Staying Updated

Customs, FTP and WTO newsletter

March 2015: Volume 17 Issue 12

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Notifications and circulars

 Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Products under the Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme for Least Developed Countries) Rules, 2015 has been introduced

Case law

Valuation

- Value of goods could not be enhanced without reference to a contemporaneous bill of entry or NIDB data showing higher import value of similar goods
- Once the transaction value of the goods was rejected, then value had to be determined sequentially following rules 4 to 8

Others

 Custom House Agent held not responsible in case of any misdeclaration in the nature of goods by the exporter which was not apparent from physical view of the product

Foreign trade policy

Notifications and circulars

- The Central Government has notified the list of three mandatory documents required for exports and imports of goods
- The list of specified goods, services and technologies covered under Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) has been amended

Case law

• Once DGFT had issued the EODC, the retention of bank guarantees/ pay orders held not permissible under law

Anti-dumping duty

- Anti-dumping duty levied on imports of Tyre Curing Presses, except Six Day Light Curing Press, for curing bicycle tyres, originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China, up to 7 January, 2016
- Anti-dumping duty levied on imports of Sheet Glass, originating in or exported from the China PR for a period of five years from 13 March, 2015

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Notifications and circulars

The Central Government has notified the Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Products under the Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme for Least Developed Countries) Rules, 2015 for determination of origin of products being imported from least developed countries.

(Notification No. 29/2015-Customs (NT) dated 10 March, 2015)

 The Central Government has instructed the field formation to strictly implement the Steel and Steel Products (Quality Control) Order, 2012 and Steel and Steel Products (Quality Control) Second Order, 2012 with respect to import of steel and steel products.

(Circular No. 8/2015-Customs dated 24 March, 2015)

Case law

Valuation

• In CC *v* Virasat Electronics (2015 (317) ELT 295), the Delhi Tribunal held that the value of goods could not be enhanced without reference to a contemporaneous bill of entry or NIDB data showing higher import value of similar goods.

- The Mumbai Tribunal, in the case of Armstrong World Industries (I) Pvt Ltd v CC (2015 (317) ELT 324), held that once the transaction value of the goods was rejected, value had to be determined sequentially following rules 4 to 8.
- In CC v Reliance Industries Ltd (2015-TIOL-358-CESTAT-AHM), the Ahmedabad Tribunal held that the assessable value of LNG had to be determined on the basis of quantity of LNG ex-ship delivered in India, at the contracted price arrived at on the basis of an agreement, and not on the basis of LNG quantity declared in Bill of Entry.

Others

- The Supreme Court of India, in Aidek Tourism Services Pvt Ltd v CC (2015-TIOL-23-SC-CUS), held that import of saloon cars used as tourist taxi, were eligible for exemption and refund of 10% of CVD under Notification No. 64/93-Central Excise.
- In CC v Moriks Shipping and Trading (P) Ltd (2015 (317) ELT 3), the Madras High Court held that the Custom House Agent was not responsible in case of any mis-declaration in the nature of goods by the exporter which was not apparent from physical view of the product.

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 The Mumbai Tribunal, in the case of Pratibha Syntex Ltd v CC (Export) (2015 (317) ELT 333), held that the exporter was not liable for penalty in case the shipping line made any procedural lapse without the knowledge of export.

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Foreign trade policy

Notifications

 The Central Government has notified three mandatory documents required for exports and imports of goods.

(Notification No. 114(RE-2013)/2009-14 dated 12 March, 2015)

 The Central Government has amended the list of specified goods, services and technologies covered under Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) list, the export of which can be made only after obtaining licence from DGFT.

(Notification No. 116(RE-2013)/2009-14 dated 13 March, 2015)

- The Central Government has added the following two new ports from where new vehicles can be imported into India:
 - Kattupalli Port; and
 - APM Terminals, Pipavav Port

(Notification No. 117(RE-2013)/2009-14 dated 13 March, 2015)

Case law

 The Bombay High Court, in Sampark Industries Ltd v Union of India (2015 (317) ELT 5), held that once the Directorate General of Foreign

- Trade(DGFT) had issued the Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC), the retention of bank guarantees/ pay orders was not permissible under law.
- In CC v Dornier India Medical Systems Pvt Ltd (2015 (317) ELT 114), the Chennai Tribunal held that Customs duty cannot be paid by utilising Duty Entitlement Pass Book scrips on clearance of capital goods when there was a Public Notice specifically disallowing the same.
- In Schefields International Pvt Ltd v
 Union of India (2015 (317) ELT 209),
 the Calcutta High Court held that if
 there was no accrual of foreign
 exchange from the overseas buyer and
 the export loss was covered for payment
 by the Export Credit Guarantee
 Corporation, duty drawback could not
 be claimed unless there was a specific
 exemption.
- The Chennai Tribunal, in Larsen and Toubro Ltd v CC (2015-TIOL-501-CESTAT-MAD), held that the conversion of a shipping bill from DEPB scheme to advance licence scheme was allowed where there was documentary evidence in existence at the time of export, showing intention to claim benefit under advance licence scheme.

Anti-dumping duty

Notifications

• The Central Government has extended the levy of anti-dumping duty on imports of Tyre Curing Presses, except Six Day Light Curing Press, for curing bicycle tyres, falling under Customs Tariff Heading 84774100, originating in or exported from the People's Republic

(Customs (ADD) Notification No. 06/2015 dated 3 March, 2015)

of China, up to 7 January, 2016.

• The Central Government has levied anti-dumping duty on imports of Sheet Glass, falling under chapter 70, originating in or exported from the China PR, for a period of five years from 13 March, 2015.

(Customs (ADD) Notification No. 07/2015 dated 13 March, 2015)

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