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All India Stainless Steel Industries Association

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INDEX

Stainless output rising in China, declining elsewhere

Globally, stainless steel mill melt shop production in the first nine months of 2023 rose by 2.5 percent—to 42.6 million metric tons—compared with the first nine months of 2022, according to the Brussels-based World Stainless Association (Worldstainless).

Behind that figure lies a discrepancy between output in China and the rest of the world, however. According to Worldstainless, while output at Chinese melt shops was rising by 13.4 percent in the first nine months of 2023, production in other parts of the world was declining by from 8 to 13 percent.

The association indicates output in Europe in the first nine months of 2023 was down by 8 percent compared with the first three quarters of 2022. In other parts of the world, these declines were recorded:

- United States, 12.9 percent;
- Asia (not including China or South Korea), 12.4 percent; and
- an "others" category that includes Brazil, Russia and South Africa,13.2 percent.

The association's figures also show that melt shop production in places such as Europe and the U.S. declined quarter to quarter throughout 2023, excluding the not yet calculated figures for the final quarter.

In the U.S., producers made 478,000 metric tons of stainless in the first quarter of last year, followed by 465,000 metric tons in the second quarter and just 442,000 metric tons in the third.

A similar pattern occurred in Europe, where 1.64 million metric tons of stainless were produced in the first quarter of 2023, followed by less than 1.5 million metric tons in the second quarter and just 1.27 million metric tons in the third quarter of last year.

In China, meanwhile, stainless output climbed from about 8 million metric tons in the first quarter of last year to nearly 9 million metric tons in the second quarter and to more than 9.5 million metric tons in last year's third quarter.

The output growth in China is of limited consequence to the global stainless steel scrap market since mills in that nation rely much more heavily on mined nickel pig iron material. The restrained output in Europe and the U.S., on the other hand, has been serving to put a ceiling on scrap demand and pricing in those markets.

Source :

https://www.recyclingtoday.com/news/stainless-steel-production-2023-china-europe-usa-recycling/

How can companies improve its manufacturing practices?

Improving manufacturing practices is crucial for companies to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and ensure high-quality products. Here are several strategies that companies can adopt to improve their manufacturing practices:

- ***Implement Lean Manufacturing:***

Adopt lean principles to minimize waste, optimize processes, and enhance overall efficiency.

Implement techniques such as 5S (Sort, Set in order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain) to organize the workplace and improve workflow.

- ***Invest in Technology:***

Embrace automation and robotics to streamline production processes and reduce manual errors.

Implement advanced manufacturing technologies such as IoT (Internet of Things), AI (Artificial Intelligence), and predictive analytics for better decision-making and maintenance.

- ***Continuous Improvement:***

Establish a culture of continuous improvement where employees are encouraged to identify and suggest improvements.

Implement Kaizen events or Six Sigma methodologies to systematically address and eliminate process inefficiencies.

- ***Quality Management Systems:***

Implement a robust quality management system (QMS) to ensure consistency and high standards in production.

Use tools like Six Sigma, Total Quality Management (TQM), or ISO certifications to maintain and improve product quality.

- ***Supplier Relationship Management:***

Develop strong relationships with suppliers to ensure a stable supply chain and quality materials.

Collaborate with suppliers for innovation and cost-saving opportunities.

- ***Employee Training and Development:***

Invest in training programs to enhance the skills of the workforce.

Cross-train employees to create a flexible workforce capable of handling multiple tasks.

- ***Energy Efficiency and Sustainability:***

Adopt sustainable practices to reduce environmental impact and lower energy consumption.

Explore green manufacturing technologies and processes.

- ***Flexible Manufacturing Systems:***

Implement flexible manufacturing systems that can adapt to changes in production requirements.

Utilize modular production techniques to facilitate quick adjustments and reconfigurations.

- ***Supply Chain Optimization:***

Optimize supply chain logistics to reduce lead times and minimize inventory holding costs.

Utilize advanced forecasting and demand planning techniques to align production with market demands.

- ***Risk Management:***

Develop and implement robust risk management strategies to identify and mitigate potential disruptions.

Diversify suppliers and create contingency plans for critical components.

- ***Data Analytics:***

Utilize data analytics to gain insights into production processes, identify bottlenecks, and make data-driven decisions for improvements.

- ***Employee Engagement:***

Foster a culture of engagement and empowerment to motivate employees to contribute their ideas and insights.

By combining these strategies, companies can create a more agile, efficient, and sustainable manufacturing environment. Continuous monitoring and adaptation to industry trends and technological advancements are also crucial for staying competitive in the evolving manufacturing landscape.

Source : Generated online using AI.

The Indian "Jugaad"

Jugaad, the art of frugal innovation and quick fixes, may offer immediate solutions, but its inherent characteristics often render it unsustainable in the long run. One of the primary drawbacks is the lack of systematic planning. Jugaad solutions are typically impromptu, focusing on short-term gains without considering the broader implications or future scalability.

Quality is another casualty in the jugaad approach. Prioritizing speed often leads to compromised standards, resulting in products or services that lack durability and reliability. The absence of quality control measures undermines the longevity of jugaad solutions, making them ill-suited for sustainable practices.

Moreover, jugaad tends to be reactive rather than proactive. Sustainable initiatives require a forward-thinking mindset that anticipates challenges and incorporates long-term strategies. Jugaad's quick-fix mentality often neglects the pursuit of innovative and transformative solutions, hindering an organization's ability to adapt and thrive in the face of evolving circumstances.

Safety concerns also arise with jugaad. The emphasis on immediate results may lead to shortcuts that disregard safety standards, putting individuals and the environment at risk. Sustainable practices demand a commitment to safety and ethical considerations, aspects that jugaad solutions may overlook.

Jugaad's reliance on individual ingenuity poses a risk to knowledge retention. As improvised solutions are often person-dependent, the departure or unavailability of key individuals can result in a loss of crucial institutional knowledge, making it challenging to sustain or replicate jugaad-driven solutions.

In conclusion, while jugaad may serve as a quick remedy, its lack of structure, compromised quality, short-term focus, safety oversights, and dependence on individual creativity collectively make it an unsustainable approach for organizations aiming for enduring success and growth. Embracing structured, strategic methodologies is crucial for businesses committed to sustainability and long-term resilience.

Source : ChatGPT

Big Announcements at Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024:

- The Adani Group, led by its visionary chairman Gautam Adani, topped the charts with a staggering investment pledge of $24 billion in Gujarat over the next five years, a move projected to create 100,000 new jobs in the state. This massive commitment spans sectors like renewable energy, green hydrogen, ports, and infrastructure, setting a new benchmark for industrial development.
- In a major commitment to environmental sustainability, Gautam Adani also announced a colossal $100 billion investment over 10 years to propel India's transition towards green energy.
- The Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024 highlighted the state's focus on emerging sectors like semiconductors, green technology, aerospace and defence, and AI. Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran made a groundbreaking announcement that they are setting its sights on establishing a cutting-edge semiconductor fabrication plant (fab) in Dholera, Gujarat, with operations slated to begin by the end of 2024 itself!
- On a sprawling 5,000 acres in Jamnagar, Reliance is building a green energy giga complex. This ambitious project, targeted for completion in 2024, aims to become a hub for renewable energy generation, storage, and distribution. It's a significant step towards India's ambitious clean energy goals and promises to create a substantial number of green jobs in the state.
- Tata Group isn't stopping at semiconductors in Gujarat! Following the announcement of a groundbreaking chip fab, they've revealed another ambitious project: a 20-gigawatt lithium-ion battery factory to be built in Sanand within the next two months.
- Mukesh Ambani, the powerhouse chairman of Reliance Industries, has thrown his considerable weight behind India's ambitious bid to host the 2036 Olympic Games. In a move that electrifies the nation's sporting aspirations, Ambani announced that Reliance will actively assist the authorities in

undertaking crucial developmental projects related to the bid.

- During the summit, India's economy also received a massive shot of confidence from Dutch and Singaporean firms, which pledged over $7 billion in investments. This influx of capital showcases the growing international faith in India's potential and paves the way for exciting developments across various sectors.
- Suzuki Motor Corporation, a global automotive leader also announced a significant investment in its Indian operations at the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024. President Toshihiro Suzuki revealed a ₹35,000 crore commitment to establish a second manufacturing facility in Gujarat, propelling their annual production capacity beyond 40 lakh units by 2030-31.

Source : https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/vibrant-gujarat-summit-2024-key-highlights-announcements-and-investments-1704888755-1

India’s exports may take a $30 billion hit on Red Sea threats

India may see around $30 billion shaved off its total exports in the current fiscal year, as threats to cargo vessels in the Red Sea lead to a surge in container shipping rates and prompt exporters to hold back on shipments. The initial assessment, conducted by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, a New Delhi-based thinktank, would mean a 6.7% drop in Indian exports, based on last fiscal year’s $451 billion total.

“The crisis in the Red Sea would indeed impact India’s trade and may lead to further contraction,” said Sachin Chaturvedi, the director general of the thinktank. The government hasn’t released any official estimates on the impact of the Red Sea crisis on Indian exports.

The number of ships passing through the Suez Canal is down about 44% compared to the average for the first half of December, according to Clarkson Research Services Ltd, a unit of the world’s largest ship broker. Vessels with a combined tonnage of about 2.5 million gross tons passed through in the week to Jan. 3, compared with about 4m tons at the start of last month, they said.

Yemen’s Iran-backed Houthi militants have targeted vessels transiting through the Red Sea with missiles in recent weeks. The Houthis say they are going after any vessels that have a connection with Israel. For India, the Red Sea is a major route for shipping to Europe, the US East Coast, the Middle East and African countries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government is in discussions with export promotion councils to find ways to protect trade transiting through the route, according to two officials familiar with the matter.

Last week, India sent a warship to the Arabian Sea where a Liberian-flagged vessel said it was hijacked near Somalia’s coast. The Indian Navy said it “successfully rescued” the ship.

The threats have pushed Indian exporters to hold back around 25% of the outbound shipments transiting through the Red Sea, according to Ajay Sahai, director general of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations, which falls under India’s Trade Ministry. “In many cases, both buyers and exporters are also renegotiating contracts to adjust to surging freight charges,” he said.

The spot rate for shipping goods in a 40-foot container from Asia to northern Europe now tops $4,000, a 173% jump from just before the diversions started in mid-December, Freightos.com, a cargo booking and payment platform, said Wednesday. Rates from Asia to North America's East Coast have risen 55% to $3,900 for a 40-foot container.

India usually exports a variety of goods including petroleum products, cereals, and chemicals using the Red Sea route. Exports in the current fiscal year are already flagging with a 6.5% contraction in the April to November period from a year ago, according to government data.

The Red Sea disruption could hit margins for India's oil and auto sectors, Madhavi Arora, a lead economist with Emkay Global Financial Services Ltd, wrote in a note published Dec. 22. But the bigger concern could be inflation, which has been above the central bank's comfort zone of 4% since the end of 2019.

"Higher global freight and insurance rates, possible upside risk to oil and global trade and re-emergence of potential supply chain would mean cost push inflation pressures," she said.

Source : https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/

EU Moving Towards Paperless Customs System From June; Indian Exporters Must Prepare To Comply

Indian exporting firms need to gear themselves up to comply with new EU norms as the European Union is moving towards a paperless customs process from June 3 this year.

The development assumes significance for domestic exporters as the European Union (EU) accounts for about 17 per cent of India's total merchandise exports. In 2022-23, India exported goods worth USD 75 billion to EU as against the country's total exports of USD 451 billion in that financial year.

The EU has proposed to implement the second phase of its Import Control System (ICS) from June 3 this year. ICSD 1 was applicable to the air mail and express deliveries from March 15, 2021, and then it was extended to air cargo from March last year.

The 'ICS2' will now be extended to cover all type of imports using ships, trains, trucks also on June 3, 2024. First two phases covered 15 per cent imports into the EU, third and final phase cover balance 85 per cent of the imports by value.

According to a European Commission release, economic operators carrying goods by sea, inland waterways, road and rail will have to submit a complete Entry Summary Declaration (ENS) dataset to ICS2.

The new system will apply to all goods, including physical goods like manufactured products, raw materials, agricultural products, and even live animals. It will also apply to letters, parcels, and express deliveries.

The new system enables the EU to move towards a paperless and risk-based import compliance. It eliminates the need for paper declarations for most goods and simplifies the customs clearance process based on risk assessment.

Economic think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said, "The Indian exporters, EU-based importers and carriers will now be required to submit data electronically through the ICS2 system, replacing older paper-based declarations."

It added that the new system is streamlining the customs clearance process by eliminating the need for physical paperwork at borders.

Paper documents may be required only for a small category of specific types of goods or certain trade lanes. Also, while the EU customs goes digital, it recognises that international trade might still involve paper documents, like bills of lading or commercial invoices, it said.

GTRI Co-Founder Ajay Srivastava said that the EU's system will also focus more on checking goods that might be risky, so that safe goods can move through customs faster.

The risk assessment for each shipment is based on various factors, including the type of goods, the origin and destination countries, the trader's compliance history, and any intelligence or risk indicators available.

"Indian exporters need to be well-prepared and compliant with the new system that will kick in from June 3, 2024. They need to provide accurate and complete commodity information for the product being shipped, including the Harmonized System (HS) code, detailed descriptions, value, and weight," he said.

Data provided to ICS2 should align with information on commercial invoices, bills of lading, and other accompanying documents.

According to the new system, the data upload to ICS2 should happen before the goods arrive in the EU, often through the carrier's system, and late submissions can lead to delays and potential penalties.

He added that exporters have to keep copies of all submitted data and related documents for potential inspections or audits and they should be prepared to answer questions and provide further information if requested by customs officials.

Incorrect or missing data, late submissions, or failure to cooperate with authorities can result in financial penalties for the shipper, GTRI said, adding inaccurate or incomplete information can lead to delays in customs clearance, impacting shipping deadlines and potentially adding costs.

"Ship or air carriers and postal operators have the main responsibility for filing the ENS with ICS2 before the goods arrive in the EU. This includes ensuring all data is accurate and timely, as they face penalties for non-compliance," it said.

"While carriers bear the brunt of responsibility for filing the ENS and penalties for non-compliance, the accuracy of the information ultimately comes from the exporter. Therefore, both parties have a vested interest in ensuring data quality and timely submission to avoid delays and potential fines," it added.

GTRI said that Indian exporters should start their preparations as non-compliance with ICS2 regulations or errors in data submission could lead to delays in customs clearance and potential fines, resulting in financial losses and operational disruptions.

To avoid these, Srivastava said that Indian exporters must register in the ICS2 system and train their personnel on the new requirements and procedures.

This may involve fees for registration and training programmes. They also need to upgrade their existing software and IT infrastructure to comply with ICS2 data formats and electronic submission requirements.

"Some Indian exporters may need to seek professional support to navigate the complexities of ICS2 and ensure compliance. Smaller businesses with limited resources might struggle to adapt to the new system as quickly as larger competitors, potentially putting them at a disadvantage," he said.

Overall, early preparation, investing in technology solutions, and seeking guidance from relevant trade bodies can help Indian exporters benefit from the new system.

Further, GTRI said that the EU frequently intercepts Indian exports of chilies, tea, basmati rice, milk, poultry, bovine meat, fish, chemicals, generic drugs, and ayurvedic drugs to EU on various grounds and the domestic exporters and the government must closely monitor how the EU treats such products under this new system.

For Indian exporters and the Indian government, adapting to this new system is not just a requirement but an opportunity to streamline their export processes and strengthen their position in the EU market, it added.

India's imports from the EU stood at USD 61 billion in 2022-23. The two-way trade increased to USD 136 billion. The EU is one of the largest trading blocs for India. Both sides are also negotiating a free trade agreement to further boost trade ties.

Source :

https://business.outlookindia.com/news/eu-moving-towards-paperless-customs-system-from-june-indian-exporters-must-prepare-to-comply

India In Trade Deficit With Almost Every Top Trading Partner

India's trade deficit with nine of its top ten trade partners was recorded in the first seven months of the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24). The US was the only country with which India had a surplus, with exports exceeding imports.

According to data from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India's trade surplus with the US, its largest trading partner, was USD 19.59 billion in the period from April to October.

However, India recorded a deficit of USD 51.11 billion with China, its second-largest partner, followed by a gap of USD 33.56 billion with Russia, its fourth-largest trade partner. The trade deficit with the UAE, the third largest trade partner, was USD 6.83 billion.

An official stated that India imports petrol, high calorific value coal, coke and briquettes and fertilisers, especially potash, from Russia.

However, exports of gems and jewellery to Hong Kong and the US have declined, resulting in a trade gap of USD 7.59 billion with Hong Kong.

As per data released in December, India's total merchandise exports contracted by 6.51 per cent to USD 278.8 billion, while imports fell by 8.67 per cent to USD 445.15 billion for the April to November period of FY24.

During the April to October period, India recorded a trade deficit with Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Iraq, Singapore and South Korea.

According to an official, the trade deficit with Indonesia is due to edible oil. Although exports of rice and sugar to Indonesia were helping to normalise the situation, those exports have now been restricted, causing the deficit to increase.

Additionally, India has historically experienced a deficit with Korea, despite the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement signed between the two countries in 2009.

According to an official, Iran has decreased its imports of tea and rice from India due to foreign exchange problems and the finalisation of the rupee-payment process. The director general of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), Ajay Sahai, stated that while similar situations have occurred in the past, the current global trade environment is uncertain due to geopolitical factors and a general slowdown in developed economies.

Sahai added that this is hurting India's exports and trade balance.

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) has recommended to the government that an assertive marketing approach, targeting vehicles, electronic goods, auto parts, marine products, clothing, insecticides, iron and steel, can assist Indian businesses in tapping into an export potential worth USD 112 billion.

This potential exists in ten countries, including the US and UK, and can be achieved within three years.

Source :

https://www.businessworld.in/article/India-In-Trade-Deficit-With-Almost-Every-Top-Trading-Partner/02-01-2024-504146/

India will have to eventually move to lower customs duty regime: DPIIT

India will have to eventually move to a lower customs duty regime and cannot continue to protect domestic manufacturers by citing infant industry argument, a senior government official said on Thursday.

Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Rajesh Kumar Singh said that tariffs are not really considered a revenue source.

Normally, customs duties or tariffs are used as a policy tool to ensure a higher level of protection for certain sectors to boost domestic manufacturing.

"The DPIIT's view is that there are possibilities of using tariffs in a creative manner to protect some of our industries, particularly when they are subject to predatory pricing or dumping from certain geographies," he told reporters here.

While there is a need to protect sectors which are weak, there is no need to continue with the high tariff walls for segments that are doing well, he added.

"But I think, over time, we will have to move to a lower tariff regime overall. The BCD (basic customs duty) will have to start coming down," Singh said, adding "We can not continue with the infant industry argument forever".

These remarks assume significance as certain quarters of experts have stated that India should cut down its import duties to integrate with global value chains. However, some domestic industries like auto oppose that move.

Talking about the domestic toy industry, the secretary said that with the help of measures like high customs duties and quality control orders, the sector is performing well.

Domestic toy manufacturing is strengthening, exports are increasing, and imports are coming down, he said.

Singh said that for the toy sector, the government is using high customs duties to provide a higher level of protection for some time.

Without naming China, he said that some countries are using predatory pricing to dump goods and destroy local manufacturing.

Duties on toys have been raised to 70 per cent from 20 per cent earlier.

Source : https://www.business-standard.com

E-way bills without e-invoice details for B2B, B2E transactions to be blocked from March 1

Businesses with an annual turnover of ₹5 crore or more are mandatorily required to generate e-invoices, which means 10 lakhs assesses are required to comply with this selected GST payers will not be able to generate e-way bills without details of e-invoice with effect from March 1, 2024, the National Informatic Centre (NIC) has said.

“This is applicable for e-invoice-enabled tax payers and for the transactions related to supplies under B2B (Business to Business) and exports. However, EWBs for other transactions such as B2C (Business and non-supplies) will function as usual without any change,” NIC said in a circular. As on date, businesses with an annual turnover of ₹5 crore or more are mandatorily required to generate e-invoices, which means 10 lakhs assesses are required to comply with this. This number does not include exempted categories such as banks, non-banking financial companies, or insurance companies.

An e-way bill is an electronic document generated on a portal, evidencing the movement of goods and indicating whether tax has been paid. As per Rule 138 of the CGST Rules, 2017, every registered person who causes the movement of goods (which may not necessarily be on account of supply) of consignment value of more than ₹50,000 is required to generate an e-way bill. This requirement applies to movements between two States and within a State. However, a State or UT with a legislature can decide the threshold for the value of goods applicable for movement within its boundary.

E-invoice has been operationalised since October 2020 for the taxpayers with Annual Aggregate Turnover (AATO) above ₹500 crore. In a phased manner, e-invoice generation has become mandatory for taxpayers with AATO above 5 crore. From day one, e-invoice has been seamlessly integrated with the e-way bill system, ensuring that e-way bills are generated along with e-invoices. That is, during e-invoice generation, if the transportation details are provided, the e-waybill is automatically generated. The majority of taxpayers are generating e-invoices along with e-way bills.

However, according to NIC, upon analysis it has been found that some taxpayers, who are eligible for e-invoicing are generating e-way bills without linking them with e-invoices for B2B and B2E transactions. In some of these cases, the invoice details entered separately under the e-way bill and e-invoice do not match with respect to certain parameters. This is leading to a mismatch in the e-way bill and e-invoice statements. That is why NIC has come out with a new circular.

As per Rule 48(4) of CGST Rules, notified class of registered persons have to prepare an invoice by uploading specified particulars of the invoice (in FORM GST INV-01) on Invoice Registration Portal (IRP) and obtain an Invoice Reference Number (IRN). After following the above 'e-invoicing' process, the invoice copy, which includes the IRN (with QR Code), issued by the notified supplier to the buyer, is commonly referred to as 'e-invoice' in GST.

NIC further said that the e-way bill generation process will be incorporated with appropriate checks for taxpayers (suppliers) eligible for e-invoicing. "All taxpayers and transporters are requested to make necessary changes in their systems so that they can adapt to the changes from March 1, 2024," NIC advised.

Source : https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/

India tops global remittance flows at $125 billion in 2023: World Bank

India saw the highest amount of remittance inflows in the world in 2023 at $125 billion, driven by several factors, including the country's agreement with the UAE, for promoting the use of dirhams and rupees for bilateral trade, the World Bank said.

In a report, the World Bank further said growth in remittances in India is expected to halve to 12.4 per cent in 2023 from a historic peak of 24.4 per cent in 2022.

"Remittances are expected to increase by $14 billion and rise to $125 billion in 2023, increasing India's share in South Asian remittances to 66 per cent in 2023 from 63 per cent in 2022," said the World Bank's latest Migration and Development Brief.

India was followed by Mexico ($67 billion), China ($50 billion), the Philippines ($40 billion) and Egypt ($24 billion).

Economies where remittance inflows represent substantial shares of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) -- highlighting the importance of remittances for funding current account and fiscal shortfalls -- are Tajikistan (48 per cent), Tonga (41 per cent), Samoa (32 per cent), Lebanon (28 per cent) and Nicaragua (27 per cent).

Source : https://www.indiatoday.in/

UK Carbon Tax Casts Shadow On India's Exports

In a strategic move that could reset economic dynamics, the United Kingdom unveiled plans on December 18 to introduce a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) in 2027. The potentially disruptive decision is poised to significantly dent India's $775 million exports to the UK.

The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), a renowned economic think tank, has cautioned that crucial sectors such as iron, steel, aluminium, fertilisers, and cement will bear the brunt of this carbon tax. The UK, set to become the second economy after the European Union (EU) to implement CBAM, aims to tackle carbon leakage and level the playing field for domestic producers.

The GTRI report reveals that Indian exports to the UK, totaling $775 million, may be subject to the CBAM tax, with specific goods like iron ($565.7 million), steel, aluminium ($101.5 million), ceramics (82.8 million), and glass ($25 million) in the crosshairs. This amounts to 6.8 percent of the total exports to the UK and reflects a significant impact on India's trade landscape.

Ajay Srivastava, Co-Founder of GTRI, emphasised the potential severity of the tax, ranging from 14 to 24 percent of the import value, based on the full phase-out of free allowances under the Emission Trading System (ETS). The UK government's primary objective is to prevent carbon leakage, a phenomenon where companies relocate production to countries with lax environmental regulations to evade UK carbon prices.

The tax calculation for imported goods will be based on the estimated carbon emissions produced during their production. However, countries with carbon pricing schemes equivalent to the UK's will be exempted from this tax. The UK and the EU have implemented ETS systems to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, and the CBAM will work alongside the existing UK ETS.

In addition to mirroring the EU model, the UK is exploring initiatives such as voluntary product standards and a framework to measure the carbon content of goods. These measures align with the broader goal of promoting low-carbon products and supporting comprehensive decarbonisation policies.

As the UK moves ahead with these transformative changes, the international business community, including India, faces the challenge of adapting to a carbon-conscious trade landscape that prioritises environmental sustainability and fair competition. The repercussions of the UK's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism are poised to reverberate across the global economic stage, leaving nations and industries on high alert.

Source : https://planet.outlookindia.com/

Office Humour

Why did the computer go to therapy?

It had too many bytes of emotional baggage.

How many software engineers does it take to change a light bulb?
None. That's a hardware issue.

Why did the scarecrow become a successful manager?
Because he was outstanding in his field!

Why don't scientists trust atoms?
Because they make up everything, especially excuses for not finishing projects on time.

What did the paper say to the pencil?
You've got a good point!

Why don't oysters donate to charity?
Because they are shellfish.

Why did the coffee file a police report?
It got mugged.

Why do programmers prefer dark mode?
Because the light attracts bugs.

How do you organize a space party?
You planet!
Why don't secret agents ever sleep?

Because they don't want to be caught napping.
Source : Online

□ □ □

Cabinet approves Additional allocation of Rs 2500 crore for continuation of Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit till 30.06.2024

Posted On: 08 DEC 2023 8:35PM by PIB Delhi

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved an additional allocation of Rs 2500 Cr for continuation of Interest Equalisation Scheme till 30th June 2024. This would help exporters from identified sectors and all MSME manufacturer exporters to avail pre and post shipment Rupee export credit at competitive rates.

Details:

Benefit shall be continued till 30.06.2024 to manufacturer and merchant exporters of the identified 410 tariff lines and to all manufacturer exporters from MSME sectors at rates as specified below:

S.No.	Category of Exporters	Rate of interest Equalisation
1	Manufacturer and Merchant Exporters exporting products listed in the 410 tariff lines	2%
2	MSME exporters of all tariff lines	3%

Implementation strategy and targets:

The scheme shall be implemented by RBI through various Public and non-Public Sector banks who provide pre and post shipment credit to the exporters. The Scheme is jointly monitored by DGFT and RBI through a consultative mechanism.

Impact:

Availability of pre and post shipment packing credit at competitive rates is important for the exports sector in order to compete internationally. The effect of Interest Equalisation Scheme has been beneficial for the exports growth of the country as per the study conducted by IIM Kashipur. MSME sector is vital for employment generation. The scheme is primarily meant for the labour intensive sectors. The present proposal is meant for exports by merchants and manufacturer exporters of identified tariff lines and MSME Sector manufacturer exporters. Increase in exports from these employment intensive sectors and MSMEs would lead to generation of employment in the country.

Financial Implications:

S.No.	Financial Year	Budget Allocated (in Crores)	Actual Expenditure (in Crores)
1	2021-22	3488	3488 (including arrears)
2	2022-23	3118	3118
3	2023-24	2932	2641.28(as on 30.11.2023)

The additional outlay of Rs 2500 Crore, over and above the current outlay of Rs 9538 Cr under the Scheme, is made available to bridge the funding gap to continue the Scheme upto 30.06.2024. The estimated annual expenditure under the Scheme is approximately Rs 2500 Crore.

Benefits:

The intented target beneficiaries include all MSME manufacturer exporters and non-MSME exporters of certain identified sectors belonging to 410 tariff lines at four digit level.

Details and progress of scheme if already running:

The figure of disbursement of amounts under the scheme for the last 3 years are as follow:

Background:

Government of India had announced the Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit to eligible exporters. The Scheme started on April1, 2015 and was initially valid for 5 years upto 31.3.2020. The Scheme has been continued thereafter, including one year extension during COVID, and with further extensions and fund allocations. Currently the Scheme provides an interest equalisation benefit at the rate of 2% on pre and post shipment Rupee export credit to merchant and manufacturer exporters of 410 identified tariff lines at 4 digit level and 3% to all MSME manufacturer exporters. The Scheme was not fund limited and extended the benefit without any limit to all exporters. The Scheme has now been made fund limited, and benefit to individual exporters has been capped at Rs 10 Cr per annum per IEC (Import Export Code). In addition, the banks that lend to exporters at an average rate of more than Repo + 4% would be debarred under the Scheme.

CUS/POL/23/2023-Pol and Val-O/o ADC/JC-Cus-Prev-M and P-Mumbai

I/1622869/2023

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त (निवारक) कार्यालय

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (PREVENTIVE)

नवीन सीमाशुल्क भवन, बेलार्ड इस्टेट,

NEW CUSTOM HOUSE, BALLARD ESTATE,

मुंबई/MUMBAI- 400 001

टेलीफोन न./Tel. No. (022)22620631 **ईमेल**: commrprev-cusmum@nic.in **फ़ैक्स न.**/Fax 22612474

F.No: VIII/10(b)6/CF/POL/2017-18 Dated: 20.12.2023

DIN: 20231279OC000092449D

व्यापार सूचना संख्या: 01/2023

TRADE NOTICE NO: 01/2023

विषय: निर्यातकों को सेल्फ-सीलिंग अनुमति प्रदान करने की प्रक्रिया हेतु केंद्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर एवं सीमाशुल्क बोर्ड द्वारा निर्गमित परिपत्रकों एवं प्रधान सीमाशुल्क आयुक्त (निवारक), मुंबई द्वारा निर्गमित दिनांक 12.01.2018 की व्यापार सूचना संख्या 01/2018 – सेल्फ सीलिंग अनुमति का नुतनीकरण – समय सीमा – के संदर्भ में

Subject: Procedure for grant of Self-Sealing Permission to the Exporters in GST Regime consequent to CBIC Circulars and Trade Notice No: 01/2018 dated 12.01.2018 issued by the Principal Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Mumbai – Renewal of Self-Sealing Permission - Time Limit – Reg.

Attention of the Exporters, Customs Brokers and General Public is invited to various CBIC Circulars and Trade Notice No. 01/2018 dated 12.01.2018 issued by the Principal Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Mumbai prescribing the procedure of Self-Sealing of container by Exporters using electronic seals.

2. Based on the Trade Notice No: 01/2018 dated 12.01.2018, the facility of Self-Sealing Permission/Registration to the exporters is being given without specifying the time limit. It is felt that there is a need to monitor the performances of the Exporters periodically and to review the Self-Sealing procedures being followed.

3. It has been decided that the Self-Sealing Permission will be granted initially for a period of Five Years in case of Manufacturer Exporters and One year in the case of Merchant Exporters. While applying for the permission, the

exporter may specifically mention whether the exporter is Manufacturer or Merchant Exporter. The Self-Sealing Registration for the Exporters falling under other jurisdictions will also be registered at Ports/ICD under this jurisdiction initially for a period of Five Years in case of Manufacturer Exporters and One year in the case of Merchant Exporters. Subsequently, the extension of Self-Sealing Permission / Registration shall be for a period of Five Years (05 years) for Manufacturer Exporters and Two Years (02 years) for Merchant Exporters, provided they are regular exporters and exporting at least 6 consignments in a year availing Self-Sealing facility and have not committed any contraventions of Customs provisions during the said period.

4. The Exporters shall submit a request letter for extension of Self-Sealing Permission to the Deputy/Assistant Commissioner of Customs (Preventive) of the jurisdictional Export Promotion Cell at least two (02) months before the expiry date with all updated prescribed documents. A statement giving details of exports made during the last 5 years/1 Year (or) 2 Years as the case may be for Self-Sealing Permission / Registration respectively, should also be submitted as prescribed in the Annexure to this Trade Notice. All the Exporters who have already been granted the Self-Sealing Permission/Registration without specifying the time limit in the past, shall submit a letter for extension of permission within three (03) months from the date of issue of this Trade Notice.

5. Exporters under Self-Sealing Permission/Registration should strictly use RFID e-seal procured from the nominated vendors as approved by the CBIC.

6. Exporters under Self-Sealing Permission/Registration also need to seek permission, for any update/amendment to the original Permission/Registration viz. (i) Change of Premises (ii) Change in Authorized Signatory (iii) Amendments in ROC etc. The same has to be approved by the competent authority.

7. Self-Sealing Permission/Self-Sealing Registration will be given only for the exports at specific ports applied for.

8. Difficulty faced, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Mumbai Customs Zone – III, 2nd Floor, New Customs House, Ballard Estate, Mumbai through the e-mail commrprev-cusmum@nic.in

Signed by Atul Handa
Date: 20-12-2023 18:43:46
Reason: Approved

(Dr Atul Handa)
Commissioner of Customs (Preventive)

Encl.: Annexure.

Copy to:

1. As per mailing list
2. Commissionerate website.
3. Notice Board.

ANNEXURE TO TRADE NOTICE NO: 01/2023

Statement giving details of exports made during the last 5 years / 1 Year (or) 2 Years (as the case may be)

Sr. No.	Shipping Bill No., Date and Port	Container Numbers	Description of Export Goods	FOB Value	Consignee Name and Address

ESTD. 1956

All India Stainless Steel Industries Association

302, Arun Chambers, Madan Mohan Malavia Road, Mumbai 400034.
Telefax : 022 23523764 • Tel.: 022 66576050 • Mob.: 98690 43764
Email Id. : aissiamumbai@gmail.com • Website : www.aissia.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please fill in this form in block letters only)

Dear Sir,

I / We desire to be admitted as a Member of your Association.

Types of Membership : Life Member ☐ Associate Membership ☐

Name of the Firm : ______

Address : ______

______

City : ______ Pin : ______ State : ______

Estd. Year : ______ E-mail : ______ Website : ______

Phone (with STD Code) Office : ______ Mobile : ______

Fax (with STD Code) : ______ Factory : ______

Branch Office Address : (if any) ______

______

Name(s) of Proprietor / Partners / Directors : ______

1) ______

2) ______

3) ______

Please include passport size photos of Proprietor or any 2 Partners / Directors

Name of person nominated to represent in the Association : ______

Designation : ______ Telephone : ______

Nature of Business :

Manufacturer ☐ Merchant ☐ Manufacturer & Merchants ☐ Services ☐ Consultancy Sector ☐ Others ☐ (Specify)

Category :

If registered as Export House, type of Certificate

Export Products :

Stainless Steel (1) Utensils ☐ (2) Cutlery ☐ (3) Others ☐ (Specify)

Import Products :

Stainless Steel (1) Sheets ☐ (2) Coils ☐ (3) Accessories ☐ (4) Finished Products ☐

(5) Others (Specify) ☐

Details of Registration :

(a) Pan Registration No.:__________ (b) GSTIN No. __________

(d) Member of any other Association : __________

(e) Bankers & Branch : __________

We wish to become an **Associate / Life Member** of the association and are enclosing a Cheque / Bank Draft in Favour of "**All India Stainless Steel Industries Association**"

Sr.No.	Type of Membership	Entrance Fee	Membership Fee	Annual Charge
1	Life membership	Rs. 500	Rs. 15,000	Rs. 2,500/-* year. Payable only after 5 yrs.
2	Associate Membership	Rs. 500	Nil	Rs. 4,000/-* year

*** +GST Tax Extra**

- Each Member has an option to pay Annual Charge of 5 years together.
- As an incentive to member and also for association's better fund management and less paperwork for all, any member intending to pay together the Annual Charge for 5 years will be charged for 4 years only. For example: Life Member will pay Rs. 10,000/- but his membership fees will be considered paid for 5 years.

We agree to abide by the Memorandum And Article of Association as may be inforce from time to time.

Proposed By : __________

Seconded By : __________

(The Proposer and the Seconder should be members of the Association)

Your Sincerely,

Signature

(Name : __________)

(Designation : __________)

Place : __________ Date : __________

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

LIFE / ASSOCIATE

Source : Direct / Member / Other

Application Received on __________ by __________

Application Verified on __________ by __________

Payment : Rs. __________ Cheque / Draft No. __________

Drawn on Bank __________ Receipt No. __________

Applicant enrolled as a **Life Member / Associate Member** (accepted / refused) as decided in the Executive Committee Meeting held on __________

Membership Enrolment No.: __________

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