

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

Major achievements of Department of Commerce during February, 2019.

- On the basis of Quick Estimates on merchandise trade for India released on 15.02.2019, the value of merchandise exports during January 2019 has been USD 26.36 billion as compared to USD 25.41 billion in January 2018, thus, registering a growth of 3.74 per cent. The cumulative Exports during April-January 2019 has been estimated at USD 271.80 billion compared to USD 248.18 billion during the corresponding period of last fiscal year, which is a growth of 9.52 percent compared to the same period in last fiscal year.
- Commerce and Industry Minister launched a new mobile application (DGFT App) on 15.02.2019 to provide easy access to provisions of foreign trade policy, Handbook of procedures, various DGFT applications and trade related updates, including customs through searchable interface. Hon'ble CIM also launched a new e-learning Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) initiative under the 'Niryat Bandhu' scheme of DGFT to train, mentor and hand-hold potential exporters on international trade.
- To facilitate filing and tracking of Quality Complaints/Trade disputes, an online module to receive, track and process such complaints has been created. In an endeavour to resolve complaints or trade disputes relating to international trade and to create confidence in the business environment of India, a mechanism to address such issues has been provided in Chapter 8 of the Foreign Trade Policy/Handbook of Procedures, 2015-2020. Now all such complaints which were earlier to be filed manually can be filed online. The complaint can also be tracked and processed online henceforth. To facilitate e-commerce and export through postal/courier means, the online module for application of Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) for exports under e-commerce/courier or postal from all airports has been made operational. Also, MEIS application fee waived off for e-commerce exports.

- In order to improve ease of doing business and make issuance of authorizations paperless, the physical copy of Advance Authorisation and EPCG would no longer be issued on or after 01.03.2019, in respect of EDI ports. This would help the exporters in taking a printout of the authorization themselves reducing the time taken for printing of such authorization by Regional Authorities and subsequent time to reach the applicant. It is an initiative towards paperless governance. A policy circular in this regard was issued on 14.2.2019.
- SWAYATT' to promote Start-ups, women and youth advantage through e- Transactions was launched by the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation on 19th February, 2019.
- GeM was honoured with the 'Digital India Platinum Award' for 'exemplary online service' by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on 22nd February, 2019.
- A seminar on trade remedial measures against Indian exports was organised by Directorate General Trade Remedies (DGTR) on 6.2.10'9. Another seminar and interactive session on trade remedy mechanism in India was held in DGTR on the request of GCC for their delegates visiting India from 25-27th February 2019.
- Regional Authorities of DGFT issued following Authorizations/ Scrips during the month of February, 2019.

S. No.	FTP Scheme	Number of Authorizations/ Scrips issued in February
1	Importer Exporter Code (IEC) Number	11283
2	Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme	20935
3	Service Export Incentive Scheme (SIES)	8
4	Advance Authorization	1784
5	Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG)	1028

- A note for the cabinet along with draft ordinance to amend the SEZ Act, 2005 was considered and approved by the cabinet on 28.02.2019. Further, action to seek assent of the President on the Ordinance is underway.
- During the month of February 2019, permits were issued to export a quantity of 39869.66 MT of coffee as against 36232.60 MT during the corresponding month of previous year, which is an increase of over 10%

when compared to corresponding month of previous year. In terms of export earnings, the value realization is increased by 26.58% (Rs.146.22 crore) when compared to that of corresponding month of previous year.

- Under Rubber Plantation Development Scheme (Phase VIII), the Rubber Board received 1,484 applications from small growers covering an area of 942 ha for financial assistance. Continued inspection/ processing of the applications and sanctioned ₹146.47 lakh in February 2019 as subsidy against 1,180 fresh permits.
- Forty-five training programmes were conducted under Tappers Skill Development program benefiting 709 participants. 318 farmer education programmes were conducted with a participation of 7,055 farmers during the month. Further, 1,032 plantations having an area of 694 hectares were certified during February, 2019.
- Spices Board's is implementing Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) for the empowerment of farmers engaged in spices cultivation and processing and eleven programs benefitting a total number of 418 stakeholders were conducted during February, 2019 at Uttar Pradesh (2Nos), Kerala (3Nos), Assam (4Nos), Tamil Nadu and Bihar (1 No. each).

• **Achievements of Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) for February, 2019**

• (Rs. in Crore)

Particulars	April 2018 - January 2019	February 2019	April 2018 - February 2019
Value of Exports supported (Business Covered)- (Cumulative)	5,11,106	26,184	5,37,290
Gross Premium earned	985.4	97.66	1083.06
No. of new buyers added	13,761	1,494	15,255
No. of buyers on record (As on)	5,25,074	1,441	5,26,515
Policies in-force (As on)	11,875	8	11,883
No. of accounts covered under ECIB (As on)	18,310	302	18,612
Claims Paid in No.	458	60	518
Claims Paid Amount	508.24	56.07	564.31

• **Progress under National Exports Insurance Account (NEIA) for February 2019**

(Rs.

in Crore)

Sl. No.	Particulars	April, 2018 to December, 2018	For January 2019	For February 2019	Up to February 2019
1	Number of Projects supported	19	3	4	26
2	Value of Exports supported (Project Value)	1681.24	549.56	283.38	2514.18
3	Number of Covers issued	29	7	5	41
4	Value of Covers issued	919.94	313.09	238.38	1471.41
5	Gross Fees earned for the year	45.25	0.30	0.65	46.20
6	Number of Covers in-force	145	150	154	154
7	Cover Value in-force	26735.87	27276.37	27209.53	27209.53
8	Number of Exporters supported	12	1	2	15
9	Numbers of Claims Paid	Nil	Nil	NIL	Nil
10	Value of Claims Paid	21.82	0	0	21.82
