

## दि प्लास्टिक एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन कौन्सिल

(भारत सरकार, वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, वाणिज्य विभाग द्वारा प्रायोजित) क्रिस्टल टावर, गुंदिवली रोड क्र. 3, ऑफ सर एम व्ही रोड, अंघेरी (पूर्व), गुंबई ४०० ०६९. भारत दूरघ्वनी : ९१-२२-२६८३ ३९७१/७२ फैक्स : ९१-२२-२६८३ ३९७३ ई—मेल : plexconcil@vsnl.com वेबसाईट : http://www.plexconcil.org

THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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Ref: Plexh/Cir/1435

10.10.2018

To,

All Members of Plexconcil /COA Members

Dear Sir(s)

## Subject: Regarding Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations

This has reference to our earlier circular ref.no. Plexh/Qr/1148 dated 06.08.2018 (annexed below) regarding ongoing Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations. We wish to inform you that the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement is being discussed among 16 RCEP participating countries (RPCs) which includes Japan, Korea, China, India, Australia, New Zeeland and 10 ASEAN countries (Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam, Brunei and Philippines).

Further, the RCEP negotiations were started in 2012 with the objectives to achieve a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement among the ASEAN member States and ASEAN's FTA Partners (AFPs).

RCEP is by far the most comprehensive and far reaching FTA under negotiation by India with any trading partner(s). Given that all RCEP countries are from the East Asian/ Eastern region, it would enable India gain market access and plug into the regional value chains. RCEP can also be a means of attracting investment into the country, as trade and investment linkages are a major consideration for global investors. It would enable member exporters to compete in RCEP markets, where their competitors may be enjoying tariff preferences not currently available to India.

## In view of the above, we seek your inputs indicating the products/tariff lines with justification where you would like to seek concessions/reduction in the import duties in the RCEP countries on or before 13.10.2018 at <u>bharti@plexconcil.org</u>.

In addition to the above, please also furnish your inputs on our earlier circular referred above, where The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India, has provided us a list of tariff lines which need to be kept in the Exclusion List for imports from China and in the Exclusion List for imports from other countries along with other related Tariff Lines. You may download the excel file (<u>https://goo.gl/VwCErg</u>) and refer to the two sheets for review having RCEP review list number 1 with 410 Tariff Lines & RCEP review list number 2 having 26 Tariff Lines.

We request your urgent response in this regard

Sribash Dasmohapatra Executive Director .....Quote.....

Ref: Plexh/Cir/1148

Date: 06.08.2018

To,

All Members of Plexconcil /COA Members

Dear Sir(s)

## Subject: Regarding Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations

This is with reference to the ongoing Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations.

The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India, has provided us a list of tariff lines which need to be kept in the Exclusion List for imports from China and in the Exclusion List for imports from other countries along with other related Tariff Lines. You may download the excel file (<u>https://goo.gl/VwCErg</u>) and refer to the two sheets for review having RCEP review list number 1 with 410 Tariff Lines & RCEP review list number 2 having 26 Tariff Lines.

The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India has advised to further examine the sensitivity of these tariff lines depending upon existing production capacity and proposed future investments and other related data. In order to allow the domestic industry sufficient time to adjust to become competitive before reducing custom duty to 0%, you may consider various options of reduction of customs duty in a phased manner. The reduction in custom duty may start after some number of years and thereafter may be fully eliminated in next some number of years.

You are kindly requested to provide inputs on following:

- 1. Tariff line wise comments with the proposed staging with justification.
- 2. Regarding Rules of Origin, Industry may give their opinion as to which option out of CTH or Value Addition of 40% is beneficial to Indian industry.
- 3. Industry associations may also indicate the tariff lines on which they want to take aggressive position for getting free access to the RCEP countries.

Kindly forward your inputs by 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 to <u>bharti@plexconcil.org</u>

Yours sincerely,

Sribash Dasmohapatra

**Executive Director**