Circular No. EPS/60/2017-18

To: Members of the Council

Sub: Mid Term Review of FTP 2015-20

Dear Member,

The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri Suresh Prabhu released the Mid-term Review of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 on 5.12.2017. The revised FTP will focus on exports from the labour intensive and MSME sectors by way of increased incentives in order to increase employment opportunities. Emphasis will also be given on ‘Ease of Trading’ across borders.

Some of the salient features of the Mid term FTP are as follows:

1. Export incentives under Merchandise Exports from India (MEIS) have been increased by 2% across the board for labour intensive MSME sectors.
2. Validity period of Duty Credit Scrips issued under MEIS has been increased from 18 months to 24 months.
3. MEIS rate for Cotton Shopping Bags covered under HS code 42022220 increased from 3% to 5%.
4. A new scheme called as Self Ratification Scheme has been introduced for duty free procurement of inputs required for export production. Under this scheme, Advance Authorization will be issued to eligible exporters where there is no SION/valid Adhoc Norms for an export product and where SION has been notified but exporter intends to use additional inputs in the
manufacturing process. Exporter can apply for an Advance Authorisation under this scheme on self declaration and self ratification basis. RA will issue Advance Authorisations and such cases need not be referred to Norms Committees for ratification of norms.

(5) Support to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation enhanced to increase insurance cover to exporters particularly MSME’s exploring new or difficult markets.

(6) Contact@DGFT service has been launched on the DGFT website (www.dgft.gov.in) as a single window contact point for exporters and importers for resolving all foreign trade related issues and also to give suggestions.

A copy of the Highlights of Mid Term Review of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 (Click here) is enclosed herewith.

This is for your information.

For any clarification, please get in touch with us.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal
Executive Director

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