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India's Annual Export Growth Registers 37.5%

Engineering Export Crosses US$ 60 bn Registering Growth of 84.76%

Briefing about the trade performance for the financial year 2010-11, on 19 April, Anand Sharma, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry said that "We have received the export figures for this fiscal and it is indeed heartening to see that our exports for the year ending March 2011 touched US$ 245.9 billion registering a growth of 37.5%". For the first time the figures have reached the US$ 200 billion mark which was a target set for last financial year and exports have indeed exceeded our expectation, he said. Imports for the same period stood at US$ 350.3 billion and good news is that the trade deficit figure has come down to US$ 10.4.4 billion, he added.

Mr. Sharma during interaction made a special mention of the exports sectors which has done particularly well.

(a) Engineering goods by far constituted the largest component of our exports entailing considerable domestic value addition and engineering exports crossed US$ 60 billion registering a growth of 84.76%.

(b) Petroleum Products export were in the range of US$ 42.45 billion registering a growth of 50.58%

(c) Gems & Jewellery sector which is a considerable employer of people saw an export of US$ 33.54 billion showing a growth of 15.34%

(d) Drugs & pharmaceuticals sectors for which India has gained a considerable global reputation saw a total exports of US$ 10.32 billion showing a growth of 15.08%.

(e) Readymade garments exports crossed US$ 11.1 billion showing a growth of 4.23%. Cotton yarn 34 fabrics saw an export of US$ 5.66 billion registering a growth of 42.87%.

(f) Exports of carpet, jute and leather which are the labour intensive sectors assured considerable dynamism in growth

(g) Agricultural exports and allied sectors including tea, coffee, tobacco, spices, cashew, oil meals, fruits and vegetables and marine products crossed US$ 12.92 billion.

(h) Iron Ore exports have actually gone down by 25% at US$ 4.5 billion.

The Commerce Minister expressed the hope that "based on the performance of exports, we are confident that we will achieve the target of exports of US$ 450 billion which we have set for ourselves in the draft strategy paper which was released by the Department of Commerce."

He further informed that a final strategy paper for doubling India's exports to reach US$ 450 billion will be uploaded on the department site very soon.

The Secretary Commerce, Rahul Khullar, also expressed satisfaction over the export performance. He informed that the figures are provisional and likely to be revised.

[Source: PIB Press Release dated 19 April 2011]

BRICS Pushes China to Import More

President Hu Jintao was pushed by fellow BRICS mem bers Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa to open the Chinese market to goods ranging from Indian drugs to Brazilian planes as leaders gathered on a tropical south China island for a summit.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh pressed Hu in a bilateral meeting on 12 April to find ways to reduce India's trade deficit with China by boosting exports of Indian information technology and pharmaceutical products, Indian National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon said in Sanya, China.

China, Russia, India, Brazil and South Africa, brought together under the Goldman Sachs Group Inc.-coined acronym, are divided by a host of trade disagreements. Brazil and India are pushing China to buy more value-added goods. South Africa wants more iron ore and other raw materials processed at home before exporting them to China. Brazil and India have also complained that China's yuan is undervalued, undermining their exports.

Overheating

Chinese Commerce Minister Chen Deming assured his counterparts in a closed-door meeting that China would make it a priority to import more value-added products from BRICS countries, Indian Trade Minister Anand Sharma told reporters in Sanya.

Oleg Fomichev, Russia's deputy economic development minister, said China had pledged to set up high-technology projects with Russia, "not just importing our resources and exporting industrial goods."

Anti-Dumping Measures

The difficulties faced by Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa in increasing high-technology and manufactured exports to China was underscored this week by Brazilian aircraft-maker Embraer SA. (ERJ) The company failed to get China's government to approve final assembly of its E-190 aircraft in China because of concerns it would compete with a domestic regional jet, Chief Executive Officer Frederico Curado said April 12 in Beijing. Embraer will build business jets in China.

"We had the goal of building the 190 here but the Chinese government didn't approve the project," Curado said. The government was concerned that there wouldn't be enough demand for both the E-190 and China's rival ARJ21, he said.

Complaints from Brazilian unions and industry groups, including toymakers and textile producers, have led the Brazilian government to enact 29 anti-dumping measures aimed at Chinese-made goods, more than those against any other country and almost four times more than directed at the U.S., according to the Trade Ministry.

The measures aim to limit imports on goods the government believes are being sold below cost. Last week, Brazil approved higher levies on Chinese-made viscose textiles.

WTO Negotiators Eye "Soft Landing"

Negotiators may need to prepare a "soft landing" to salvage progress in the WTO's decade-long Doha trade talks, say some, as time is running short and positions remain divided ahead of an Easter deadline for agreement.

However, others are warning that it would be premature to abandon a push to finalise the talks this year, given high-level consultations being held by WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy. Lamy is engaging in a series of one-on-one high-level meetings - dubbed 'confessionals' - to gauge the size and nature of the remaining obstacles to a deal.

Lamy recently outlined the next steps in the process, specifying that the chairs of the various negotiating groups would table documents - which sources indicate could be in the form of reports or new text, depending on the topic - on 21 April for members to reflect on during the four days the WTO breaks for Easter holidays. He would then meet with groups of key members. On 29 April, Lamy is planning to convene heads of delegations in the Trade Negotiations Committee, the WTO's top negotiating body.

However, the negotiations are in jeopardy following inconclusive talks between the US and India and China, largely over market access for manufactured products but also for farm goods.

Chairs to issue "documents"

Several major trading powers have explicitly opposed Lamy's bid to generate new draft texts at this stage, trade sources said. Without progress in the talks, the chairs of the negotiating groups risked creating an impression of consensus where none exists, negotiators cautioned.

Talks on trade facilitation and intellectual property rules could prove notable exceptions, officials said, as some progress has been made in these areas.

In agriculture, negotiators said they expected the chair to issue a report, rather than a revised text. However, given the stalemate, some queried the usefulness of this. "A report only gives a picture of the fact things are difficult," said one.

No stone unturned

Doha is "not dead, it's in a coma," said one negotiator, cautioning that countries should not give up on the round just yet.

Others emphasised the need to "wait and see" what emerges from Lamy's "confessionals" and the TNC meeting, at which Lamy is likely to report back on any progress and consult members on what should happen next.

"Let's not leave any stone unturned," said one official who hoped that the discrete consultations could yet yield some fruit.

Another source emphasised that Lamy still seemed to be hoping to produce revised negotiating texts, even if the target date for doing so may have slipped.

One negotiator suggested that part of the problem had been that members had hardly discussed the draft texts in over two years, while they waited for a more propitious political climate to re-establish itself. The source emphasised the need to complete a "clarification exercise" that members have been conducting, aimed at reviewing the entire draft and developing a shared understanding of any ambiguities.

Dollar-Rupee Rate at NSE Futures

Trade Date	Open Price	High Price	Low Price	Close Price	Daily Settlement Price	Open Interest	No. of Contracts	Value (Rs. lakhs)	RBI Reference rate
19-Apr-11	44.6350	44.7725	44.5300	44.5675	44.5675	898417	4441574	1983104	44.6800
18-Apr-11	44.4300	44.5375	44.3300	44.5225	44.5225	901157	3526002	1566322	44.2700
15-Apr-11	44.5600	44.9000	44.4100	44.4375	44.4375	917066	2955605	1316798	44.5200
13-Apr-11	44.6900	44.6925	44.5100	44.6200	44.6200	1017512	3239727	1444356	44.4800

[Source: NSE and RBI Website]

New Filipino Non-Paper seeks Farm Safeguard Flexibilities

Despite the challenges WTO members are facing with regard to reaching an overall deal in the Doha round, countries have continued tabling new proposals and submissions on agriculture. An informal 'non-paper' from the Philippines was the latest of these – following other recent proposals from small economies and from net food importing developing countries.

The Philippines is seeking extra flexibility for developing countries with low tariffs that wish to impose additional safeguard duties in the event of a sudden surge in the volume of agricultural imports or a drop in their prices. The current draft Doha text on the proposed new 'special safeguard mechanism' for developing countries does not distinguish between countries with low tariff ceilings, such as China or Cote d'Ivoire, and those with higher tariffs, such as India or South Korea.

Trade sources told that developing countries whose maximum permitted average 'bound' tariff fell below 40 percent would be granted additional flexibility under proposed new rules outlined by the Philippines. The non-paper would allow these countries to impose safeguard duties that exceed their pre-Doha ceiling levels by 20 percentage points more than would otherwise be the case.

Countries with low bound tariffs that are also defined as small, vulnerable economies or as least-developed countries would be granted more lenient treatment than that currently outlined in the draft text, by being able to impose additional safeguard duties that are 30 percentage points greater than those of other small or least-developed countries.

Countries that did not have low bound tariffs would be able to impose safeguards that exceed pre-Doha ceilings by a to-be-negotiated number of percentage points, the non-paper suggests. At present, the draft text would allow all developing countries to impose safeguard duties expressed either as a certain percentage of the current bound tariff or as a certain number of percentage points.

The non-paper was reportedly opposed by some developing country exporters, who have traditionally sought to limit the flexibilities available to other developing countries under the proposed new special safeguard mechanism.

Meanwhile, trade sources reported that the group of countries that have joined the WTO recently – known as the group of recently-acceded members or RAMs – are also preparing a similar proposal, seeking additional flexibilities on the special safeguard mechanism.

Zero Duty Sugar Import Extended upto 1 July 2011

Ntfn 34
15.04.2011
(DoR)

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. **21/2002-Customs, dated the 1st March, 2002,** published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 118(E) dated the 1st March, 2002, namely :-

In the said notification, -

(i) in the **preamble**, in the proviso, after clause (k), the following clause shall be **inserted**, namely:-

"(l) the goods specified against S.Nos. 37F, 37G, 37H of the said Table on or after the 1st day of July, 2011"

(ii) in the Table, **after S.No. 37E** and the entries relating thereto, the following S.Nos. and entries shall be **inserted**, namely:-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
"37F.	1701	Raw Sugar	Nil	-	5G
37G.	1701 91 00 or 1701 99 90	Refined or white sugar	Nil	-	5H
37H.	1701	Raw sugar if imported by a bulk consumer	Nil	-	5I"

(iii) in the **Annexure**, after condition No. 5 and the entries relating thereto, the following conditions shall be **inserted**, namely :-

Condition No.	Conditions
5G	(a) If imported by a sugar factory or a sugar refinery. Explanation.- For the purpose of this notification - (i) "sugar factory" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in Section 2(c) of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966; (ii) "sugar refinery" means a unit which is engaged in the manufacture of refined sugar starting from the stage of raw sugar". (b) If imported by any person other than at (a) above: (i) the importer shall produce to the Deputy Commissioner of Customs or the Assistant Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, a valid contract or agreement with a sugar factory or sugar refinery for refining of such raw sugar and shall furnish a bond to the effect that the said raw sugar shall be used for the said purpose; (ii) the bond shall be discharged by the Deputy Commissioner of Customs or the Assistant Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, on production of a certificate from the Central Excise authorities having jurisdiction over such sugar factory within a period of three months from the date of import of such raw sugar that the entire quantity of imported raw sugar has been refined and (iii) in the event of his failure to comply with the above conditions, the importer shall be liable to pay, in respect of such quantity of the raw sugar as is not proven to have been refined, an amount equal to the difference between the duty leviable on such quantity but for the exemption contained herein.";
5H	If the importer produces before the Deputy Commissioner of Customs or the Assistant Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, a proof to show that the contract for import of such sugar is duly registered with Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)".
5I	If the importer, at the time of import, produces a certificate from a Chartered Accoun tant to the effect that the importer is a bulk consumer. Explanation,- For the purpose of this notification,- (i) bulk consumer is a person, establishment or industrial unit using or consuming more than ten quintals of sugar per month as a raw material for production or consumption or use in any manner other than sale. (ii) the said certificate shall be issued by the Chartered Accountant after taking into account monthly use or consumption of sugar by such person, establishment or unit in the last twelve months; and (iii) "Chartered Accountant" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Chartered Accountant Act, 1949.

F. No.354/78/2009-TRU Pt I

IEC Code in Form D not Mandatory for Low Value Dutiable Courier Consignments

Subject: Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010.

21-CBEC
18.04.2011
(DoR)

Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010 framed vide Notification No.36 2010–Customs (N.T.) dated 5.5.2010 as amended vide Notification No.26/2011-Customs (N.T.) dated 1.4.2011, provide for comprehensive guidelines for processing of electronic declaration for assessment and clearance of goods imported or exported under the Courier mode.

2. Representations were received from the trade and industry and also from Courier Companies that requirement of mandatory IEC Code for low value dutiable consignments in Form 'D' / CBE-XIII is onerous as consignments under this category constitute a large chunk of imports through Courier Mode. It was requested that the transition period declaring IEC Code in case of low dutiable shipments should be extended for 1 year from date of publication of Regulations to enable the industry build IEC database as it was a massive exercise. It was also represented that mandatory fields for AD Code and IEC Branch Code in Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010 be made non-mandatory as the same place the trade in a disadvantageous position.

3. The matter has been examined in the Board. Accordingly, it has been decided that in order to redress the problem of Courier Companies and to streamline the procedures under the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010, IEC Branch Code in case of Form 'D' / CBE-XIII and Form 'E' / CBE-XIV are to be treated as non-mandatory. Similarly, AD Code of the Bank in Form 'E' / CBE-XIV for dutiable goods shall also be treated as non-mandatory.

The requirement of mandatory IEC Codes for 'low value dutiable consignments' in Form 'D' / CBE-XIII would, however, continue to apply for goods imported under Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010.

4. Regulation 12 of the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010 stipulates that an Authorized Courier or his employee can file electronic declarations in respect of imported or export goods provided he has passed the examination referred to in regulation 8 or regulation 19 of the Custom House Agents Licensing Regulations (CHALR), 2004. A transition period of six months from the date of publication of Regulations was provided to ensure that by that time only those

Cont'd..42

CVD of Excise Reduced to 1% on All Goods in Chapter 31 to be Used as Fertilisers

Ntfn 35
15.04.2011
(DoR)

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby **exempts all goods**, other than those which are clearly not to be used as fertilisers, falling under chapter 31 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), when imported into India, from so much of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the said Customs Tariff Act as is in excess o**f 1% ad valorem**.

[F.No.354/35/2011–TRU]

World Bank Pink Sheet – April 2011

World Bank Pinksheet issued in April 2011 covers price movements in 43 energy and non-energy products. This Pink Sheet focuses on price movements in March 2011.

World Sugar and Edible Oils Declines

Up ↑

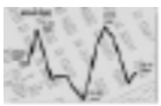
Crude and Natural gas
Coffee, Barley and Sorghum
Bananas, Oranges, Fishmeal and Meat
Logs and Sawnwood Malaysia, Cotton
DAP, TSP, and Potassium Chloride
Aluminium, Lead, Steel products, CR and HR Coils Sheets
Gold and Silver.

Down ↓

Coal, Cocoa, Tea
Edible Oils, Maize, Thai Rice and Wheat
Bananas, Oranges, World Sugar
Rubber, Copper, Iron Ore, Nickel, Tin and Zinc

Steady ↔

Shrimp, Woodpulp, Rock Phosphate and Steel Rebar



	Monthly averages				Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2011				2010				2011	2009	2010	2011
	Jan	Feb	Mar		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Mar
Energy												
Coal, Australia $/mt	132.48	128.36	128.00	↓	95.19	99.49	93.55	107.63	129.61	71.84	98.97	129.61
Crude oil, average $/bbl	92.69	97.91	108.65	↑	77.06	78.18	75.51	85.42	99.75	61.76	79.04	99.75
Crude oil, Brent $/bbl	96.29	103.96	114.44	↑	76.65	78.69	76.41	86.79	104.90	61.86	79.64	104.90
Crude oil, Dubai $/bbl	92.37	100.25	108.58	↑	75.86	77.98	74.04	84.37	100.40	61.75	78.06	100.40
Crude oil, West Texas Int. $/bbl	89.41	89.53	102.92	↑	78.67	77.85	76.08	85.09	93.95	61.65	79.43	93.95
Natural gas Index 2000=100	170.2	162.8	163.7	↑	170.3	147.5	155.1	151.6	165.6	153.5	156.1	165.6
Natural gas, Europe $/mmbtu	9.61	9.36	9.37	↑	8.84	7.51	8.26	8.54	9.45	8.71	8.29	9.45
Natural gas, US $/mmbtu	4.49	4.07	3.97	↓	5.15	4.32	4.28	3.80	4.18	3.95	4.39	4.18
Natural gas LNG, Japan $/mmbtu	11.45	11.70	13.00	↑	10.32	10.95	11.22	10.91	12.05	8.94	10.85	12.05
Beverages												
Cocoa ¢/kg	316.5	347.2	339.3	↓	329.7	321.0	305.9	296.6	334.3	288.9	313.3	334.3
Coffee, Arabica ¢/kg	581.5	634.7	643.9	↑	353.7	392.0	468.5	513.9	620.0	317.1	432.0	620.0
Coffee, robusta ¢/kg	222.9	241.1	260.4	↑	150.8	161.0	183.2	199.4	241.5	164.4	173.6	241.5
Tea, auctions (3) average ¢/kg	302.1	288.2	281.2	↓	279.0	276.4	295.1	303.5	290.5	272.4	288.5	290.5
Tea, Colombo auctions ¢/kg	355.9	355.9	359.0	↑	335.1	316.2	322.1	342.4	356.9	313.7	329.0	356.9
Tea, Kolkata auctions ¢/kg	261.2	229.9	210.9	↓	215.8	274.0	320.6	311.7	234.0	251.5	280.5	234.0
Tea, Mombasa auctions ¢/kg	289.2	278.8	273.8	↓	286.1	238.9	242.7	256.3	280.6	252.0	256.0	280.6
Fats and Oils												
Coconut oil $/mt	2,038	2,256	1,925	↓	834	955	1,159	1,546	2,073	725	1,124	2,073
Copra $/mt	1,354	1,503	1,280	↓	557	634	769	1,038	1,379	480	750	1,379
Groundnut oil $/mt	1,788	1,730	1,650	↓	1,359	1,352	1,301	1,604	1,723	1,184	1,404	1,723
Palm oil $/mt	1,281	1,292	1,180	↓	808	813	875	1,108	1,251	683	901	1,251
Palmkernel oil $/mt	2,120	2,296	1,977	↓	922	1,034	1,161	1,619	2,131	700	1,184	2,131
Soybean meal $/mt	451	442	418	↓	369	342	378	424	437	408	378	437
Soybean oil $/mt	1,374	1,365	1,307	↓	917	876	984	1,242	1,349	849	1,005	1,349
Soybeans $/mt	572	570	553	↓	417	409	452	522	565	437	450	565
Grains												
Barley $/mt	195.2	196.5	202.6	↑	143.6	146.9	161.9	181.1	198.1	128.3	158.4	198.1
Maize $/mt	264.9	292.9	290.5	↓	162.7	157.7	181.7	241.5	282.8	165.5	185.9	282.8
Rice, Thailand, 5% $/mt	516.8	524.0	492.8	↓	535.3	452.4	457.0	510.8	511.2	555.0	488.9	511.2
Rice, Thailand, 25% $/mt	467.6	473.0	455.5	↓	477.0	399.1	418.5	471.4	465.4	458.1	441.5	465.4
Rice,Thai, A.1 $/mt	405.0	420.5	408.3	↓	400.7	333.8	376.9	423.1	411.3	326.4	383.7	411.3
Rice, Vietnam 5% $/mt	496.8	478.6	458.3	↓	433.2	366.1	411.1	504.7	477.9	n.a.	428.8	477.9

	Monthly averages				Quarterly averages					Annual averages		
	2011				2010				2011	2009	2010	2011
	Jan	Feb	Mar		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Mar
Sorghum $/mt	246.3	253.2	266.1	↑	156.9	142.6	153.6	208.6	255.2	151.1	165.4	255.2
Wheat, Canada $/mt	440.5	474.1	432.5	↓	279.0	260.9	326.1	383.6	449.0	300.5	312.4	449.0
Wheat, US, HRW $/mt	326.6	348.1	316.7	↓	195.4	177.4	237.9	283.6	330.5	224.1	223.6	330.5
Wheat, US SRW $/mt	320.4	338.8	303.1	↓	193.5	186.9	253.4	284.9	320.8	186.0	229.7	320.8
Other Food												
Bananas EU $/mt	1196.8	1311.0	1246.3	↓	1014.0	1029.0	932.6	1033.4	1251.4	1144.9	1002.2	1251.4
Bananas US $/mt	892	1,002	996	↓	781	862	922	909	964	847	868	964
Fishmeal $/mt	1,631	1,793	1,796	↑	1,660	1,814	1,663	1,613	1,740	1,230	1,687	1,740
Meat, beef ¢/kg	410	405	414	↑	314	342	331	353	410	264	335	410
Meat, chicken (Revised) ¢/kg	187.4	187.5	189.8	↑	183.9	190.2	193.6	189.3	188.2	188.8	189.2	188.2
Meat, sheep ¢/kg	627.6	641.4	642.4	↑	447.6	486.8	572.5	618.7	637.1	427.6	531.4	637.1
Oranges $/mt	734.6	885.0	849.5	↓	1008.5	1083.6	1162.9	877.9	823.0	909.0	1033.2	823.0
Shrimp, Mexico ¢/kg	1,246	1,246	1,246	↔	827	945	n.a.	1221.7	1,246	945	1,004	1,246
Sugar EU ¢/kg	43.67	44.61	45.78	↑	46.38	42.66	43.29	44.38	44.69	52.44	44.18	44.69
Sugar US ¢/kg	84.79	87.39	87.51	↑	84.31	69.62	78.20	84.86	86.56	54.88	79.25	86.56
Sugar, world ¢/kg	65.28	64.97	57.85	↓	51.82	34.93	42.98	58.01	62.70	40.00	46.93	62.70
Timber												
Logs, Cameroon $/cum	441.3	450.8	n.a.		431.4	408.0	426.3	448.5	446.1	421.5	428.6	446.1
Logs, Malaysia $/cum	315.3	328.6	345.0	↑	253.6	253.5	293.5	312.1	329.6	287.2	278.2	329.6
Plywood ¢/sheets	584.5	588.7	n.a.		557.2	566.3	572.3	580.5	586.6	564.6	569.1	586.6
Sawnwood, Cameroon $/cum	827.8	831.5	n.a.		804.1	787.1	811.8	847.8	829.7	748.9	812.7	829.7
Sawnwood, Malaysia $/cum	907.8	927.8	929.2	↑	787.8	832.6	879.8	892.9	921.6	805.5	848.3	921.6
Woodpulp $/mt	879.1	885.8	885.0	↔	780.9	875.5	912.9	897.8	883.3	614.6	866.8	883.3
Other Raw Materials												
Cotton A Index ¢/kg	394.5	470.0	506.3	↑	178.8	199.3	205.2	330.1	456.9	138.2	228.3	456.9
Rubber RSS3 ¢/kg	552.0	625.9	541.9	↓	318.6	372.7	337.5	432.8	573.2	192.1	365.4	573.2
Rubber TSR20 ¢/kg	533.2	558.1	483.9	↓	309.8	302.3	314.4	425.9	525.1	180.0	338.1	525.1
Fertilizers												
DAP $/mt	595.8	603.8	605.5	↑	464.8	458.2	494.1	585.6	601.7	323.1	500.7	601.7
Phosphate rock $/mt	155.0	160.0	160.0	↔	102.1	125.0	125.0	140.0	158.3	121.7	123.0	158.3
Potassium chloride $/mt	367.5	375.0	380.0	↑	334.0	316.1	334.2	343.2	374.2	630.4	331.9	374.2
TSP $/mt	475.0	490.0	494.0	↑	316.9	357.4	389.6	463.8	486.3	257.4	381.9	486.3
Urea $/mt	374.1	358.1	327.8	↓	281.0	237.2	279.2	357.0	353.4	249.6	288.6	353.4
Metals and Minerals												
Aluminum $/mt	2,440	2,508	2,556	↑	2,163	2,096	2,090	2,343	2,501	1,665	2,173	2,501
Copper $/mt	9,556	9,868	9,503	↓	7,232	7,027	7,243	8,637	9,642	5,150	7,535	9,642
Gold $/toz	1,356	1,373	1,424	↑	1,109	1,196	1,227	1,367	1,384	973	1,225	1,384
Iron ore, contract, fob Brazil ¢/dmtu	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		131.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	101.0	n.a.	n.a.
Iron ore, spot, cfr China $/dmt	179.2	187.2	169.4	↓	131.0	159.2	137.4	155.9	178.6	80.0	145.9	178.6
Lead ¢/kg	260.2	258.7	262.4	↑	222.1	195.0	203.2	239.0	260.4	171.9	214.8	260.4
Nickel $/mt	25,646	28,252	26,710	↓	19,959	22,476	21,191	23,609	26,870	14,655	21,809	26,870
Silver ¢/toz	2,855	3,086	3,595	↑	1,693	1,838	1,901	2,647	3,179	1,469	2,020	3,179
Steel products index 2000=100	240.9	245.5	265.1	↑	211.5	241.1	232.4	233.9	250.5	227.1	229.7	250.5
Steel cr coilsheet $/mt	850	850	900	↑	725	838	850	850	867	783	816	867
Steel hr coilsheet $/mt	750	750	800	↑	625	738	750	750	767	683	716	767
Steel rebar $/mt	600	600	600	↔	546	621	533	550	600	486	563	600
Steel wire rod $/mt	663	690	700	↑	751	767	678	653	684	969	712	684
Tin ¢/kg	2,747	3,153	3,059	↓	1,721	1,786	2,055	2,601	2,986	1,357	2,041	2,986
Zinc ¢/kg	237.2	246.5	234.1	↓	228.9	202.6	201.3	231.5	239.3	165.5	216.1	239.3

$ = US dollar; ¢ = US cent; bbl = barrel; cum = cubic meter; dmtu = Dry Metric Ton Unit; kg = kilogram; mmbtu = million British thermal units; mt = metric ton; toz = troy oz; n.a. = not available; n.q. = no quotation persons who have qualified the examination referred to in regulation 8 or regulation 19 of CHALR, 2004 shall be entitled to handle Customs related work. However, difficulties have been reported in implementing this provision. It was, therefore, felt necessary that an extended transition period be provided to Authorized Couriers or their employees to appear in the examination referred to in regulation 8 of CHALR, 2004. Accordingly, it is decided that transition period in so far it relates to examination referred to regulation 8 of CHALR, 2004 is extended upto 31.12.2011. The Board expects that this time limit would meet the requirement of authorized couriers or their employees to fulfill the obligations as stipulated in regulation 12 of the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010. The Board also decided that necessary examination should be conducted by DGICCE for this purpose.

5. It was represented that under regulation 19 of CHALR, 2004, only agents of CHAs are entitled to appear in the examination. Employees of authorized Couriers are not entitled to appear in the examination under Regulation 19 of CHALR, 2004. In order to obviate the problem of employee of authorized courier to make them eligible to handle Customs related work pertaining to imported / export goods under Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010 as stipulated in regulation 12 of the said Regulations, it is decided that all employees of authorized Courier will be eligible to appear in the examination referred to in Regulation 19 of CHALR, 2004 as one time measure upto 31.12.2011, so that all employees of the Authorised Courier having adequate knowledge of Customs Laws and Allied Acts will be able to meet the obligations as stipulated under regulation 8 and 12 of the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010 by that time. However, such employees cannot work for CHAs. The Board desires that examinations under regulation 19 of CHALR, 2004 be got conducted by respective Commissionerates to meet this objective.

6. In Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2010, 'Low Value Dutiable Consignment' is defined as an import consignment other than documents, gifts and samples of an invoice value upto Rs. one lakh.

7. Attention is invited to Para 3 (viii) of the Circular No.33/2010-Customs dated 7.9.2010 which clarifies that Regulation (12) (1) (i) provides that an Authorised Courier shall obtain an authorization from each of the consignees or consignors of imported as well as export goods. It is clarified that this provision does not seek to provide for any new requirement and that an Authorised Courier shall obtain an authorization from each of the consignee in case of imports and consignor in case of exports. In this regard, it is further clarified that in case of import of documents, gifts and samples and low value dutiable consignments (Form CBE-XI, Form CBE-XII and Form CBE-XIII), the authorization of consignee may not be required at the time of clearance of goods. The same is required to be obtained at the time of delivery of consignment to the consignee. The requirement of obtaining authorization from consignor would, however, continue to apply in these cases before clearance of goods. The authorisation obtained from the consignee at pre-delivery stage shall be retained for a period of one year or date of inspection / audit by the Customs, whichever is earlier.

8. These instructions may be given wide publicity by way of Public Notice / Standing orders.

9. Difficulties, if any, faced in implementation of above provisions may be brought to the notice of the Board, immediately.

F.No.450/122/2010-Cus-IV

CBEC Clarification on CKD Units Definition

[Ref: CBEC Instruction F. No. 354/38/2011-TRU dated 11th March 2011]

Subject: New definition of CKD introduced in Union Budget 2011-12- clarification requested.

Please refer to your letter dated 4th March 2011, regarding your interpretation on the definition of CKD introduced in the Union Budget 2011-12.

2. In this context, it is to clarify that the definition introduced w.e.f. 01.03.2011 has two independent criteria for their dis-qualification as CKD units. Such imported Units will be termed as "Completely Knocked Down" Units attracting BCD @10%, on import, if it is a unit having all the necessary components, parts or sub-assemblies for assembling a complete vehicle. However, if such unit contains,-

(i) An engine, gear box or transmission mechanism in pre-assembled form; or

(ii) A chassis or body assembly on which the engine or gearbox or transmission mechanism is already installed at the time of import the same will not qualify to be CKD units and will therefore be charged to basic customs duty @ 60%.

3. Accordingly, if any pre-assembled engine, gearbox or transmission mechanism is imported as a part of such unit, or if any of these three components are pre-installed on the chassis or body assembly, the concessional rate of duty will not be available. However, the import of pre-assembled engine or gearbox or transmission mechanism or any other parts or components on standalone basis, i.e. the operations which are not running on CKD kit basis, will continue to attract basic customs duty @ 10% only as applicable prior to budget changes also.

4. In view of the above, it is to inform you that while point nos. 1 and 3 of the interpretation of the new definition, as mentioned in your letter dated 4th March, 2011 are correct, the interpretation at point no. 2 is not correct.

MRP Labelling Allowed in Bonded Warehouses

CBEC Clarifies DGFT Ntfn 44(RE-2000)/1997-2002

Subject: Compliance of DGFT Notification No. 44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 dated 24.11.2000 - Labeling of goods in bond prior to Ex-bond clearance.

19-CBEC 15.04.2011 (DoR)

Representations have been received about difficulties being faced by importers in carrying out labeling of certain commodities which are small sized and sensitive to heat and dust in CFSs prior to clearance of the same under the provisions of DGFT Notification No.44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 dated 24.11.2000. The problem is further compounded due to shortage of space in various CFSs. It has been represented that importers should be allowed to carry out the labeling activities as mandated under DGFT Notification No.44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 dated 24.11.2000 in the warehouse before the clearance of the goods by the proper officer of Customs for home consumption.

2. DGFT Notification No.44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 dated 24.11.2000 provides for labeling of the goods imported into India which are covered by the provisions of 'Standards of Weights & Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977'. This Notification mandates that compliance of labeling conditions have to be ensured before the import consignment of such commodities are cleared by Customs for home consumption.

3. The matter has been examined in the Board. In order to redress the issue and to remove the difficulties faced by importers on account of space constraints at CFSs/ Port / ICDs and the nature of goods, etc., it has been decided to extend the facility of labeling on imported goods in Bonded warehouses subject to certain procedural conditions.

4. In this regard, it is clarified that the importers should first ascertain that for such marking / labeling facility, space, is available in warehouse prior to exercising this option. In such cases, importers may file Warehousing Bill of Entry. The assessing group will give suitable directions to Dock staff to allow bonding of the goods without labeling and with endorsement on the Warehousing Bill of Entry that verification of compliance of DGFT Notification No.44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 is to be done prior to debonding by Bond Superintendent. The goods will be labeled in the bonded premises and compliance of DGFT Notification No.44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002 will be ensured at the time of ex-bonding of the goods, by the Bond Officer, by examining the goods again and endorsing the Examination Report on the Ex-bond Bill of Entry. It is provided that 100% examination at the time of Ex-bond clearance of goods should be done to ensure compliance of DGFT Notification No. 44 (RE-2000)/1997-2002. The Examination Report can be endorsed on hard copy of Ex-bond Bill of Entry where EDI facility is not extended, and on hard copy as well as EDI system where EDI facility is extended to Bonded

Warehouses. It is also clarified that this facility is applicable only to goods that cannot be easily labeled in ports / CFS, having regard to their size and other factors such as sensitivity to temperature and dust.

5. Further, as the activity of labeling and re-labeling including declaration of Retail Sale Price (RSP) on goods amounts to manufacture in terms of section 2(f) of the Central Excise Act, 1944, if the same is carried out on goods warehoused, it would be considered as manufacturing operations having been undertaken in bond / warehouse and accordingly, the provisions of 'Manufacture and Other Operations in Warehouse Regulations, 1966' would apply on those goods. Importers can, therefore, avail the facility of carrying out labeling in warehouse after following above procedure and the provisions of 'Manufacture and Other Operations in Warehouse Regulations, 1966'.

6. Suitable trade notice / standing order may be issued to guide the trade and industry in this regard.

7. Difficulty faced, if any, in implementation of these instructions may be brought to the notice of the Board immediately.

F.No.450/29/2011-Cus-IV

Export of Commercial Samples in Baggage Liberalised

[Ref: CBEC Instruction F.No.495/2/2011-Cus.VI dated 5th April 2011]

Subject: Duty free export of samples as personal baggage of the exporter.

References have been received in the Board that export of samples in the passenger baggage are not being allowed while provisions a of Foreign Trade Policy allow for the same. It is therefore represented that necessary clarification be issued

2. In this regard it is stated that Para 2.31 of the Foreign Trade Policy which relates to export of passenger baggage does not specifically provides that samples could be part of the bonafide personal baggage. Whereas Para 2.20 provides that "*Bonafide household goods and personal effects may be imported as part of passenger baggage as per limits, terms and conditions thereof in Baggage Rules. Samples of such items that are otherwise freely importable under FTP may also be imported as part of passenger baggage without an Authorization".* Thus it is seen that Para 2.31 of FTP relating to export of baggage does not provide for any expansion to include samples as bonafide baggage unlike FTP provisions in case of import of baggage. However the provisions contained in para2.27 of Handbook of Procedure, Foreign Trade Policy makes it explicit that export of samples are allowed freely.

3. Accordingly, in order to ameliorate the problem faced by the passengers it is clarified by Board that bonafide trade samples should be part of export baggage in terms of para 2.31 of the Policy read with para 2.20 of the Policy and 2.27 of Handbook of procedures. While the matter of suitable amendment in para 2.31 of FTP has been taken up with DGFT, in the interim, I am directed to inform that liberal view based upon status of exporter, nature and quantity of sample and certification if any from Export Promotion Council may be taken in the matter.

Customs Valuation Exchange Rates

April 2011		Imports	Exports	
Schedule I				
1	Australian Dollar	46.55	45.30	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equipment to Indian Rupees
2	Canadian Dollar	46.25	44.95	
3	Danish Kroner	8.60	8.30	
4	EURO	63.70	62.00	
5	Hong Kong Dollar	5.80	5.65	
6	Norwegian Kroner	8.10	7.80	
7	Pound Sterling	72.65	70.75	
8	Swedish Kroner	7.10	7.15	
9	Swiss Franc	49.25	47.85	
10	Singapore Dollar	35.95	34.95	
11	U.S. Dollar	45.20	44.30	
Schedule II				
1	Japanese Yen	55.55	53.90	Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees

(Source: Customs Notification 24(NT)/29.03.2011)

Commodity Spot Prices in India – 15-19 April 2011

These commodity prices are taken from Multi Commodity Exchange of India (Mumbai) at 6 pm every day.

(Rs.)

Commodity	Unit	Market	15-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr
CER (Carbon Trading)	1 MT	Mumbai	838	838	821
Chana	100 KGS	Delhi	2251	2207	2205
Masur	100 KGS	Indore	3238	3247	3173
Potato	100 KGS	Agra	635.5	633.6	633.2
Potato TKR	100 KGS	Tarkeshwar	429.3	444.4	448.7
Arecanut	100 KGS	Mangalore	NA	NA	NA
Cashewkern	1 KGS	Quilon	NA	NA	NA
Cardamom	1 KGS	Vandanmedu	1057.5	1045.3	1012
Coffee ROB	100 KGS	Kushalnagar	NA	NA	NA
Jeera	100 KGS	Unjha	NA	NA	NA
Pepper	100 KGS	Kochi	NA	NA	NA
Red Chili	100 KGS	Guntur	NA	NA	NA
Turmeric	100 KGS	Nzmbad	10013	9663	9525
Guar Gum	100 KGS	Jodhpur	NA	NA	NA
Maize	100 KGS	Nzmbad	1260.5	1262.5	1267.5
Wheat	100 KGS	DELHI	1198.3	1198.8	1205.9
Mentha Oil	1 KGS	Chandausi	1159.1	1171.8	1177.5
Cotton Seed	100 KGS	Akola	NA	NA	NA
Castorsd RJK	100 KGS	Rajkot	4815	4890	4709.5
Guar Seed	100 KGS	Bikaner	2880	2850	2870
Soya Bean	100 KGS	Indore	2360	2355	2362.5
Mustrdsd JPR	20 KGS	Jaipur	523.55	517.8	516.75
Sesame Seed	100 KGS	Rajkot	5113	5163	5188
Coconut Oil Cake	100 KGS	Kochi	NA	NA	NA
RCBR Oil Cake	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Kapaskhali	50 KGS	Akola	1136.3	1124.2	1123.3
Coconut Oil	100 KGS	Kochi	10192	10140	10088
Refsoy Oil	10 KGS	Indore	609.1	606.4	608.15
CPO	10 KGS	Kandla	505	505	506.1
Mustard Oil	10 KGS	Jaipur	564.2	555.2	555.4
Gnutoilexp	10 KGS	Rajkot	810	800	810
Castor Oil	10 KGS	Kandla	NA	NA	NA
Crude Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	4809	4809	4742
Furnace Oil	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Sourcrd Oil	1 BBL	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Brent Crude	1 BBL	Mumbai	5443	5443	5384
Gur	40 KGS	Muzngr	NA	NA	NA
Sugars	100 KGS	Kolhapur	2670	2677	2670
Sugarm	100 KGS	Delhi	2936	2941	2942
Natural Gas	1 mmBtu	Hazirabad	187.3	187.3	183.2
Rubber	100 KGS	Kochi	23983	23907	23668
Cotton Long	1 Candy	Kadi	NA	NA	NA
Cotton Med	1 Maund	Sriganganagar	NA	NA	NA
Jute	100 KGS	Kolkata	3400	3422.5	3454
Gold	10 GRMS	Ahmd	21337	21420	21637
Gold Guinea	8 GRMS	Ahmd	17138	17205	17379
Silver	1 KGS	Ahmd	62515	63100	63750
Sponge Iron	1 MT	Raipur	NA	NA	NA
Steel Flat	1000 KGS	Mumbai	NA	NA	NA
Steel Long	1 MT	Gobindgarh	NA	NA	NA
Copper	1 KGS	Mumbai	420.1	420.1	409.7
Nickel	1 KGS	Mumbai	1171.4	1155.8	1141.9
Aluminium	1 KGS	Mumbai	117.45	117.7	118.85
Lead	1 KGS	Mumbai	121.6	120.4	116.05
Zinc	1 KGS	Mumbai	106.25	105.05	103.45
Tin	1 KGS	Mumbai	1463.5	1460.75	1456.5

(Source: MCX Spot Prices)

Trims with Maximum 10" under Heading 6310 for Manufacture of Chindi Rugs Allowed Freely

Subject: Import of New trim Cutting Waste for use in manufacture of Chindi rugs.

20-CBEC 15.04.2011 (DoR)

Attention is invited to Board's Circular No.40/2007-customs dated 29.10.2007 which provides that trim cutting waste or fabric trims of continuous length with maximum width restriction of two inches (2") falling under heading 6310, required for manufacture of Chindi rugs shall not be subjected to restrictions imposed by the present policy of ITC (HS) Code 6310 and shall be cleared without an import licence. Representations have been received in the Board from manufacturers of Chindi rugs that the requirement of trim cuttings waste or fabric trims of continuous length with a maximum width restriction of up to two Inches (2") for manufacture of their final product should be relaxed and maximum width restriction of upto 10 Inches (10") may be allowed. In view of this, the matter was referred to Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for necessary clarification.

2. It has now been informed by the DGFT that it recommends the import of trim cuttings waste or fabric trims of continuous length with maximum width restriction up to ten inches (10"). It is also intimated by DGFT that CBEC may issue instruction to the field formations for exemption from the requirement of licence for such goods.

3. Accordingly it is clarified that import of trim cutting waste or fabric trims of continuous length with maximum width restriction of ten inches (10") falling under heading 6310, required for manufacture of Chindi rugs shall not be subjected to restrictions imposed by the present policy of ITC (HS) Code 6310 and shall be cleared without an import licence.

4. Suitable instructions may accordingly be given to the field formations.

F. No. 528/76/2007-Cus (TU)

EOU Shipments are not Free Shipping Bills

Subject: Clarification about requirement of "Declaration of Intent" for EOU shipping bills for claiming Chapter 3 scheme benefits.

28-Pol.Cir 15.04.2011 (DGFT)

Para 3.11.8 of HBPv1 2009-14 (earlier Para 3.23.8 in RE-2008) provides for "Declaration of Intent" to be made on "free shipping bills" in order to claim Chapter 3 benefits.

2. Earlier, DGFT had clarified on 4.3.2010 that EOU shipments fall under the "free shipping bills" category. The trade and industry has, however, contended that the Department of Revenue does not treat EOU shipping bills as "free shipping bills". On this issue, consultations have been held with Department of Revenue who have confirmed that EOU shipping bills are examined as per stipulated norms. Thus, the EOU shipping bills are not treated as "free shipping bills". Hence, DGFT clarification dated 4.3.2010 is withdrawn.

3. Be advised that shipments made by EOUs for the period 1.4.2008 till 31.12.2010 would not require "Declaration of Intent" for claiming Chapter 3 benefit. Be further advised that Policy Circular No. 40/2009-14 dated 16.7.2010 would continue to be in force for exports made on or after 1.1.2011 in terms of Para 3.11.8 of HBPv1 as amended by Public Notice No.82/2009-14 dated 16.7.2010.

4. All RAs are advised to finalize rejected claims of EOUs for the period 1.4.2008 till 31.12.2010 in terms of clarification under para 3 above. A grace period of one month is given from the date of this Policy Circular, for filing claims with RA, to EOUs who have not filed claims on time.

5. This issues with approval of DGFT.

Effect of this Policy Circular:

EOUs are eligible for Chapter 3 benefits without "Declaration of Intent" on shipping bills for the period 1.4.2008 till 31.12.2010.

Glass Fibre for Anti-dumping Duty Defined

[Ref: Corrigendum dated 31st March 2011]

In the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 30/2011-Customs dated the 4th March, 2011 published in the Gazette of India, vide number G.S.R. 188 (E), dated the 4th March, 2011, for

"Explanation.- For the purpose of this Table, "Glass fibre" means glass fibre and articles thereof, including glass roving, glass chopped strands, glass chopped strands mats but excluding glass wool, glass yarn, glass woven fabrics and chopped strands of a kind generally treated with polyurethane or acrylic emulsion meant for thermoplastic applications, micro glass fibre used in battery separator, surface mat or surface veil or tissue."

read

"Explanation.- For the purpose of this Table, "Glass fibre" means glass fibre, including glass roving (assembled rovings (AR), direct rovings (DR)), glass chopped strands(CS), glass chopped strands mats(CSM). Specifically excluded from the scope of the product under consideration are glass wool, fibre glass wool, fibre glass insulation in wool form, glass yarn, glass woven fabrics, glass fibre fabric, glass woven rovings and chopped strands meant for thermoplastic applications, micro glass fibre used in battery separator, surface mat/surface veil/tissue."

[F.No.354/95/2010 –TRU]

WORLD TRADE SCANNER

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