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NEWS CLIPPINGS –08-06-2018

Govt may Impose Anti-Dumping on Chinese polyester yarns	**Daily Pioneer** http://www.dailypioneer.com/business/govt-may-impose-anti-dumping-duty-on-chinese-polyester-yarns.html

The Government may impose anti-dumping duty of up to $528 per tonne for 5 years on a Chinese polyester yarn, used in automobile and other industries, to provide a level playing field to domestic players and guard them against below-cost imports.

The Commerce Ministry's investigation arm, Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD), in its final findings of probe has stated that that the imposition of antidumping duty is required to offset dumping and injury on the imports of 'High Tenacity Polyester Yarn' from China.

"The authority recommends imposition of antidumping duty...For a period of five years, so as to address the injury to the domestic industry," the DGAD has said in a notification.

The recommended duty ranges between $174 and $528 per tonne.

The decision to finally impose the duty was taken by the finance ministry. SRF Ltd and Reliance Industries Ltd had jointly filed the before the DGAD for initiation of the antidumping investigation.

This yarn, also called as industrial yarn, is used for manufacture of tyre cord fabric, seat belt webbing, ropes, coated fabric, conveyor belt fabric and automotive hose.

To meet WTO norms, Inida have to withdraw popular export schemes by next fiscal	**Business Line** https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/to-meet-wto-norms-india-may-have-to-withdraw-popular-export-schemes-by-next-fiscal/article24104421.ece?homepage=true

Popular incentive schemes for Indian exporters targeted by the US at the WTO — such as the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) and the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme — may have to be withdrawn in just about a year's time if the Trump regime has its way.

"While India will try its best to convince the WTO panel that it should get more time to phase out the schemes, the Commerce Ministry is working on a contingency plan which may have to be put in place in the next financial year," an official told BusinessLine. The contingency plan, however, is difficult to give shape to, as the schemes to replace the export incentives need to be offered to all players in a targeted sector and not just exporters, and this could be a huge burden on the exchequer.

The US lodged a complaint with the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in March, challenging six Indian government programmes, saying these provide financial benefits to Indian exporters, allowing them to sell their goods more cheaply to the detriment of American workers and manufacturers. The WTO does not allow any country which has attained a per capita gross national product (GNP) of more than $1,000 for three consecutive years to give export sops, and India breached the threshold in 2015.

However, India is continuing with its export incentives, hoping to argue at the WTO that its demand for a eight-year phaseout period — the same as that given to developing countries when the WTO Agreement came into force, in 1995 — should be met. However, since the the WTO has not been allowing this since 2011-12, it is not likely to concede to the Indian demand now.

"Since the dispute lodged by the US is related to export subsidies, it could get expedited and get preference over other pending disputes and there might be a verdict in nine months. That is why the Commerce Ministry is trying to put in place a contingency plan, to replace all the problem schemes, by April 2019," the official said.

The DSB has already approved the US' request to set up a dispute panel against India.

The committee set up by the Commerce Ministry to come up with alternative schemes for exporters, which includes industry representatives as well as those from think-tanks, is struggling to come up with options that would provide exporters with the same level of entitlement as at present. "The challenge is to come up with schemes which would ensure exporters are not worse off than before, do not hugely increase the burden for the exchequer and yet are compliant with WTO norms," the official said.

CAIT demands e-way bill exemption for textile sector	**Times of India** https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/surat/cait-demands-e-way-bill-exemption-for-textile-sector/articleshow/64499913.cms

Surat: The Confederation of All-India Traders (CAIT) has demanded that the Gujarat government follow other states in implementing district-level e-way bills for goods in transit for textiles and other sectors.

Pramod Bhagat, president of CAIT's Gujarat chapter, wrote to state GST commissioner, P D Vaghela, stating that the Madhya Pradesh government has accepted the demand and implemented district-level e-way bills. However, Gujarat government is still continuing with city-limit e-way bills, which is proving to be a transport bottleneck for various sectors, but mainly the textile industry.

CAIT also demanded that e-way bill limits be increased from Rs 50,000 worth of goods to Rs 1 lakh. Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have implemented the Rs 1 lakh limit for e-way bills. This means that only traders dispatching goods worth more than Rs 1 lakh need to generate e-way bills.

Pramod Bhagat told TOI, "Gujarat is the hub of the textile sector in India. Tamil Nadu has exempted textile products like yarn, job work services, fabrics etc. from generating e-way bills. We want the Gujarat government to implement the same for the textile sector."

Only A Matter Of Time Before Fuels Brought Under GST: Dharmendra Pradhan	KhabarIndia https://www.khabarindia.in/matter-time-fuels-brought-gst-dharmendra-pradhan/

It is only a matter of time before petrol and diesel are brought under the GST regime, though no state has stepped forward to propose this yet, union minister for petroleum and natural gas Dharmendra Pradhan said.

Under pressure due to high fuel prices, Pradhan's ministry has been in favour of bringing petrol and diesel under the GST system as subsuming central and state taxes to one levy could ease the price. But the idea has not found any support with states, and a section section at the Centre, as they are reluctant to let go of their share of revenue, said the minister.

But he expressed optimism that petrol and diesel would eventually be brought under GST. He said companies in the energy sector were taking a hit as they were unable to claim input tax credit under GST.

German firm sets up textile testing lab in Tiruppur	Business Standard https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/german-firm-sets-up-textile-testing-lab-in-tiruppur-118060700962_1.html

German safety and quality expert TV SD has set up its textile testing laboratory in neighbouring Tiruppur.

With this expansion, the laboratory known for its physical testing and technical solutions, will offer chemical testing services for all kinds of textile businesses in Tiruppur as well as neighbouring regions including Karur, Salem and Erode.

The holistic capabilities of the laboratory will cater to manufacturers and exporters carving a niche for Indian knitwear products in global and domestic markets, TV SD CEO of South and South-East Asia, Middle East and Africa Region, Niranjan Nadkarni said in release here.

The facility is fully equipped to provide comprehensive textile, apparel and home furnishing testing services, it said.

Manufacturers can avail complete guidance on Restricted Substance List (RSL) and Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) and other similar safety regulations, Nadkarni said adding new chemical testing laboratory is equipped with state-of-the-art instrumentation.

With its wide network of labs and experts across key markets including south Asia, European Union, ASEAN, the US and the UK, TV SD has in-depth familiarity with compliance in exporting and importing nations, Nadkarni said.

CBIC introduces PAN-based refund clearances of exporters	Economics Time https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/cbic-introduces-pan-based-refund-clearances-of-exporters/articleshow/64493402.cms

The CBIC has allowed clearance of GST refunds based on PAN of exporters if such refunds are held up due to mismatch in GSTIN mentioned in shipping bill and return forms.

As much as Rs 14,000 crore worth of refunds due to exporters are stuck because of various reasons and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is organising a special refund fortnight from May 31 to June 14 to fast-track clearance of dues.

In a circular to the field officers, the CBIC has said the refund should be cleared if the Permanent Account Number (PAN) mentioned in shipping bill and returns form GSTR-3B/GSTR-1 is same.

Mismatch in GST identification number (GSTIN) happens when the entity filing shipping bills is a registered office and the entity which has paid the Integrated GST (IGST) is a manufacturing unit.

The CBIC said that the entity claiming refund would have to give an undertaking that it will "not claim any refund or any benefit of the amount of IGST so paid".

It said the DG Systems have developed correction tool for sanction of refund in cases where PAN provided in the shipping bill is the same as in the return forms under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.

AMRG & Associates Partner Rajat Mohan said the board has come out with a methodology whereby taxpayer would be sanctioned a refund even in case where a different registered taxpayer files shipping bill than from a registered taxpayer who has undertaken such export supply, provided both the entities are functioning under the same PAN.

Tax department agrees that pending refunds are a liability which needs to be paid off and thereby administration is putting in best efforts to resolve incongruities in handing out such refunds," Mohan said.

The CBIC has also extended the facility for manual interface to correct the mismatch in invoice details in shipping bills and GST returns.

Exporters can opt for manual correction for shipping bills filed till April 30, 2018.

"Keeping in view the difficulties faced by the exporters in respect of SB005 errors (mismatch in invoice details in shipping bill and returns), Board has decided to extend the facility of officer interface to shipping bills filed up to April 30. However, the exporters are advised to align their export invoices submitted to Customs and GST authorities for smooth processing of refund claims," the CBIC said.

Indian economy well supported by robust growth outlook, says Moody's	Business Standard https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/indian-economy-well-supported-by-robust-growth-outlook-says-moody-s-118060701352_1.html

Global rating agency Moody's Investors Service on Thursday predicted that a robust growth outlook of the Indian economy will support the credit quality of the country's non-financial corporate sector.

Moody's Indian affiliate ICRA said India's power sector will continue to remain stable despite mixed success of its distribution utilities (DISCOMS).

It said that improved domestic coal availability is primarily responsible for ensuring a stable power sector and that India is taking steps to align its power generation mix with nationally determined contribution commitments under the December 2015 Paris Accord.

As regards the oil and energy sector, it said, "credit quality of state-owned oil and gas companies will remain positive but could change depending upon the government's responses to increasing oil prices."

It warned that there was need for having a balance between high dividends and earnings to ensure against a credit negative slip. It also said that credit ratings of state-owned upstream companies would remain well positioned so long as their net realized prices do not fall below the USD 50 per barrel mark.

"India's focus on greening its energy mix would imply strong growth for renewable energy over the next many years," said Moody's Vice President Abhishek Tyagi

Vikas Halan, Senior Vice President of the ratings agency said, "As disruptions from GST implementation fades, economic activity will recover in India. GDP growth of 7.3 percent for 2018 in India, will result in higher domestic sales volumes, which along with new production capacity and supportive commodity prices, will EBITDA, growth for corporate over the next 12 to 18 months."

Moody's, however, cautioned that Indian non-financial firms will continue to face protectionism and tighter monetary controls in the United States because of the depreciating US-Rupee exchange rate (Currently pegged at six percent). It also said that ongoing volatility in international bond markets could make refinancing challenging, particularly for high yield corporate. It also said predicted a further weakening of domestic bank funding because of fresh asset quality and governance issues.

As far as the telecom sector is concerned, Moody's pained a gloomy picture, saying it would remain under pressure because of intense competition between stakeholders.

"Capital spending will remain high for telecom operators as they expand and upgrade their (respective) network to service the exponential increase in high speed wireless data consumption in India," it said.

Biddings for solar projects, it said, have seen a drop, given concerns over long-term tariff-related viability

It said that other sectors such as automobiles, consumer staples, durables and hospitality have witnessed a revival and marginal expansion because of rising consumer demand.

It was all praise for the highways sector, saying that government support for existing PPP procurement models has been a crucial factor in attracting private sector investment.

Going forward, it said that the corporate sector could be impacted by growing formalization and a tightening of regulatory norms. It cited the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) as an example of sectoral consolidation as also stricter emission norms in the automobile sector for this premise.

It said that rural demand would be critically dependent on having a normal monsoon, hike in minimum support price and emphasis on agri-economic policies in the run-up to next year's general elections.

Investing in on-demand textiles supply chain	**Innovation Textiles** https://www.innovationintextiles.com/investing-in-ondemand-textiles-supply-chain/

Over the last two weeks, Gerber participated in two global industry events, FESPA in Berlin and Texprocess Americas in Atlanta. At the shows, the company demonstrated on-demand manufacturing applications that included its Digital Solutions, integrating data from design to finished product leveraging *YuniquePLM* and the *AccuMark Platform*, digital printing technologies from three industry leaders, Gerber's *Z1* single-ply cutter with *ContourVision* automated scan-to-cut system and both robotic and lean loop sewing operations.

Increasingly in an on-demand world, consumers expect personalisation and immediate delivery when they see what they want. To remain competitive, brands and manufacturers are being compelled to re-examine their processes and find ways to become more agile and remain relevant in a time of ever-changing consumer trends.

"We have been investing in and developing technology to help our customers transform and connect their workflows to meet the needs of an on-demand world, enabling a seamless digital print and automated cutting workflow to work with leaders in digital textile printing," said Scott Schinlever, President and COO Automation Solutions at Gerber Technology.

"Recently we showcased Gerber's textile workflow and automated cutting in a variety of micro factories with Kornit, EFI Reggiani and Mimaki. The strong growth trend in digital textile printing can be accelerated by Gerber's integrated eco-system of software and automated cutting systems, delivering value through connectivity and achieving Industry 4.0 expectations from concept to finished product."

Adoption of Industry 4.0

Digitalisation and the adoption of Industry 4.0 principles are empowering purchase activated, on-demand manufacturing. Brands and manufacturers are able to respond to demand versus producing to supply. The approach eliminates costly inventory and re-defines just-in-time manufacturing, so production adjusts as demands fluctuate – allowing products to be produced more efficiently and sold at full retail price without heavy discounting.

Gerber says its team is passionate about supporting our customers and their needs as the industry changes. "We are empowering our customers to turn their data into speed, helping them be more agile and get their products to market. We back it up with best in class aftermarket support to ensure maximum productivity and lowest total cost of ownership in the industry," said Mr Schinlever. "We look forward to continuing to partner with key players in the industry to help our customers compete and win."

Gerber's Digital Solutions

Gerber's Digital Solutions include the newest releases of YuniquePLM product lifecycle management software, as well as *AccuMark*, the industry-leading pattern design, grading, marker making and production planning software, *AccuMark 3D* and *AccuPlan*.

The Digital Solutions architecture incorporates the tenets of Industry 4.0 and uses common file structures. Data can be passed to the cut room where smart machines, like the *GERBERspreader* XLs Series and the *Gerber Paragon*line of multi-ply *GERBERcutters*, can process the order with a simple barcode scan.

Closed-loop, end-to-end Digital Solutions like Gerber's integrates software and smart machines, allows companies to automate their entire process and streamline data and workflow necessary to provide insight, maximise throughput, minimise errors and reduce labour costs to be competitive in mass production environments.

China cotton imports to reach up to 3 million tons by 2019/20: trader	**Retuers** https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-cotton/china-cotton-imports-to-reach-up-to-3-million-tons-by-2019-20-trader-idUSKCN1J30UA

China is set to return as a major cotton importer, taking 10 million to 15 million bales (2 million to 3 million tonnes) each year by 2019/20, said Tim Bourgois, head of the cotton platform at major trading house Louis Dreyfus Company.

Imports are expected to be around 5 million bales in 2017/18, he told an industry conference in Harbin on Thursday. The forecast comes after China's cotton industry association said earlier this week that Beijing would issue more import quota to boost overseas purchases.

Once the world's top cotton importer, China has seen its imports shrink from more than 5 million tonnes in 2011/12 to around 1 million tonnes last year, due to its efforts to reduce state stockpiles of the fiber.

Now, after several years of auctions to low state stocks and with demand improving, buyers are expected to return to the market to supplement a production deficit at home.

Domestic cotton usage is expected to increase by 1.5 million bales to 41.5 million bales in 2018/19, said Bourgois.

The group has lobbied the government to increase import quota to meet demand from textile companies, Gao Fang, executive vice-president, China Cotton Association, told Reuters.

Production growth in China has been lean due to limited farmland and high labor costs.

Details on the timing and volume of quota were not known, Fang said, adding that the quota was mainly to meet higher demand.

Market participants said this week the plan was also likely related to pressure from the United States for higher imports of American farm goods.

China has agreed to significantly increase its purchases of American goods and services, and cotton is one of the top agricultural exports of the United States.

The industry is also lobbying for more cotton supplies amid a hike in prices that could drive more manufacturers to use cheaper manmade fibers instead. Production of viscose staple fiber will increase further in 2018, pulling down prices, Zhu Beina, president of the China Cotton Textile Association said. The association expects the cotton textile sector to use 4 million tonnes of viscose fiber by 2019.

Duties on some raw materials for pharma, textiles withdrawn	**New age** http://www.newagebd.net/article/43131/duties-on-some-raw-materials-for-pharma-textiles-withdrawn

The Bangladesh government has provided incentives to the local pharmaceuticals and textile industries by exempting duty on a number of raw materials in the proposed national budget placed before parliament on Thursday.

Finance minister AMA Muhith announced exemption and concessionary rate of duties on some pharmaceuticals raw materials including that for cancer medicines and active pharmaceutical ingredients.

He said Bangladesh produces medicines of world standard as the sector has developed advanced technology in Bangladesh with a stiff growth in medicine exports to 160 countries of the world.

The government also proposed exemption of import duties on textile raw materials including flax fibre and flax tow as a continuation of the government support to the 100 per cent export-oriented sector.

Besides, the government proposed a reduction in regulatory duty on import of raw materials to keep both the production cost and market price of MS rod low.

As per the incentives, duty levied on import of raw materials of Ferro Alloy was cut to 10 per cent from 15 per cent while specific customs duty on import of Sponge Iron was lowered to Tk 800 a tonne from Tk 1000 a tonne. The government took the decision after it observed that raw materials import for iron and steel industries decreased that consequently weighed on the revenue collection from this sector, Muhith said. To facilitate local printing industries, the government proposed a reduction in import duties on their raw materials like flexo and gravure in liquid form to 10 per cent.

On the other hand, it increased supplementary duties on printed leaflet, brochure, printed postcard, printed card, calendar to 25 per cent on import and 20 per cent supplementary duty.

The government also raised import duties on finished mobile battery charger, UPS/IPS, voltage stabiliser to 15 per cent, automatic circuit barkers to 10 per cent and raised supplementary duty on lamp holders to 20 per cent. It, however, proposed a reduction in import duties on raw materials for electrical goods including carbon rod and formed core at different rates.

Moreover, the government lowered import duty on milk powder to 10 per cent when imported in bulk quantities to make milk powder affordable to the poor.

Countries like Malaysia, Indonesia have allowed incentives on importation of filled milk powder as it can give the similar nutrients to those who cannot afford whole milk powder.