June 2021



# ADHYATAN

# **TPM Newsletter**

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## Trade Remedial Actions in India

3
4
3
1
4
2

## Other Trade Updates

Number of non-tariff notifications by India	0
Number of non-tariff notifications by others	

#### India

#### Termination of investigation against imports from Kim Tin

On 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020, the DGTR had initiated an anti-dumping investigation into imports of Plain Medium Density Fibre Board exported by Kim Tin MDF Joint Stock Company from Vietnam. The investigation was initiated against an individual exporter because, in an earlier investigation conducted in 2016, the exporter was found to be not dumping. Therefore, no duties were chargeable on exports by Kim Tin.

The WTO Panel, in the case of Ukraine – Anti-Dumping Measures on Ammonium Nitrate held that if an exporter was found not to be dumping, the investigation against the exporter is terminated, and it cannot be subject to a review later. Therefore, in accordance with the decision of the Panel, where an exporter was not found to be dumping, it can be subject to duties only pursuant to a fresh investigation.<sup>1</sup>

However, on 7th May 2021, the DGTR terminated the anti-dumping investigation on exports of Plain Medium Density Fibreboard by Kim Tin MDF Joint Stock Company. The DGTR has taken a view that, as a practice, a zero duty does not result in termination of investigation against the exporter, thus making them subject to a review. It was further noted that, a review investigation covers all aspects of an investigation and therefore, a fresh investigation in this regard was not necessary.

#### Global

# Introduction of Trade Remedies Authority, UK for trade remedial investigations

UK has introduced Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) on 1st June to investigate complaints regarding dumping, subsidies and safeguards. The TRA will also undertake transition reviews to examine whether the duties imposed by European Union shall continue in respect of imports into UK.

# USA issues affirmative final determination regarding currency undervaluation in anti-subsidy investigation against Vietnam (27 May)

The US DOC determined that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers of passenger vehicle and light truck (PVLT) tire from Vietnam. Under the anti-subsidy investigation, the DOC investigated whether Vietnamese producers were receiving countervailable subsidies from the government in the form of 20 grant programs. Further, for the first time, the DOC investigated currency undervaluation as an alleged monetary subsidy following the Final Rule<sup>2</sup> issued on February 4, 2020, which allows the DOC to consider whether a benefit is conferred to foreign producers as a result of currency undervaluation in terms of exchange of US dollars for the currency of country under review. The USITC will now issue their final determination on injury being caused due to imports of subsidized goods from Vietnam.

<sup>1</sup> Article on "Investigations against individual exporter: Evolving practice in India", Newsletter 7 of 2020 <u>http://tpm.in/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Newsletter-7-of-2020.pdf</u> <sup>2</sup> Article on "US DOC's Final Rule : Currency Undervaluation as a Subsidy", Newsletter 3 of 2020

http://tpm.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Adhyatan-TPM-Newsletter-Issue-3-of-2020-March.pdf

## **Financial Contribution by Private Entities**

Namrita Raghuwanshi, Joint Partner

Anti-subsidy duties are levied to offset the subsidies or financial contributions received by the exporters in the exporting countries. This allows the domestic producers in the importing country to compete with the imported goods at a fair price, that is not distorted by such financial contributions. In general, financial contributions are understood as those subsidies as provided by a "Public Body". However, the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures provides for an exception under Article 1.1(a)(1)(iv), wherein grants, loans, revenue etc. provided by the private body, in some circumstances, can also be treated as financial contribution by government under the WTO Agreement. These provisions were introduced as an anti-circumvention provision intended to ensure that the Government of countries do not evade their obligations under the WTO Agreement by using private bodies to provide subsidies.

Financial contribution: Article 1.1(a)(1)(iv) of the WTO Agreement provides for a situation where a government makes a payment under funding mechanism, or entrusts or directs a private body to carry out one or more type of following functions, which would normally be vested with the government. It includes situations where private bodies provide subsidies in the following manner.

- direct transfer of funds (e.g. grants, loans, and equity infusion), or potential direct transfers of funds or liabilities (e.g. loan guarantees)
- revenue that is otherwise due is foregone or not collected (e.g. fiscal incentives such as tax credits, tax exemptions or remissions)
- providing goods or services other than general infrastructure, or purchases goods, such as supply of raw material or utilities at cheaper rates.

#### Meaning of "Entrusted" or "Directed"

The term entrust connotes the action of giving responsibility to someone for a task or an object. Entrustment is an act of delegation or giving responsibility to a private body. The term Direct means act of command or the Government exercising authority over the private body. This implies that, when Government of a country specifically delegates its functions or exercises authority over a private body to undertake its functions to provide funds, equity, goods, services etc., it tantamounts to financial contribution by the Government under WTO Agreement.

However, a link is required to be demonstrated between the Government and the private body. Following is required to be taken into consideration while demonstrating the said link

Under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, antisubsidy duty can be imposed to offset the effect of subsidies received by exporters, which allow them to export the product at cheaper prices.

Generally, subsidies imply a financial contribution by a public body. However, an exception has been carved out to include subsidies provided by private bodies within the scope of antisubsidy investigations.

**Financial** contribution by private bodies are considered where government makes payment under a funding mechanism, or entrusts or directs a body to provide subsidies.

- Mere policy pronouncement by the government would not by itself be sufficient. The requirement is to demonstrate a more active role than mere acts of encouragement.
- Entrustment or directions cannot be inadvertent or a mere byproduct of Government regulations. This implies that mere action by the Government may not result in a benefit. There has to be a tighter nexus between the third party providing benefit and the Government action.
- Entrustment or directions does not cover the situation in which the government intervenes in the market in some way, which may or may not have a particular result simply based on the given factual circumstances and the exercise of the free choice of the actors in the market. The entrustment or direction has to be effected by the government to make financial contribution.

Following can be considered indicative of the existence of a link between the Government and the private body

- The private sector has acted against its commercial interests.
- Degree of government ownership of a private body.
- The government's revealed intent or motivation.
- Government's coercive behavior in related transactions.
- The failure of interested parties to co-operate with the investigating authority.

The above parameters are not sufficient on their own. However, combination of one or more parameters and absence of strong evidence to the contrary is sufficient to prove the intervention of the government. There can be a situation wherein the entrustment or directions by the government may be present, even when the financial contributions are made on commercially viable terms. The entrustment or directions need not be formal or explicit and it can likely be based on circumstantial evidence.

Therefore, the WTO Agreement covers "private subsidies" wherein a financial contribution is made by a private body as a result of the directions or entrustments by the government. The government need not bear the cost of subsidy. However, a private subsidy without any intervention by the Government is outside the scope of the Agreement.

This implies that the Government of a country specifically delegates its functions or exercise authority over a private body to undertakes its functions to provide funds, equity, goods, services etc.

The Government may be considered as entrusting or directing a private body where the private sector has acted against commercial interests, there is government ownership of private body, government has coerced parties to act in a manner, etc.

Private subsidy without intervention of Government is outside the scope of the WTO Agreement.

### **Digitalisation - A Road to e-Governance**

With more than half a billion internet subscribers, India is one of the largest and fastest developing business sectors for digital consumers. As digital capabilities improve and connectivity becomes pervasive, technology has evolved to quickly and radically change nearly every sector of India's economy. This is likely to both create significant economic value and change the nature of work for millions of Indians. In order to ensure that Government administration is made accessible to residents electronically by improved online infrastructure, the Hon'ble Prime minister of India launched the "Digital India" mission on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. It comprises of three major parts: the improvement of secure and stable digital framework, access to government services digitally, and universal digital literacy.

Indian Government has been utilizing Internet based systems to execute and manage its projects for more than 30 years. With the improvement of technology, these systems have evolved. At first, client server systems were utilized, subsequent to which public authority advanced to utilizing Web-based systems and from that point proceeded onward to cloud-based systems. Though cloud-based systems promise a ton of benefits, good stable internet connectivity is an essential prerequisite for the achievement of any centralized system. The benefits that centralized systems provide are worth the investment done in provision of a stable and robust connectivity. These centralized systems helped government by creating national-level data registries and databases, which moreover optimized operations as they reduce maintenance costs and downtime. Benefits of national registry are seen in many projects including e-Transport Project, Direct Benefit Transfer, Public Financial Management System, E-Way Bill, e-Invoicing and the Judicial Sector. Trade and Customs process and procedure, where high volumes flow in and out on daily basis, are getting significantly benefited by digitalization.

#### **Digitalization in Indian Ports**

The modernisation and digital transformation of major ports, along with initiatives such as Direct Port Delivery and Direct Port Entry, have helped in reducing time and cost in EXIM trade and improving the ease of doing business. In addition, a number of digital transformation measures have been successfully introduced across India's major ports, including development of the Port Community System, the installation of container scanners and RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) systems, and elimination of paper forms.

Furthermore, Indian Port Association has also moved towards a paperless system. An upgraded version was launched in 2018 that involved open platform developing into a National Logistics Portal (NLP-Marine), a secure, neutral and open electronic/Internet-based platform for all stakeholders in maritime trade and Indian seaport communities. Enterprise Business system (EBS) has also been implemented at major ports like Mumbai, Chennai, Kandla, Paradip and Kolkata (including Haldia).

#### Digitalization in International Trade

The Government of India is introducing various measures to simplify policy framework and make it more IT adaptive, thereby reducing cost and paperwork.

#### Measures that have been taken towards digitalisation

- CBIC provides numerous online services to the tax payers including e-filing of Bills of Entry, Shipping Bills, Import General Fest(IGM)/ Export General Fest (EGM).
- E-payment of Customs duty has been made mandatory for importers registered under Accredited Clients Programme (ACP).
- CBIC has implemented the Automation of Central Excise and Service Tax (ACES) project, a Mission Mode Project (MMP) of the Government of India under the National e-Governance Plan. Various tax payer services are provided under ACES which includes Electronic filing of claims, permissions, intimations and processing thereof, instant e-acknowledgement of documents, viewing, filing and tracking the status of documents online, facility of e-Payment and checking status and online filing and processing of refund claims among others.
- Single Window Interface for Facilitating Trade has been introduced, which enables importers/exporters to file a common electronic 'Integrated Declaration' on the ICEGATE portal.
- Introduction of an electronic messaging system between Shipping lines and Custodians for Electronic Delivery Order (EDO) instead of a paper based Delivery Order.
- Online registration of new Central Excise and Service Tax assessee in 2 days. Further, accepting electronically and digitally signed invoices, e-payment of refunds and rebates through RTGS and NEFT has been introduced.
- DGFT now exchanges data with Customs, Banks and Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) through EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) message exchange system, reducing physical interface of clients and ensures transparency.
- DGFT has launched a new website which is more user-friendly and easier to navigate. Exporter can now file online applications for IEC, Advance License, MEIS, SEIS etc., pay application fee online and check status of their applications. The exporters can also see the status of their electronic Bank realization certificates in almost real-time.
- Online 'e-EPCG' module has been introduced for seeking policy/ procedure relaxation under the Foreign Trade Policy.
- DGFT has introduced a new online module for registration for exports authorization of non-SCOMET restricted items.
- DFIA (Duty Free Import Authorization) scheme transfer can be done online now.
- Online module introduced for Adjudication, Appeal and Review with effect from 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- DGFT has introduced a new module for filing of electronic paperless application and issuance of import authorization for restricted items with effect from 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.
- DGFT has now allowed Electronic issuance of Non-Preferential certificate of origin.
- DGFT has rolled out an online facility for redemption, surrender, duty paid regularization, bond wavier and clubbing of advance authorization.

Digital India has helped many service providers including bank and telecom during Covid-19 outbreak. These sectors have significantly diminished their offline operations. Essential mainstays of the economy, banking and payments have seen an uptick in digital contributions and implementation. Thus, the pandemic has fundamentally enhanced the implementation of digital technologies.

COVID-19 has made digitalization mandatory for many organizations. The pandemic has forced organizations to modernize and adapt quickly in line with changing customer behaviour.

#### Challenges and drawbacks of Digital Mission

Digitalization, however, has its share of challenges. Due to lack of clarity in policies and infrastructural bottlenecks, Digital India initiative taken by Government of India is facing multiple challenges.

- The **daily internet speed**, as well as the Wi-Fi hotspots, are slow as compared to other developed nations and in order for it to be accessible to every citizen, significant efforts are needed to customise apps and services to cater to local needs.
- **Cyber threat** is there all over the globe. Hence, we need to look for about one million cybersecurity experts who will check and monitor the growing menace of digital crime.
- Low literacy rate makes it difficult for all to use the digital platforms.
- Any new technology is not accepted easily by traditional society
- **Infrastructural facilities** required for the mode of digital communications that are still lacking in India. This requires a lot more investment after doing the cost benefit analysis to make it more viable for the people.

National e-Governance Division (NeGD) was started by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology as an Independent Business Division under the Digital India Corporation. NeGD has been playing an important role in supporting the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology in Programme Management and implementation of e-Governance Projects and initiatives undertaken by Ministries/ Departments, both at the Central and State levels.

Under the aegis of NeGD, National Informatics Centre (NIC) can be considered as a great developer of e-government applications and administrations along with being a promoter of digital opportunities for sustainable development. The footprints of NIC can be seen in pretty much every public sector such as health, education, transport, agriculture, to name just a few.

Digitalization in governance in a country like India, which has large population and numerous government departments, shall boost the economic growth by the way of reducing cost, time and efforts. However, there is a need to increase access to digitalization to a larger number of individuals so that the general public realize benefits of the same.

#### Trade Remedial Actions in India

#### **Initiation of investigations**

- Anti-dumping investigation into imports of solar cells whether or not assembled into modules or panels from China PR, Thailand and Vietnam (15 May)
- Sunset review of anti-dumping duty imposed on imports of uncoated copier paper from Indonesia and Singapore (19 May)
- Anti-dumping investigation into imports of soda ash from Russia and United Arab Emirates (27 May)

#### **Duties recommended**

- Continuation of anti-dumping duty on imports of methyl acetoacetate from China PR (03 May)
- Countervailing duty on imports of fiberboards from Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (03 May)
- Anti-dumping duty on imports of acrylonitrile butadiene rubber from China PR, European Union, Japan and Russia (12 May)
- Anti-dumping duty on imports of phthalic anhydride from China PR, Indonesia, Korea RP and Thailand (19 May)

#### **Duties recommended but not imposed**

• Anti-dumping duty on imports of newsprint in rolls or sheets from Australia, Canada, European Union, Hong Kong, Russia, Singapore and United Arab Emirates (18 May)

#### **Termination of investigation**

• Anti-dumping investigation on imports of plain medium density fiberboards produced by Kim Tin MDF Joint Stock Company, Vietnam (7 May)

#### **Customs Notifications**

- Extension of anti-dumping duty on imports of seamless tubes, pipes and hollow profiles of iron, alloy or non-alloy steel from China PR till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 (07 May)
- Extension of anti-dumping duty on imports of 1,1,1,2 tetrafluoroethane or R-134a from China PR till 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (24 May)
- Continuation of anti-dumping duty on imports of methyl acetoacetate from China PR (29 May)

#### Trade Remedial Actions against India

#### <u>Brazil</u>

#### Continuation of anti-dumping duties on imports of PET film with thickness between 5 to 50 microns from India and suspension of duties on imports from China PR and Egypt (20 May)

Brazil has extended the anti-dumping duties for 5 years on imports of PET film from India pursuant to a review investigation. However, Ester Industries Limited and Jindal Polyester Limited are excluded from the duty as their dumping margin was zero. Further, duties against China PR and Egypt have been suspended with immediate effect as no likelihood of continuation or recurrence of dumping or injury was established.

#### <u>Canada</u>

## CBSA issues preliminary determination of dumping and subsidization of certain grinding media from India (14 May)

CBSA issued preliminary determination (reasons thereof) of dumping and subsidization of certain grinding media from India. An individual provisional duty has been determined for AIA Engineering Limited. CITT is expected to issue findings on injury by 28<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

#### European Union

## Imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of stainless steel cold-rolled flat products from India and Indonesia (28 May)

The European Commission has provisionally determined that the dumped products are causing material injury to the domestic industry and has imposed provisional duties on exporters from India and Indonesia to prevent further injury to their domestic industry. The investigation was initiated on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 on an application from European Steel Association.

#### **United States of America**

## Initiation of anti-dumping investigation on imports of raw honey from Argentina, Brazil, India, Ukraine and Vietnam (18 May)

DOC has initiated an anti-dumping investigation to determine dumping caused to US industry by imports of raw honey from 5 countries upon request from American Honey Producers Association and the Sioux Honey Association. The USITC had previously initiated the investigation to determine injury to the US industry.

#### United States of America (Contd.)

USITC finds that material injury is likely to continue if anti-dumping and antisubsidy duties are revoked on imports of carbazole violet pigment 23 from China PR and India (19 May)

USITC has made affirmative determination in the expiry review of anti-dumping and antisubsidy duties in imports of carbazole violate pigment 23 from China PR and India. DOC had previously issued an affirmative determination in the expiry review. The DOC shall now issue an order for continuation of duties.

#### **Other Trade Remedial Actions**

#### <u>Argentina</u>

- Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of PVC profiles from Turkey (14 May)
- Initiation of sunset review investigation concerning imports of sanitary ware from Brazil (26 May)
- Termination of sunset review investigation concerning imports of bicycle tyres from Thailand, Indonesia and China PR (31 May)

#### <u>Australia</u>

- Initiation of exemption inquiry of aluminium extrusions from China PR, Malaysia and Vietnam (06 May)
- Partial termination of anti-dumping investigation on imports of kraft paperboard from United States of America (07 May)
- Preliminary findings issued in re-investigation of certain findings and recommendations of continuation inquiry on imports of steel reinforcing bar from Korea RP, Singapore, Spain and Taiwan (14 May)
- Negative final determination issued in continuation inquiry of anti-dumping measures on ammonium nitrate from Russia (20 May)
- Initiation of anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of merchant bars from Taiwan (31 May)

#### <u>Canada</u>

• Imposition of provisional anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties on imports of certain upholstered domestic seating from China PR and Vietnam (05 May)

#### <u>Canada (Contd.)</u>

- Affirmative determination of dumping issued in anti-dumping investigation on imports of concrete reinforcing bar from Algeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam (05 May)
- Initiation of normal value review on imports of concrete reinforcing bar from Turkey by certain exporters (17 May)

#### <u>Columbia</u>

• Initiation of review investigation of anti-dumping measures on imports of wire rod of iron or non-alloy steel or of other alloyed steels from China PR (7 May)

#### European Union

- Initiation of expiry review of anti-dumping measures on imports of certain ring binder mechanisms from China PR and extended to Vietnam and Laos (11 May)
- Termination of anti-subsidy investigation on imports of certain hot-rolled flat products of iron, non-alloy or other alloy steel from Turkey (27 May)
- Initiation of anti-circumvention investigation concerning anti-dumping measures on imports of certain woven and/or stitched glass fibre fabrics from China PR and Egypt by imports consigned from Mexico (31 May)

#### **Indonesia**

• Initiation of review investigation of safeguard measures on imports of ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles (05 May)

#### <u>Peru</u>

• Imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of plain weave fabrics, made exclusively with polyester and cotton fibres from China PR (21 May)

#### <u>Russia</u>

• Initiation of expiry review investigation of anti-dumping measures imposed on imports of oil and gas pipes from China PR (14 May)

#### <u>Turkey</u>

- Initiation of anti-dumping investigation on imports of dental implants from Korea RP (12 May)
- Initiation of review investigation of anti-dumping measures on imports of certain fabric or textile product made of artificial or synthetic fibres from China PR (22 May)
- Initiation of anti-dumping investigation on imports of self-adhesive digital printing foils with a width exceeding 1 meter from Germany (27 May)

#### <u>Ukraine</u>

- Imposition of definitive anti-dumping duties on imports of swing-out devices (mechanisms) for window and balcony door units from Turkey (20 May)
- Initiation of safeguard investigation on imports of sodium hypochlorite (27 May)

#### **United States of America**

- USITC finds that material injury is likely to continue or recur if anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties are revoked on imports of steel grating from China PR (07 May)
- USITC finds that material injury is being caused to the US industry by imports of prestressed concrete steel wire strand from Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, South Africa, Spain, Tunisia and Ukraine (11 May)
- USITC finds that material injury is likely to continue or recur if anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties are revoked on imports of steel nails from Korea RP, Malaysia, Oman, Taiwan, and Vietnam (18 May)
- USITC finds that material injury is likely to continue or recur if anti-dumping duties are revoked on imports of barium chloride from China PR (19 May)
- DOC issued affirmative preliminary determination in the administrative review of anti-subsidy duties on imports of softwood lumber from Canada (27 May)
- Initiation of administrative review of anti-dumping duties on imports of softwood lumber from Canada (27 May)
- DOC issued affirmative final determination in the anti-dumping investigation on imports of passenger vehicle and light truck tires from Korea RP, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam (27 May)
- DOC issued affirmative final determination in the anti-subsidy investigation on imports of passenger vehicle and light truck tires from Vietnam (27 May)

#### <u>Vietnam</u>

• Continuation of anti-dumping measures on imports of certain aluminium products from China PR (05 May)

#### Foreign Trade Policy

#### Introduction of Chip Imports Monitoring System (10 May)

The import policy governing import of electronic integrated circuits: processors and controllers, memories, amplifiers, parts, etc. has been modified from "Free" to "Free subject to compulsory registration under Chip Imports Monitoring System" (CHIMS). The CHIMS shall require importers to submit advance information in an online system for import of the product. The importer can apply for registration not earlier than 60<sup>th</sup> day before the expected date of arrival of import consignment and can apply till the date of arrival of import consignment. The CHIMS shall be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> August.

#### Extension of validity of Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (10 May)

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DGFT has extended the validity of Registrationcum-Membership Certificates (RCMC). The Regional Authorities shall not insist on valid RCMC from any applicants for any incentives or authorizations till 30<sup>th</sup> September.

## Issuance of Export Authorization for restricted items from new IT module (10 May)

The DGFT has introduced a new module for filing of electronic paperless applications for issuance as well as amendment or re-validation of export authorizations for restricted items with effect from 17<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Introduction of new e-ECPG Committee module (19 May)

As a part of its IT revamp, DGFT has launched an online e-EPCG Committee module for receiving applications for seeking relaxation in policy or procedure in terms of the Foreign Trade Policy. Henceforth, no manual applications shall be allowed.

#### **Online record of transferability of DFIA (25 May)**

The DGFT has created a facility for recording the information about transfer of DFIA scrips. The issuance of paper copies of DFIA scrips shall be discontinued with effect from 7th June. The information recorded would allow the transferee to apply for ARO / Invalidation online. The DFIA scrip owner shall transfer the scrip to another IEC as per the independently negotiated terms & conditions between the buyer and the seller. However, the information about the new owner (transferee) has to be recorded on the DGFT website by the original owner (transferor), before the new owner (transferee) can utilize the scrip to obtain any ARO/ Invalidation.

#### Non-availability of PAN validation services to impact DGFT services (26 May)

DGFT services in relation to application for new IEC, amendment or modification of IEC, one-time linking of Adhaar for e-signing purposes would not be available between 1<sup>st</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> June due to non-availability of PAN validation services.

#### Bureau of Indian Standards

## Temporary measures for relaxation of provisions relating to renewal of licence with late fee and renewal of deferred licence (17 May)

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, BIS has notified temporary relaxations in provisions relating to renewal of license with late fee, and renewal of deferred license. As per earlier provisions, if renewal application with requisite fee was not received before the expiration of the validity, the renewal of licence may be deferred for a period of up to ninety days from the date of its validity. However, if renewal application with requisite fee was not received within the period of deferment, the licence would stand expired after the date of its validity. If the renewal application was made after the validity of the licence, the application was required to be accompanied by a late fee.

However, as per the revised provisions, the above provisions shall be kept in abeyance till 30<sup>th</sup> September. This means that where renewal of licenses is due, the application for renewal can be filed till 30<sup>th</sup> September, without payment of late fee. Where the validity of licenses has already expired, and they are completing the 90 days period of deferment, such deferment shall also be extended upto 30<sup>th</sup> September.

#### Notification of mandatory standards (25 May)

The following mandatory standards have been introduced.

- 3(N,N-DiEthyl) Aminophenol, IS 7686 : 2020 vide 3 (N, N Di-Ethyl) Aminophenol (Quality Control) Order, 2021
- Red Phosphorus, IS 2012 : 2006, Reaffirmed 2016 vide Red Phosphorus (Quality Control) Order, 2021
- Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane), IS 4566 : 2020 vide Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane) (Quality Control) Order, 2021

The above Standards shall come into force with effect from  $181^{st}$  day from the date of publication, that is,  $22^{nd}$  November.

#### Morpholine Quality Control Order (25 May)

Effective date of Morpholine Quality Control Order has been extended to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

#### About Us

TPM was founded in 1999 at a time when the practice of trade remedies in India was in its infancy and there were only a handful of firms in the field. While other firms added these services to their existing portfolios, TPM dealt exclusively in cases in the domain of trade remedies.

TPM began its journey with a staff of merely 2 professionals. Today, it has a team of more than 40 professionals including Cost Accountants, Chartered Accountants, Company Secretaries, Lawyers, Engineers and MBAs.

From the beginning, TPM was focused on providing consultancy in the field of trade remedies. TPM helps domestic producers suffering due to cheap and unfair imports into India to avail the necessary protection under the umbrella of the WTO Agreements. TPM has also assisted the domestic producers in other countries to avail similar measures in their respective countries. Besides assisting domestic producers in India and other countries, TPM also assists exporters and importers facing trade remedial investigations in India or other countries. TPM has assisted Indian exporters facing investigations in a number of jurisdictions such as Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, European Union, GCC, Indonesia, Korea RP, Turkey and USA.

TPM has an enviable experience in the field, of more than 700 cases. Its unique experience in the field sets it apart from other firms. While the firm is primarily dedicated to trade remedies, it also provides services in the field of trade policy, non-tariff barriers, competition law, trade compliance, indirect taxation, trade monitoring and analysis. It also represents industries before the Government in matters involving customs policy.



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