

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

**Major Achievements of the Department of Commerce during
December, 2019**

- As per the latest data available for November 2019, there is decline in imports, which is more pronounced in comparison to exports. As a result, there is decline in the merchandise trade deficit by (-)31.06 percent. The imports during November 2019 were USD 38.11 billion (Rs. 2,72,274.45 crore), which was (-)12.71 per cent lower in Dollar terms and (-)13.20 per cent lower in Rupee terms over imports of USD 43.66 billion (Rs.3,13,680.85 Crore) in November 2018.
- Regional authorities of DGFT have issued the following authorizations/scrips during the month of December, 2019.

S.No.	FTP Scheme	Number of Authorizations/ Scrips issued in December, 2019
1.	Importer Exporter Code (IEC) Number	11488
2.	Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)	29742
3.	Service Export from India Scheme (SEIS)	01
4.	Advance Authorizations	1812
5.	Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG)	1116

- The Tea Board has provided identity card with QR code integration to 82762 small tea growers during December 2019.

- The Coffee Board, during the month of December, 2019 has issued permits for export of 22895 MT of coffee valued at Rs.374.08 Crore as against export permits of 19513 MT issued during corresponding month of previous year valued at Rs.320.62 Crores, which is an increase of 17.33% in terms of quantity and 16.67% in terms of value earned.
- The Coffee Board has inaugurated India Coffee House at IIT Madras, Chennai.
- The Rubber Board launched the loan project for adopting the rubber estates organized by Pallickathodu Rubber Producers Society (RPS) and M/s Anickadu Regional Farmers Service Co-operatives Bank on 4th December, 2019.
- The Rubber Board has made efforts to identify untapped areas to bring under tapping with the support of Rubber Producers Societies (RPS) and Rubber Board promoted companies. Through intervention of RPS and companies of the Board, north region production was newly started in 327 ha during December, 2019 through motivation, facilitation, adoption/contract taping, etc.
- The Rubber Board organized 362 farmer education programmes with a participation of 10,003 farmers and 600 RPS meeting benefiting 10,796 farmers and certified 753 plantations having an area 566 ha during December, 2019. In addition, the Board formed one RPS, eleven tappers' Bank and five Labour/common interest groups as part of empowering rubber growers. The Rubber Board, under the convergence with MGNREGS, also carried out the cultural operations in 606 ha of rubber plantations, benefitting 1,083 rubber growers
- Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) scheme, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Rubber Skill Development Council (RSDC) awarded the new Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) project in November, 2019 to cover 40,000 beneficiaries with an outlay of Rs. 7.70 crore. The performance of the Rubber Training Institute (RTI) under Training Department of the Board during December, 2019 is furnished in the table below: -

Calendared	No. of Training	No. of	No. of Man-days
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Programme	Programme	Beneficiaries	
In-house/ outstation	43	792	2308
SCSP/TSP	3	67	276
Total	46	859	2584

- The average auction price of the Spice Board for small cardamom during the month of December 2019 was Rs. 3124.38 per kg. The e-auction centres at Puttady in Kerala and Bodinayakannur in Tamil Nadu have facilitated auction of 2192 tons of cardamom (small) through e-auction.
- The quality evaluation laboratories of the Spice Board analysed a total of 9178 parameters of spice samples during the month of December 2019.
- The Spice Board issued 122 Certificates of Registration as Exporter of Spices (CRES) and 17 cardamom dealer licences during December, 2019.
- Export data summary pertaining to the EPCs for April-November, 2019-20 as compared to April-November, 2018-19: -
- Capexil: USD 14.14 Billion registering a growth of 1.83% over the same period last year
- Shexil: USD 1.47 Billion registering a growth of 8.71% over the same period last year.
- Chemexil: USD 12.61 Billion registering a growth 0.78% over the same period last year.
- Total order value on GeM portal has crossed Rs. 43,164 crores as on 31st December, 2019.
- MSME sellers/service providers have been awarded contract worth Rs. 22302 cr. (51.67%) of total contract value.

- GeM has provided training to 7325 buyers & 1609 sellers for capacity building in the month of December, 2019.
- The status of all 474 Group 'B' and Ç' surplus staff who have been accepted by DoP&T in the central (surplus staff) roll of that Department is as under:

Total Group 'C' Staff got redeployed to various Deptt./Ministry/Organization	292
Total staff got retired, availed special VRS or died	163
Total surplus staff yet to be redeployed	19

- **Monthly Progress Report for Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) for December, 2019**

(□ in Crore)

S. No.	Particulars	December 2019
1	Value of exports supported (business covered)	□49,586
2	Gross premium earned	□96
3	Number of new buyers added	2,422
4	Number of policies issued	1,129
5	Number of claims paid	54
6	Claims paid amount	□27
7	Number of claims rejected	123

- **Monthly Progress Report for National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) for December 2019**

(□ in Crore)

S. No.	Particulars	December 2019
1	Number of new projects supported	2
2	Value of Exports supported (project value)	□620.70
3	Number of covers issued	2
4	Value of covers issued	□455.47

- Special Economic Zone Division, vide gazette notification No. G.S.R.940(E) dated 17.12.2019, has carried out amendment to Rule 2 and Rule 5 while amendment to Rule 53(A) has been sent to Government of India Press on 31.12.2019 for publication in the official gazette. Instruction No. 103 dated 11.12.2019 has also been issued.
- During first session of India-Nigeria joint trade committee held at New Delhi from 19th to 20th December, 2019, both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in sectors-Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Oil and Natural gas, human resource development, power, agriculture and allied sectors etc.
- Project Export Promotion Council of India (PEPC) member company, M/s Larsen & Toubro Limited has secured an order in the United Arab Emirates for the design, supply and construction of a 132 kV Substation project with associated 132kV cabling works from one of the government utilities. Additional orders have been won in ongoing projects in the Middle East. It has also secured a major add-on order from an existing client in Qatar for an Expressway.
- Trade Policy Division, DoC vide letter dated 29.01.2019 has communicated the approval of Hon`ble Commerce & Industry Ministry to IIFT for their project for construction/expansion of new campus of IIFT at Maidan Garhi, New Delhi with a project cost amounting to Rs.302.64 crores as appraised by the Standing Finance Committee in its meeting held on 20th December, 2018 under the Chairpersonship of Commerce Secretary. In this regard an MoU has been executed between the NBCC and IIFT. Further, approval from Ridge Management Board under the Forest Department of NCT of Delhi has been sought for implementation of the project. The building drawings have been submitted to South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) and approval is expected after issue of NOC by RMB. Request for extension of time for construction is granted by DDA.
