

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 2021

I. Trade Performance

- As per trade alert data, India's merchandise exports in July 2021 was USD 35.17 billion, highest ever monthly achievement, which showed an increase of 47.91% over USD 23.78 billion in July 2020 and an increase of 34.06% over USD 26.23 billion in July 2019.
- Top 5 commodity groups of export which have recorded positive growth during July 2021 vis-à-vis July 2020 are: Petroleum Products (215.68%), Gems and Jewellery (130.44%), Other Cereals (70.25%), Man-made Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups etc. (58.67%) and Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Handloom Products etc. (48.02%).
- Value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports in July 2021 was USD 26.11 billion, registering a positive growth of 27.36% over non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of USD 20.5 billion in July 2020 and a positive growth of 32.25% over non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of USD 19.75 billion in July 2019.

II. Export Promotion

- PEPC member company Larsen & Toubro Ltd has secured following contracts overseas:
 - i. Design, supply, construct, install, test, and commission a 132/11kV substation with associated cable works in Dubai.
 - ii. Two transmission line packages in Africa.
 - iii. Supply and construction of a new Gas Insulated Substation and associated substation extensions in Thailand.
- ESC organized B2B session on 27th July 2021, between Indian and Bangladesh ICT companies. 35 Indian ICT companies met 48 companies from Bangladesh.
- ESC organized exclusive B2B meets on 29th-30th July 2021 between Indian electronics exporters and buyers from African Countries. 27 Indian electronics companies showcased their products to 100 buyers from 21 African countries. ESC

tied up with various counterpart associations and Indian Missions Abroad for this program.

- Kandla SEZ (KASEZ) has been awarded IGBC Platinum Rating on 26th July, 2021 for 'Green master planning, policy initiatives and implementation of green infrastructure' by CII's Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).
- Two new Vaccine Testing Facilities have been set up by Department of Biotechnology in Pune and Hyderabad for batch testing and quality control of vaccines, which are (i) Research Institutes National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, and (ii) National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, (NIAB) Hyderabad as Central Drug Laboratory (CDL). This would facilitate our pharma exports considering that both Pune and Hyderabad are major vaccine manufacturing hubs. The new testing facilities are likely to test approx. 60 batches of vaccines per month and will also cater to testing of COVID-19 vaccines.

III. MPEDA

- MPEDA has enrolled 254 farms, formed one new cluster farm in Andhra Pradesh and conducted 79 capacity building programs benefiting 951 farmers.
- MPEDA issued 2193 DS 2031 Certificates, 478 Catch certificates to EU, 21 Catch certificates for Non- EU, 25 ICCAT documents, 8 Non-Radio Activity certificates and 19 duty free import certificate.
- Through the Aqua One Centres, 170 registrations were done and an amount of Rs. 3,70,348 was collected for testing water quality & shrimp animals.

IV. Promotion of Plantation Sector

- The Tea Board Issued 160 licenses during July 2021.
- Under minimizing regulatory compliances, fourth compliance on online issuance of Coffee Curing License is under testing stage.
- As a part of the Credit Linked Rubber Plantation Development Plan (CLRPDP) for NE region with the financial support of Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA), the Board transported 3.40 lakh rubber nursery (planting materials) to North Eastern States covering the jurisdictions of six Regional Offices namely, Guwahati, Agia, Nagaon, Kajalgaon, Tura and Dimapur up to July 2021.

- Rubber Board signed a MOU for developing online fertilizer recommendation for cardamom plantations in Kerala for a collaborative project with Spices Board and Digital University of Kerala on 23rd July 2021.
- Rubber Board launched “*Landslide zonation maps of rubber plantations in Kerala*” with suggested good agricultural practices for each category and Rubber Census Mobile App during the month.
- As a preparatory step to the launch of an online auction platform for large cardamom on pilot basis, Spices Board held consultations with Sikkim State Cooperative Supply & Marketing Federation Ltd. (SIMFED), stakeholders of Nagaland etc. on 23rd July 2021. SIMFED has agreed to aggregate cardamom from large farmers for online sale. This project is expected to open up the buyer base for the large cardamom produced in the North Eastern Region of India, mostly by the tribal farmers.

V. Export Credit, Insurance and MAI Assistance

- During July 2021, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has supported exports of Rs 51,603 Crore, earned a premium of Rs 93 Crore, issued 1008 policies, added 1,023 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs 21 Crore.
- Under National Export Insurance Account, during July 2021, value of exports supported was Rs 14.39 Crore and value of Insurance covers worth Rs 11.51 Crore were issued.

VI. Bilateral Trade

- The trade data for 1st Quarter of 2021-22 released during July 2021 shows significantly improved exports to ASEAN as compared to corresponding period in previous years. Exports to ASEAN during Apr-June 2021 stood at USD 11.43 billion as compared to exports in 1st quarter of 2019-20 and 2020-21 of USD 8.40 billion and USD 6.97 billion respectively. The previous best performance was in 2011-12 when export during 1st quarter reached USD 10.28 billion.
- A virtual meeting with the Indian Mission in Dushanbe (Tajikistan) was held under the Chair of Joint Secretary, FT CIS Division, Department of Commerce along with Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards on 7th July 2021 to explore export potential products in this region and to address the concerns faced by the exporters to this region.

- D.O. Letter from Commerce Secretary to Ambassadors of Indian Mission in CIS region were sent regarding the export target assigned to them under “Target of \$400 billion Export in 2021-22”.
- A virtual meeting was organised on 2nd July, 2021 between India and Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) to discuss the issues relating to market access for export of agriculture products into India from Bhutan. The meeting was co-chaired by Joint Secretary (South Asia), Department of Commerce (DoC) and his Bhutanese counterpart. Issues discussed in the meeting were inclusion of seven new crops in Plant Quarantine (PQ) Order, Minimum Import Price (MIP) on Arecanut, Review of restriction on import of ginger from Bhutan and deployment of new PQ officer at Land Custom Station (LCS) Jaigaon.

VII. DGFT

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued 17802 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 the month of July 2021.
- Kamarajar Port is enlisted as a designated port for import of unshredded metallic scrap and waste.
- As part of IT Revamp of its exporter/ importer related services, DGFT introduced a new module for filing of electronic, paperless applications for Export Authorizations for SCOMET items.

VIII. Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

- Total transaction value on GeM portal has crossed Rs. 1,24,795 Crore as on 31st July 2021.
- GeM has provided online (due to COVID-19) training to its 8,550 users (6,439 buyers & 2,111 sellers) for capacity building during July 2021.
- 296 COVID-19 related categories (Medical and auxiliaries) with 191,843 unique products in COVID-19 in medical categories and 163,698 unique products in auxiliaries' categories have been made available on GeM.
- GeM has worked closely with Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of MSME, DPIIT, and Ministry of Agriculture to develop 8 “GeM Outlet Stores”, namely; ‘Tribes India eStore’, ‘The

Saras Collection’, ‘Startup Runway’, ‘Khadi India’, ‘India Handicraft’, ‘India Handloom’, ‘The Divyangjan Collection’, and ‘The Green Gold Collection’, to provide online “access to markets” for under-served seller groups in remote rural areas.

- There are 37,976 sellers in COVID-19 medical categories & 38,394 sellers in COVID-19 auxiliaries’ categories on the portal.
