Ref: Plexh/Cir/1957

02.03.2019

All Members of Plexconcil/

Members of the COA

Dear Sir(s),

Subject : Regarding inputs on exports/import from Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) - 16 countries

This is in continuation of our earlier circular Ref: Plexh/Cir/1937 dated 22.02.2019, we wish to inform you that our council has represented the members concerns in Stakeholder’s Consultation meeting on Trade in Good’s Commitments under RCEP on 28.02.2019.

Said meeting was headed by Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor and Head, Centre for Regional Trade (CRT) which has been entrusted by Department of Commerce, Gol to undertake an independent assessment of India’s approach in the RCEP negotiations through stakeholders consultation across the country on tariff modalities. The meeting was also graced by senior officials from Government of Maharashtra and Addl DGFT Office, Mumbai. In this regard, Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor and Head, Centre for Regional Trade (CRT) has once again requested all the EPCs to please provide following inputs in the form of Questionnaire so that the same could be incorporated in their report to Department of Commerce:

Questionnaire :

1. Please specify the products (at HS 6/8-digit level) you export to the RCEP member-countries or expect to export in future.

2. What is the value of your exports to the RCEP memberer-countries and to the rest of the world?

3. Do you wish to get tariff reductions from the RCEP member-countries for your export products? If yes, then from which tariff level to what level and in which country?

4. Please specify the products (at HS 6/8-digit level) you import from the RCEP member-countries.

5. What is the value of your imports from the RCEP member-countries and from the rest of the world?

6. Your views on India’s tariffs vis-à-vis RCEP member-countries. Do you want any import duty reductions for your imports from the RCEP member-countries? What type of phasing out in the tariff schedule would you wish to see?
7. What is the production capacity of your item? If you have a surplus, are you exporting it to the RCEP member-countries? If you are having a deficit in production capacity, are you meeting it through imports from the RCEP member-countries?

8. Please provide a profile of your product/sector in the context of RCEP with projections for the next 20-30 years.
   - Whether you would be sufficiently producing to meet the domestic demand without importing from the RCEP member-countries, or would you be having a surplus production capacity so that you can enhance your exports to the RCEP member-countries?

9. Do you feel there is any presence of inverted duty structure?

10. Do you face any problem with respect to infringement of Rules of Origin?

11. Do you face any problem in meeting the Rules of Origin in exporting your products and acquiring the relevant Rules of Origin certification?

12. If you are facing any other issues relating to trade with the RCEP member-countries, please specify.

13. Do you face any Non-tariff barriers: SPS/TBT issues?

Considering the importance of RCEP, members are once again requested to provide inputs on above points (wherever applicable) so that the same could be submitted to the concern department for inclusion in their report to the Department of Commerce.

Your reply should reach to the undersigned at bharti@plexconcil.org on or before 05.03.2019.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Bharti Parave

(Sr. Executive)