

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 2023

I. Trade Performance

- Merchandise exports during July 2023 were recorded at USD 32.25 Billion.
- Under merchandise exports, 11 of the 30 key sectors exhibited positive growth in July 2023 as compared to same period last year (July 2022). These include Iron Ore (962.82%), Oil Meals (34.24%), Oil Seeds (32.83%), Ceramic Products & Glassware (20.82%), Fruits & Vegetables (18.94%), Electronic Goods (13.09%), Coffee (11.9%), Cotton Yarn/Fabs./Made-Ups, Handloom Products Etc. (6.62%), Rice (5.38%), Cereal Preparations & Miscellaneous Processed Items (2.56%) and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (0.09%).
- Exports of Electronic goods increased by 13.09 percent during July 2023 at USD 2.05 Billion as compared to USD 1.81 Billion in July 2022. During April-July 2023 electronic goods exports were recorded at USD 9.01 Billion as compared to USD 6.55 Billion during April-July 2022, registering a growth of 37.60 percent.

II. Export Infrastructure

- 18th Meeting of Empowered Committee on Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) was held on 14th July 2023.

III. SEZ

- Development Commissioners of various SEZs during the month of July, 2023 have approved the proposals of investment of Rs. 3412.68 crore, which will also provide employment to approx. 24708 persons.

IV. Export Promotion

- Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) organised a webinar 14th July 2023 on "Authorised Economic Operator Scheme".
- Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXIL) organised a webinar on 14th July 2023 on "Transporting Dangerous Goods- The Challenges and The Need for Managing Them" and an online interactive session on opportunities for Indian chemical industry on 18th July 2023 and CHEMEXIL also participated in China Interdye Event 2023 from 26th – 28th July 2023.
- Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) organised a meeting with industry members on 14th July 2023 on export strategy and a webinar on "Areas of Disputes under GST regime" to create awareness among the trade about the major area of disputes under GST Regime on 7th July 2023.

V. MPEDA

- MPEDA has enrolled 170 farms, formed 12 new cluster farms and organised 106 campaigns benefitting 986 beneficiaries during July 2023.
- 18 exporters, 2 processing plants, 2 handling facilities, 3 storages and 2 peeling sheds were issued certificate of registration. Currently 431 EU approved seafood processing establishments and 69 EU approved cold storages are present.

VI. Export Credit and Insurance

- During July 2023, ECGC Ltd. has supported exports of Rs 52,257 Crore, earned a premium of Rs 93.37 Crore, issued 971 policies, added 1,379 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs 24.22 Crore.

VII. Bilateral Trade

- CIM Level Meetings:
 - a. On 4th July 2023, CIM held a brief meeting with the Australian Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in New Delhi.
 - b. CIM visited London during 10th – 12th July 2023. Meetings were held with UK's Secretary of State for Business and Trade; UK PM's Chief Economic Adviser and Business and Industry stakeholders.
 - c. During 11th -12th July, 2023 the CIM visited London, and met EFTA delegation accompanied by the industry stakeholders from Pharmaceutical, Machinery and Electronics of EFTA States to expedite the India-EFTA TEPA Negotiations.
 - d. Bilateral meeting between CIM and Vice Chancellor and Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany was held on 20th July 2023 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss bilateral trade and investment issues.
 - e. CIM and Canadian Trade Minister reviewed the negotiation through VC on 3rd, 8th and 28th July 2023 to discuss the ongoing India-Canada CEPA/EPTA and other issues related to Canada.
- Commerce Secretary Level Meetings:
 - a. During 17th-19th July 2023 Commerce Secretary hold meetings with UK Delegation lead by Permanent Secretary of the Department for Business and Trade including Director General for Trade Negotiations; Chief Executive and Comptroller General, IP Office and Director General for Borders & Trade were held in UK. A luncheon meeting with UK PM's Economic Adviser was also held.
 - b. A meeting to discuss bilateral issues was held by Commerce Secretary with Foreign Secretary, Royal Government of Bhutan on 29th July 2023 in New Delhi.
 - c. A meeting was held on 7th July 2023 under the co-chairmanship of Commerce Secretary and Secretary (East), MEA with the Ambassadors/Heads of Indian Missions of LAC countries in India and the Heads of Indian Missions in LAC (hybrid mode) to mobilize participation for the CII India LAC Conclave.

- Chief Negotiators Level Meetings:
 - a. An EFTA delegation visited India during 3rd– 6th July 2023 for a round of discussions under India-EFTA TEPA negotiations; and negotiations were conducted in New Delhi.
 - b. 6th India-Arab Partnership Conference on "New Horizons in Investment, Trade & Services" was held from 11th -12th July 2023 in New Delhi.
 - c. The 4th round of India-Australia CECA negotiations were held during 12th – 21st July, 2023 in New Delhi.
 - d. 9th round of negotiation of India- Canada EPTA was held in from 13th – 21st July 2023 through virtual mode.
 - e. Chief Negotiator level discussions were held on 27th July 2023 to discuss the issues and way forward in India-UK FTA negotiations.

VIII. DGFT

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued 15,522 Authorizations/Scripts under various FTP Schemes viz., 1980 under Importers/Exporters Code (IEC), 378 under Service Exports from India's (SEIS), 11788 under Advance Authorizations and 1376 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during July 2023.
- Amendment in Export Policy:
 - a. Foods Supplements containing botanicals notified vide Notification No.22/2023 dated 31/07/2023.
 - b. De-Oiled Rice Bran notified vide Notification No. 21/2023 dated 28/07/2023.
 - c. Non-Basmati rice under HS code 1006 30 90 notified vide Notification No. 20/2023 dated 20/07/2023.
- Amendment in Import Policy and policy condition:
 - a. Gold Covered under HS code 71131911, 71131919 & 71141910 of Chapter 71 of Schedule –I (Import Policy) of ITC (HS) 2022 notified vide Notification No. 19/2023 dated 12/07/2023.
 - b. Revision of General Notes under Schedule 1(Import Policy) ITC (HS), 2022 – reg notified vide Notification No. 18/2023 dated 10/07/2023.
 - c. ITC (HS) 08028010 of Chapter 08 of ITC (HS) 2022, Schedule – I (Import Policy) notified vide Notification No.17/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
 - d. ITC(HS) code 07019000 of Chapter 07 of ITC (HS), 2022, Schedule - I (Import Policy) notified vide Notification No.16/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
- Procedure for allocation of quota for export of Broken Rice on humanitarian and food security grounds, based on requests received from
 - a. Governments of other Countries notified vide Trade Notice No.19/2023 dated 28/07/2023, Trade Notice No .16/2023 dated 20/07/2023, Trade Notice No. 13/2023 dated 03/07/2023.
 - b. Government of Mali and Government of Bhutan notified vide Trade Notice No. 18/2023 dated 28/07/2023.

- Procedure for allocation of quota for export of Wheat, Wheat Flour (Atta) and Maida/Semolina on humanitarian and food security grounds, based on requests received from Government of Bhutan notified vide Trade Notice No. 17/2023 dated 28/07/2023.
- Introduction of a Searchable Database for Ad-hoc Norms fixed under Para 4.07 of HBP-reg. notified vide Trade Notice No. 15/2023 dated 17/07/2023.
- Curriculum for Skilling and Mentorship Obligation for Status Holders as per Para 1.30 of FTP 2023 - reg notified vide Trade Notice No. 14/2023 dated 12/07/2023.

IX. DGTR

- **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has issued Final Findings** in the Sunset Review investigation of anti-dumping duty on the imports of “flax yarn of below 70 lea count”.
- **Trade Defence Wing (TDW):**

During the month of July, 2023 Trade Defence Wing (TDW) submitted various questionnaire responses, briefs and comments before different investigating authorities in the following Countervailing Duty (CVD) and Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD) investigations and reviews initiated by other WTO member countries against exports from India:

Date of Submission/ Response	Product	Case No	Issuing Authority	Type of Proceeding	Remarks
24/07/2023	Ductile Iron Pipes and Tubes	R779	EC	Refund Application	Filed comments on EC's note verbale regarding application of facts available
31/07/2023	Glycine	C-533-884	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed case brief
31/07/2023	Paper file folders	C-533-911	USDOC	CVD Administrative Review	Filed case brief

X. G-20

- 3rd Meeting of the Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) was held at Kevadia, Gujarat. Annex documents to the Ministerial statement were negotiated for two days from 10th -12th July 2023.
- 4th TIWG is planned from 21st -22nd August 2023 followed by a Ministerial Meeting from 24th -25th August at Jaipur.

XI. GeM

- On 6th July 2023, GeM organized Chintan Shivir at the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. The event was attended by Buyers/Sellers, Associations and GeM Officials. This collaborative approach was intended to identify additional features and functionalities to make GeM even more Transparent, Efficient & Inclusive.
- Vivad se Vishwas- II (Contractual Dispute) functionality has launched a very useful feature into GeM to resolve buyer and seller disputes up to 500 Cr.
- A 2-day National Level Workshop was organised by CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (CSC SPV) in association with GeM for CSC State SPOCs at IIT, Delhi during 19th – 20th July 2023.
- During the month 178 training sessions and 30 events were conducted for various Buyer and Seller organizations with a total participant count of 9996 with 7700+ Buyers and 2200+ sellers.
