

THE COTTON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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<u>Sub: DGFT issues Notification on regularization of RoDTEP benefit for 18 HS</u> <u>Codes under Heading 5208 w.e.f 01.01.2021</u>

Dear Member,

We are glad to inform you that DGFT has issued Notification No. 24/2023 dated 3.8.2023 (enclosed) by regularising the 18 HS codes under Heading 5208 w.e.f 1st January, 2021. These 18 HS Codes falling under Heading 5208 were earlier added in Appendix 4R vide Notification No. 63 dated 25.3.2023 with prospective effect from 28.3.2023 (enclosed). After a lot of persuasion by the Council with the concerned Ministries, these HS Codes are made effective retrospectively now.

The resolution of the issue will be a big relief to the exporters of Cotton Printed Fabrics who were reeling under the stress due to the prospective effect of the Notification No. 63 dated 25.3.2023. It will ease their burden on shipping the product, lessen the requirement for changes in shipping bills, and streamline the process for claiming RoDTEP.

The Council thanks the Hon'ble Commerce & Textiles Minister - Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Finance Minister - Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Shri Sunil Barthwal - Commerce Secretary, Smt. Rachna Shah - Secretary Textiles, Shri Santosh Sarangi - DGFT, the RoDTEP Committee, JNCH Customs and Trade Advisor Smt. Shubra for their kind support and co-operation in clearing this long pending issue.

The main highlights of the Notification are given below:

- (i) Whereas, customs EDI directory in ICES had an error inasmuch as it did not contain the above said 18 HS Codes which form part of the legal text of the first schedule to Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and exporters claimed / availed RoDTEP wherein export goods were classified in tariff lines with in headings of 5208 other than the said 18 HS Codes.
- (ii) Whereas, these 18 HS Codes have been enabled in customs EDI directory in ICES for filing S/Bills w.e.f. 28.1.2023 and however, exporters could claim RoDTEP benefit from 28.3.2023 onwards after RoDTEP rates were notified vide DGFT Notification No. 63 dated 25.3.2023.
- (iii) Whereas, on account of noticing inconsonance in classification vis-a-vis first

schedule to Customs Tariff Act, 1975, show cause notices have been issued or RoDTEP benefit disallowed at the time of export relating to the period from 1.1.2021 to 27.1.2023; and also, for the period from 28.1.2023 to 27.3.2023 claiming the RoDTEP could not be enabled.

- (iv) Whereas, taking in account the sequence of measures taken in connection to correcting this said omission, allowing RoDTEP since 1.1.2021 as well as the regularisation of the RoDTEP as claimed as such, as long as it was claimed against one of the HS Codes under heading 5208 in the case of exports under S/Bills filed from 1.1.2021 to 27.1.2023 would obviate any changes required in any of the relevant shipping bills under which exports stand made, that the claims would simply get finalized and show cause notices, if any, already issued would get decided accordingly.
- (v) Whereas, in the case of exports under S/Bills filed from 28.1.2023 to 27.3.2023 by allowing RoDTEP since 1.1.2021, enablement from DG Systems in CBIC is required so as to update the RoDTEP directory and to make other changes, including in ICES/ICEGATE, as are necessary, so as to allow exporters, who claimed these 18 HS Codes in their export declaration in S/Bill, to make a supplementary claim in respect of RoDTEP amount. For this, the DG Systems in CBIC shall issue a Systems Advisory allowing exporters (who claimed the 18 eight-digit tariff lines in their export declaration in shipping bill) to make a supplementary claim within 180 days of the date of the said Systems Advisory.

In view of the above, the Central Government hereby -

- i) Allows RoDTEP for these 18 HS codes w.e.f. 1.1.2021 in supersession of DGFT Notification no. 63 dated 25.3.2023 to that extent.
- ii) Regularizes the RoDTEP available by exporters w.e.f. 1.1.2021, in the manner as outlined in above paras (iv) or (v), as the case may be.

Members may kindly make a note of the above and do the needful at the earliest as DGFT has provided a 180-day window for supplementary claims in respect of the RoDTEP amount, following the issuance of a Systems Advisory by the DG Systems in CBIC.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal Executive Director

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