical Indication (GI) products from Britain's agriculture sector remains an unresolved point. GIs like Scotch whisky and Stilton cheese signify distinctiveness linked to their specific origins, prompting discussions to address differences in protection levels.

Rules of origin for medical devices sector remains a sticking

point under India-UK proposed FTA

Finalising the rules of origin for the medical devices sector remains a sticking-point in the proposed free-trade agreement (FTA) between India and the UK and the talks are on to iron out the differences, an official said. Huge potential is there in the medical devices sector in India, as it imports about 80 per cent of its requirement, with the US, Germany, China, Singapore and Netherlands being top exporters of such devices to the country.

Arunachal inks MoU with Dubai company for export of fruits, vegetables

To promote export of agriculture and allied sector products from Arunachal Pradesh, the state Agriculture Marketing Board (APAMB) has inked an MoU with Dubai-based Lulu Hypermarket. The MoU was signed in New Delhi on November 17, 2023, on the sidelines of the World Food India-2023 event.

India will not accept unfair taxes on steel, aluminum industry: Goyal on EU's carbon tax

India's commerce and industry minister, Piyush Goyal, has expressed concern over the European Union's plan to impose a carbon tax on imports from sectors including steel. The minister assured the domestic industry that India would fight to secure a fair deal for producers and exporters and has already raised its concerns with the EU and the WTO. The Carbon Border



Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) will come into effect in 2026, but from October 1 this year, Indian companies from seven carbon intensive sectors, including steel, cement, fertiliser, aluminium and hydrocarbon products, will have to share carbon emission data with the EU. The minister emphasized that India will not accept unfair taxes or levies and will seek support from other countries.

UNITED STATES:

US assigns zero AD duty on South Korea's wire rods

According to the final results of the anti-dumping (AD) duty administrative review, the US Department of Commerce (USDOC) determined that POSCO, a South Korean producer and exporter of carbon and alloy steel wire rod (wire rod), didn't sell the subject products in the US at prices lower than the fair value during the period of review from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022. The final determination was applicable on November 28, 2023.

USTR announces reallocation of unused fiscal year 2024 WTO tariff-rate quota volume for raw cane sugar

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative announced the reallocation of the unused country-specific quota allocations under the tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) on imported raw cane sugar for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 (October 1, 2023 through September 30,

2024). Based on consultation with quota holders, USTR has determined to reallocate 223,740 MTRV of the original TRQ quantity from those countries that have stated they do not plan to fill their FY 2024 allocated raw cane sugar quantities – Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Panama, Peru, South Africa, Thailand and Zimbabwe.

US issues final AD duties on cold-drawn mechanical tubing from India

The US Department of Commerce (DOC) has announced the final results of its administrative review of the antidumping (AD) duty order on certain cold-drawn mechanical tubing of carbon and alloy steel from India for the period between June 1, 2021 and May 31, 2022. The DOC has determined weighted-average dumping margins at 0.61 per cent for Goodluck India Limited and 4.41 per cent for Rube Products of India. According to the preliminary results, the antidumping duties were at 0.58 per cent for Goodluck India Limited and 3.50 per cent for Tube Products of India. The final antidumping duties for the companies are applicable from November 22, 2023.

U.S. Press Statement on Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Pillar I

On November 16, 2023, the 14 Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) partners signed the IPEF Supply Chain Agreement and announced the



substantial conclusion of the negotiations for the IPEF Clean Economy Agreement, IPEF Fair Economy Agreement, and the Agreement on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity. These 14 partners of IPEF are – Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States, and Viet Nam.

EUROPE:

European Commission acts to protect EU industry from PET plastic dumping

The European Commission has imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate ('PET') plastic products from China, defending EU companies and more than 1,500 jobs. The EU market of PET has a value of over €5.5 billion. PET plastic products from China will now be subject to duties ranging from 6.6% to 24.2%, depending on the exporting producer. These duties will be in place for a maximum period of six months, during which all interested parties can provide feedback, before the Commission, after consulting EU Member States, takes the final decision on the imposition of definitive (i.e. permanent) measures.

7th EU-GCC Business Forum concludes with a United Vision

for Sustainable Economic Collaboration

The EU-GCC Business Forum, a cornerstone event fostering economic collaboration between the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council, has successfully concluded in Manama, Bahrain, on November 21, 2023, centered around the theme "Redefining Economies for a Sustainable and Diversified Future." The forum attended by policy leaders, businesses and government leaders witnessed strategic dialogue led by industry experts on energy transition, circular economy advancements, logistics and transport innovation, and women's economic empowerment.

EU and Angola sign first-ever Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement

The European Commission has concluded negotiations with the Republic of Angola on a Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA) – the first EU agreement of this kind. The EU is pursuing such agreements to promote sustainable investments in its engagement with African partners. The EU-Angola SIFA will make it easier to attract and expand investments while integrating environment and labour rights commitments in the EU-Angola relationship.



Value of EU trade deals surpasses €2 trillion

The European Union (EU) has achieved a significant milestone as the value of its trade through free trade agreements (FTAs) with global partners exceeded €2 trillion for the first time last year as reported in the 3rd Annual Report on the Implementation and Enforcement of EU Trade Policy by the European Commission. The European Union currently boasts the largest network of trade agreements globally, encompassing 74 countries, accounting for 44 per cent of all EU trade.

EU launches tool to help exporters seize benefits of Mutual Recognition Agreements

The new Access2Conformity tool launched on 13 November will allow EU exporters large and small to reduce red tape by making better use of the EU's Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with third countries. When businesses export goods to a trade partner, said goods have to be certified by the conformity assessment bodies (CABs) in the country of destination to ensure that they comply with local rules and regulations, even when already certified for their domestic market. MRAs can solve this problem.

REST OF THE WORLD:

China pledges deeper trade ties with Vietnam

Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao pledged to deepen bilateral trade ties with Vietnam during a meeting with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh in Ho Chi Minh City, China's commerce ministry said. Wang said China-Vietnam trade cooperation has already achieved "fruitful results" and would include strategic areas such as the digital economic, green development and cross-border e-commerce, according to a readout published by Chinese Ministry.

China and Australia look for 'mutual benefit' after years of animosity

Chinese President Xi Jinping has told Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese that their countries could become "trusting partners" as the two leaders moved to recalibrate ties strained for years over issues from trade to human rights and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Focus on Nijjar investigation, rather than on resuming trade talks with India: Canada

Talks towards an Early Progress Trade Agreement were "paused" by Canada, prior to PM Justin Trudeau allegations of India's links in killing of Hardeep Nijjar. The Canadian government is focused on getting India to cooperate in the investigation into the killing of Khalistani figure Hardeep Singh Nijjar rather than on resuming trade talks, a senior Minister has indicated.



Japan's export growth slows as China, global downturn risks loom

Japanese exports grew for a second straight month in October but at a sharply slower pace due to slumping China-bound shipments of chips and steel, as weakening external demand takes its toll on the trade-reliant economy.

SANCTION:

EU states push against 'no Russia clause' in sanctions package -sources

EU countries are digging in against parts of the Commission's latest proposed package of sanctions on Russia, namely the so-called "no Russia clause", retaliatory financial limits and enforcing sanctions on goods for personal use, sources said. The package which would be the bloc's 12th since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, also seeks to close more loopholes on sanctions circumvention. However some member states say the new proposal goes too far and would backfire on EU global trade and ultimately, fail in its aims.

Taking Additional Sweeping Measures Against Russia

The United States, 02 November 2023, has imposed further sanctions on over 200 individuals and entities in

connection with Russia's war against Ukraine. The Department of State is imposing sanctions on over 90 entities and individuals engaged in sanctions evasion and those complicit in furthering Russia's ability to wage its war against Ukraine. Our actions today also target Russia's future energy capabilities, which will limit Moscow's ability to funnel future revenues toward its destructive aims.

Canada Announces Additional Sanctions in Response to Russia' ongoing violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity

The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, today announced that Canada is imposing new sanctions against 9 individuals and 6 entities under the *Special Economic Measures (Russia) Regulations*. These sanctions are imposed against persons who, by their role in the Kremlin-backed orchestration of disinformation and war propaganda, directly promote Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

INDIAN CUSTOMS:

DGFT Launches Upgraded eBRC System For Exporters To Self-Certify Their Remittances

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has announced the pilot launch of the upgraded electronic Bank Realisation Certificate (eBRC) system for self-certification by exporters. The eBRC



is a document that certifies the receipt of foreign exchange by an exporter and is used for various purposes such as claiming benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy, filing income tax returns, etc. The upgraded eBRC system is based on electronic Inward Remittance Messages (IRMs) to be transmitted directly by banks to DGFT. The enhanced eBRC system shall enable exporters to reduce transaction time and costs, ease the burden on bankers, and promote ease of doing business in general.

Govt allows valid quota holders under India-UAE trade pact to import gold through bullion exchange

Indian jewellers having a valid license to import a specified quantity of gold at concessional customs duty from the UAE, under the free trade agreement, can import it through the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX). In

a notification, the DGFT said that those companies can obtain the physical delivery of the consignment through International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)-registered vaults located in special economic zones.

Indian G2G deal rice importers seek waiver of export duty

Some of the countries that have been allowed to receive Indian white rice on government-to-government (G2G) deals are seeking waiver of customs duty on the cereal's consignments. Official sources said while white rice exports, which are G2G deals since the Centre has banned its shipments, are levied a 20 per cent export duty, no tax is imposed on consignments heading to nations with which India has a free trade agreement (FTA). India has resorted to curbs on rice exports since September 2022 on food security grounds, particularly when wheat production was affected in 2022 and 2023 due to indifferent weather.



Trade Remedies:

India

| S.NO. | PRODUCT | SUBJECT COUNTRY | TYPE OF PROCEEDING | STATUS | DATE |
|-------|--|-----------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| 1. | Textured Tempered Coated and Uncoated Glass | Malaysia | Sunset Review – ADD [A.D (SSR)-05/2023] | Final Findings | 25/11/2023 |
| 2. | Natural mica-based pearl industrial pigments excluding cosmetic grade | China PR | Mid-Term Review – ADD [MTR-07/2022] | DGTR Corrigendum to Final Findings Customs Notification [No. 13/2023-Customs (ADD)] | 13/11/2023 22/11/2023 |
| 3. | Synthetic Grade Zeolite 4A (Detergent Grade) | China PR | Sunset Review – ADD [AD (SSR) – 06/2022] | Customs Notification [No. 12/2023-Customs (ADD)] | 21/11/2023 |
| 4. | Toughened Glass for Home Appliances having thickness between 1.8 MM to 8 MM and area of 0.4 SqM or less | China PR | Original Investigation – ADD [OI – 10/2022] | Customs Notification [No. 11/2023-Customs ADD] | 17/11/2023 |

European Union



| S.NO. | PRODUCT | COUNTRY | TYPE OF PROCEEDING | STATUS | DATE |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| 1. | Melamine | China PR | New Exporter Review - ADD <i>[Case No. R791]</i> | Definitive Measure - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2653 | 27/11/2023 |
| 2. | Polyethylene Terephthalate | China PR | Original Investigation – ADD <i>[Case No. AD693]</i> | Provisional Measure – Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2659 | 27/11/2023 |
| 3. | Ductile pipes (tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron) | India | Partial Interim Review – ADD <i>[Case No. R779]</i> | Definitive Measure – Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2605 | 23/11/2023 |
| 4. | Erythritol | China PR | Initial Investigation - ADD <i>[Case No. AD699]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/1020 | 21/11/2023 |
| 5. | Optical fibre cables (OFC) | India | Initial Investigation - ADD <i>[Case No. AD695]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/891 | 16/11/2023 |
| 6. | Polyvinyl Chloride | Egypt, United States of America | Initial Investigation - ADD | Initiation - C/2023/891 | 15/11/2023 |



| | | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|--|---|------------|
| | | | <i>[Case No. AD697]</i> | | |
| 7. | Mobile access equipment | China PR | Initial Investigation - ADD <i>[Case No. AD698]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/783 | 13/11/2023 |
| 8. | Titanium dioxide | China PR | Initial Investigation - ADD <i>[Case No. AD696]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/786 | 13/11/2023 |
| 9. | Pneumatic Tyres for buses or lorries (new and retreaded) | China PR | Expiry Review – CVD <i>[Case No. R804]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/711 | 10/11/2023 |
| 10. | Lever arch mechanisms | China PR | Expiry Review - ADD <i>[Case No. R803]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/614 | 08/11/2023 |
| 11. | Steel products (certain) | All | Safeguard General <i>[Case No. Safe 009UKNITRQS2]</i> | Initiation – C/2023/591 | 06/11/2023 |

United States of America

| S.NO. | PRODUCT | COUNTRY | TYPE OF PROCEEDING | STATUS | DATE |
|-------|---|---------|--|--|------------|
| 1. | Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, and Pressure Pipe | Russia | Remand-ADD, CVD [701-655] | Notice of Remand Proceedings | 01/11/2023 |



| | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|---|--|---|------------|
| 2. | Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar | Belarus, China, Indonesia, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, and Ukraine | Sunset Review-ADD [731-873] | Notice of Initiation of Five year reviews | 01/11/2023 |
| 3. | Clad Steel Plate | Japan | Sunset Review-ADD [731-739] | Notice of Initiation of Five year reviews | 01/11/2023 |
| 4. | Silicomanganese | China and Ukraine; | Sunset Review-ADD [731-672] | Notice of Initiation of Five year reviews | 01/11/2023 |

United Kingdom

| S.NO. | PRODUCT | COUNTRY | TYPE OF PROCEEDING | STATUS | DATE |
|-------|--------------------|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | Certain excavators | China | Initial Investigation -ADD [AD0047] | Notice of Initiation | 15/11/2023 |
| 2. | Certain excavators | China | Initial Investigation- ASI [AD0046] | Notice of Initiation | 15/11/2023 |



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