

## THE COTTON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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<u>Sub: Duty free access for textile and clothing items in Australia under the India Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)</u>

Dear Member,

As you are aware, the India Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) was signed on 2nd April 2022. This interim pact is expected to come into force after four months after due approvals by both Governments.

During the negotiations phase, Texprocil had made strong representations to the government for getting duty free access in Australia for all textile items especially for all made-ups including home textiles. We are happy to inform you that the Council's suggestions have been taken into account and in the ECTA, Australia has given duty free access to all the T&C HS lines from HS Chapters 50 to 63 including Shopping Bags (HS 42) and Quilts / comforters (HS 9404). India however has given restricted access to Australia on T&C items.

As regards Raw Cotton under HS 52010020, (Cotton, other than Indian, of all staple lengths) – there is an Annual Tariff Related Quota (TRQ) of 3 lakh bales approx. 51 mn kgs (1 Bale = 170 kg) for ELS cotton of Minimum 28 mm length at zero duty.

The salient features of the ECTA have been summarised and can be <u>accessed</u> <u>here</u>.

The list of items under Chapter 63 which have been restricted by India can be accessed here.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal Executive Director

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