

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

Subject: -Major Achievements of the Department of Commerce during July 2020.

I. Trade

- The trade surplus for June 2020 is USD 0.79 billion as compared to the deficit of USD 15.28 billion in June 2019, an increase of 105.19%. This is the first time in the last decade that India is a net exporter.

II. Export Promotion Councils

- Pharmexcil has signed an MoU with Clarivate Analytics to Promote knowledge of Global Pharma and Biotech Industry amongst its member companies. Through the periodic newsletters, the updates on the global and Indian pharmaceutical markets including Generics Drugs in the pipeline and targets for treatment of COVID-1 will be disseminated.
- Project Export Promotion Council (PEPC) has circulated information about ninety-five (95) upcoming projects to its members in July, 2020.

III. WTO

- The 10th BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting (TMM) was held virtual mode on 23rd July 2020 under the leadership of Hon'ble CIM wherein the documents relating to Guidelines for Promoting Effective Participation of MSMEs in International Trade, BRICSS Understanding on Investment Dilution and Joint Statement by BRICS Countries on Multilateral Trading System (MTS) and WTO Reform were adopted.

IV Bilateral Cooperation

- FT(Africa) Division organised a virtual meeting on 15th July 2020 between the Senior Officials of India and Southern African Customs Union (SACU) under the Co-Chairpersonship of JS (Africa), DoC and his counterpart Ambassador Mr. Steve Katjuano, Executive Director, Ministry of Industrialization and Trade in Republic of Namibia on behalf of SACU wherein both sides agreed for early resumption of the negotiations on Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between India and SACU and on the time lines for exchange of trade and tariff data, and submission of revised modalities for PTA negotiations.

- WANA Division, DoC organised a Virtual meeting between Hon'ble CIM and His Excellency Mr. Khalid Naser Al Roudan, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Kuwait on 21st July 2020 wherein after extensive consultation with the stakeholders (Line Ministries and EPCs) and analysis, the Rules of Origin (ROO) / Product Specific Rules (PSR) under the India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) has been revised to make it more stringent to contain possible circumvention.
- FT(Europe) Division organised the 14th meeting of the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) on 24th July, 2020 under the co-chairmanship of Hon'ble CIM and UK's Secretary of State for International Trade wherein both sides committed to an Enhanced Trade Partnership as part of a roadmap that could lead to a future FTA and agreed to cooperation in many other issues of commonality like Food & Drink sector, Data issues, Energy efficiency, Investment dialogue, Multilateral issues, etc.

V. Export Credit and Insurance

- Progress Report for Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) for July, 2020 is as follows: -

(□ in Crore)

S.No.	Particulars	July 2020
1	Value of Exports supported (Business Covered)	□39,948
2	Gross Premium Earned	□112
3	Number of new buyers added	1,276
4	Number of policies issued	1,502
5	Number of Claims Paid	46
6	Claims Paid Amount	□147.31

- Progress Report for National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) for the month of June 2020 is as under

(□ in Crore)

S. No.	Particulars	July 2020
1	Number of new projects supported	4
2	Value of Exports supported (Project Value)	□189.91
3	Number of Covers issued	4
4	Value of Covers issued	□115.05

- An amount of Rs. 15.01 crore has been released to Export Promotion Councils/Trade Bodies during July, 2020 under the MAI Scheme.

VI. Plantation

- The Tea Board has made functional its online services towards various activities under the Tea Development and Promotion Scheme on Beta on Board's eGiCCS Portal for the use of stakeholders.

- Research stations of the Coffee Board supplied 700 Robusta coffee clonal plants to the coffee growers, supplied 1500 bio control agents for management of mealy bugs in coffee and issued 503 soil health cards through KSHEMEM website.
- Extension units of the Coffee Board conducted 6 capacity building programmes covering 90 participants on critical seasonal operations in coffee cultivation and issued 13 advisories through WhatsApp groups to the coffee growers on critical agronomic practices.
- The Rubber Training Institute (RTI) of the Board conducted 14 training programmes benefitting about 915 beneficiaries from different stakeholders of the rubber industry during July, 2020. Further the Rubber Board issued 16 fresh and renewed 15 Manufacturers' licences, 99 fresh and renewed 46 Dealers' licences for trading in NR and also, renewed 2 processors' licences for rubber processing during July 2020.
- Regional Offices of the Rubber Board organized 35 batches of field training on different topics benefitting 142 farmers and under farmer education programmes, conducted 43 training programmes on Tapping, Beekeeping, LFT & CUT, Mushroom culture, etc with the participation of 334 farmers during July 2020.
- The Rubber Board continued activities uninterruptedly in six Board's Nurseries in Kerala and *three* in NE region for generation of quality planting material and distributed around 32,000 advanced planting materials to growers and also, certified 273 plantations covering an area of 191 ha during July 2020.
- Under the convergence with MGNREGS, the Rubber Board carried out the cultural operations in 556 ha of rubber plantations benefitting 1,579 rubber growers and continued the maintaining 916.38 ha of rubber plantations for ST beneficiaries in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Tripura under Tribal Development project in collaboration with the concern State Governments during July 2020.
- The Quality Evaluation Laboratories of the Spice Board tested 3766 parameters out of the total number of 4534 samples received during the month of July, 2020. The Spice Board has also issued 184 Cardamom Certificates of Registration as Exporters of Spices (CRES) and 3 Dealer Licenses during July, 2020.
- The Spices Board organized One day e-training program for farmers of North East Region on July 10th, 2020 on "Altitude Specificity of Cultivars and Quality Planting Material". 49 farmers and officials from Sikkim, West Bengal, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Assam attended.

VII. DGFT

- Regional Authorities of DGFT have issued the following Authorizations/ Scrips during the month of July, 2020: -

S. No.	FTP Scheme	Number of Authorizations /Scrips issued during the month of July, 2020
1.	Importers Exporter Code (IEC)	3161
2.	Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)	16946
3.	Advance Authorizations	1568
4.	Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG)	629

- DGFT has amended Import Policy of Power Tillers and its components and colour television sets under HS Code 8528 7211 to 8528 7719 from 'Free' to 'Restricted' to promote domestic production.

VIII. Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

- Important activities/achievements on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) during July, 2020.

Sr No.	Parameter	Number added during the preceding month		Cumulative total	
		Number	Value	Number	Value
1	Number of Users	31,786	--	6,19,489	--
2	Number of Government organizations	487	--	46,037	--
3	Number of Sellers/Service Providers	28,801	--	430,518	--
4	Number of Product categories (level 3) in market	27	--	1123	--
5	Number of Products	1,91,275	--	2,106,872	--
6	Number of product orders placed	1,73,481	--	4,260,723	--
7	Value of product orders placed	--	1645.26 INR CR	--	46,991.87 INR CR
8	Number of service orders placed	2778	--	38,524	--
9	Value of service	--	601.94 INR CR	--	5,391.39 INR

	orders placed				CR
10	Number of Government buyers trained on GeM	6,136	--	1,57,746	--
11	Number of vendors trained on GeM	4,989	--	40,064	--

- GeM has implemented a few key technological processes i.e. Auto generation of PRC and CRAC for ensuring timely payment, Supplementary Invoice creation by Sellers, Staggered Delivery, Integration with QCI for Vendor Assessment to ensure seamless and quality procurement from GeM, Mirroring of CPPP bids on GeM a key step taken in direction of achieving a Unified Procurement System etc.
- A Memorandum of Standing (MOU) between GeM and 31 States/UTs (23 states and 8 UTs) has been signed which have become formal partners of GeM.
