

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 August 2024

I. Export Performance

- The cumulative overall exports during April-August 2024 is estimated at USD 374.33 billion, as compared to USD 350.11 billion in April-August 2023, with as estimated growth of 5.35%.
- The cumulative value of merchandise exports during April-August 2024 was USD 178.68 Billion, as compared to USD 176.67 Billion during April-August 2023, registering a positive growth of 1.14%.
- Non-petroleum & Non-Gems & Jewellery exports registered an increase of 2.35% from USD 26.14 Billion in August 2023 to USD 26.76 Billion in August 2024.
- The main drivers of merchandise exports growth in August 2024 include Engineering Goods, Organic & Inorganic Chemicals, Electronic Goods, RMG of all Textiles and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals
- Engineering Goods exports increased by 4.36% from USD 9.05 Billion in August 2023 to USD 9.44 Billion in August 2024.
- Organic & Inorganic Chemicals exports increased by 8.32% from USD 2.19 Billion in August 2023 to USD 2.37 Billion in August 2024.
- Electronic Goods exports increased by 7.85% from USD 2.16 Billion in August 2023 to USD 2.33 Billion in August 2024.
- RMG of all Textiles exports increased by 11.88% from USD 1.13 Billion in August 2023 to USD 1.27 Billion in August 2024.
- Drugs & Pharmaceuticals exports increased by 4.67% from USD 2.24 Billion in August 2023 to USD 2.35 Billion in August 2024.

II. Bilateral Trade

- The 2nd India Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) was held on August 26, 2024 in Singapore. A delegation led by Commerce & Industry Minister (CIM) participated in the 2nd ISMR. During the visit, the CIM interacted with Singaporean counterparts. CIM also met top investors and leading global business figures in Singapore, including DBS Bank, Temasek Holdings, OMERS, Keppel Infrastructure, and the Owners Forum on August 25, 2024. The CIM discussed strategies to bolster bilateral trade and investment, capitalizing on India's burgeoning market opportunities and its dynamic growth trajectory. CIM visited the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Headquarters and ITE College Central in Singapore to explore opportunities for

collaboration between India and Singapore in developing cutting-edge learning environments.

- A meeting was held between CIM and Minister of Foreign Affairs, HE Mr. Albert Van Klaveren, on August 28, 2024 in New Delhi to discuss the India Chile CEPA (proposed by Chile).
- The 19th CII India Africa Business Conclave held from 20 - 22 August, 2024, in New Delhi. Over 870 delegates from India and more than 1200 international participants from 47 African countries and 18 other nations attended the Conclave. On the sidelines of the conclave, bilateral meeting of Minister of State for Commerce & Industry with Trade Ministers from Malawi, Chad and Somalia and bilateral meetings of Commerce Secretary with Zimbabwe, Somalia, Niger and Ghana were held.
- Commerce Secretary chaired an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) meeting on August 23, 2024 to discuss Market Access issues related to various sectors along with pending text in Goods chapter of India-EU FTA Negotiations in New Delhi.
- A virtual meeting on preliminary discussions on the proposed expansion of India-SACU PTA to India-SACU FTA were held between Economic Adviser, DOC and Deputy ED, Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) of Namibia on 9th August, 2024 in New Delhi.
- A meeting was held at Joint Secretary level with German delegation led by Head of Division, External Economic Policy (Indo-Pacific) in the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action on August 20, 2024 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, to discuss India-Germany bilateral trade relations and ongoing India-EU FTA negotiations.
- The 10th round of India- Australia CECA negotiations, including Services trade negotiations, was held in Sydney during 19- 22 August 2024.

III. **Export Infrastructure**

- 19th meeting of Empowered Committee (EC) on Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) under the chairmanship of Commerce Secretary was held on August 27, 2024.

IV. **SEZ**

- During the month of August 2024, Development Commissioners of various SEZs approved the proposals of investment of Rs. 1204.25 Crore that is expected to provide employment to 27,170 persons.

V. **Export Promotion**

- Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (PHARMEXCIL) organised 10th edition of IPHEX, International Exhibition of Pharma and Healthcare, held at IEMIL, Greater Noida from 28-30 August 2024. 403 overseas delegates from 111 countries and 455 exhibitors from India participated in the exhibition.

- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) organized an awareness webinar on Indian IT and INDIASOFT 2025 to the Chilean participants on August 22, 2024. It has also organised a B2B Meet between India and Russia on August 6, 2024 in Mumbai. 10-member exporters participated at the event to explore business ventures with the Russian delegation.
- Mobile and Electronic Devices Export Promotion Council (MEDEPC) held a virtual meeting with Indian Ambassador to Vietnam on August 8, 2024. The meeting aimed to explore export potential for Indian products in the Vietnamese market. It has also organized a panel discussion titled "Boosting India's Electronic Manufacturing and Exports" on August 9, 2024. The event was a platform for a rich exchange of ideas aimed at strengthening India's position in the global electronics market.
- Project Exports Promotion Council of India (PEPC) circulated information about 70 upcoming projects in Infrastructure, Water, Power, Consultancy to its members in August 2024.
- Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) organized Virtual Buyer Seller Meet for the Indian Ceramic Industry with the Mexican Buyers in association with the Embassy of India, Mexico and Morbi Ceramic Manufacturer Association on August 12, 2024 which was attended by around 60 participants from both sides. It also organized a webinar with Small Industries Development Bank of India, Chennai which was attended by a total of 132 members.
- Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) organized PLEXCONNECT-webinar "Importance of Trade Credit Insurance & Role of Insurance & Risk Management, on August 23, 2024. The objective of this webinar was to enhance the knowledge of participants about Trade Credit Insurance for protecting business from the impact of bad debts, customer insolvency or political restrictions.
- Shellac and Forest Products Export Promotion Council (SHEFEXIL) in association with DGFT Regional Office, Yes Bank organised a workshop on "Lac Cultivation and Exports" on August 14, 2024 at Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

VI. **MPEDA**

- MPEDA enrolled 107 farms and conducted 80 antibiotic campaigns in August 2024.
- During August 2024, 10 exports, 1 processing plant, 3 Handling Facilities, 1 storage facility, and 2 peeling sheds were issued certificates of registration. Currently, 433 EU-approved seafood processing establishments and 69 EU approved cold storage facilities are present.
- MPEDA successfully participated in Japan International Seafood & Technology Expo (JISTE) 2024, Tokyo, Japan, with 15 co-exhibitors during 21-23 August 2024. MPEDA acquired a total stall space area of 136 Sq. Meters.
- MPEDA organised one day hands-on training for upskilling of processing workers on "Seafood Value Addition" under the 100 days action plan in convergence with the PMMSY Scheme of Government of India on August 22, 2024 at Tuticorin. 50

participants from various processing units attended the training session. Training was given on 7 popular value-added products.

VII. Export Credit and Insurance

- During August 2024, ECGC Ltd. earned a premium of Rs 53.81 Crore, issued 327 policies, added 577 new buyers, and settled claims worth Rs 11.13 Crore.

VIII. DGFT

- The Regional Authorities of DGFT issued 17755 authorizations and scrips under various FTP schemes, viz., 1942 under Advance Authorizations, 21 under Service Export from India Scheme (SEIS), 14218 under Importers and Exporters Code (IEC) and 1574 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during August, 2024.
- Export of Non-Basmati White Rice under ITC(HS) code 10063090 to Malaysia through National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) – reg was notified vide Notification No. 24 dated August 19, 2024.
- Amendment in Export Policy of De-Oiled Rice Bran reg. was notified vide Notification No. 23/2024-25, dated August 16, 2024.
- Inclusion of Kandla and Vishakhapatnam Sea Ports for Export of Essential Commodities to Maldives during FY 2024-25 - reg was notified vide Notification No. 22/2024-25 dated August 1, 2024.

IX. DGTR

- Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) issued Final Finding of the following investigations in the month of August 2024:
 - i. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Sulphur Black" originating in or exported from China PR.
 - ii. Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of "Epichlorohydrin" originating in or exported from Korea RP, Thailand and China PR.
 - iii. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Isopropyl alcohol" (IPA) originating in or exported from China PR.
 - iv. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU)" originating in or exported from China PR.
 - v. Anti-dumping Investigation concerning imports of Welded Stainless-Steel Pipes and Tubes originating in or exported from Thailand and Vietnam.
 - vi. Preliminary Findings – Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Aluminium foil up to 80 microns, excluding aluminium foil below 5.5 micron for non- capacitor application" originating in or exported from China PR.
- CBIC has imposed duty on the recommendation of DGTR on the following product(s) in the month of August 2024:
 - Continue levy of anti-dumping duty on "Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride Resin (CPVC)-whether or not further processed into compound" imported from China

PR and Korea RP, for 5 years pursuant to Sunset Review Final Findings issued by DGTR.

X. GeM

- During August 2024, 158 training sessions and 10 events were conducted for various buyers and sellers' organizations. About 8,906 buyers and sellers participated in these events.
- GeM signed MoUs with the Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Karnataka (AWAKE) and the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) to empower women entrepreneurs and MSMEs in Karnataka by supporting their access to the national public procurement market on August 2, 2024.
- GeM signed an MoU with the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), in the presence of Minister of State (IC) for the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship on August 13, 2024.
- GeM signed MoUs with the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) and the All Assam Press Owners Association, aimed at enhancing business opportunities and creating direct market linkages for artisans, weavers, and local sellers in Assam's B2G domain on August 28, 2024.
- GeM signed an MoU with the Thane Small Scale Industries Association in Thane, Maharashtra on August 29, 2024.
- 23 bids have been awarded which are greater than ₹100 crore. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited has awarded a bid for "Handling, Transport and other Mining Services for ₹3,463 crore and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has awarded a bid for "AEROENGINE RAW MATERIAL" for ₹336 crore during the month of August 2024.
