# Summary of Union Budget 2020-21

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## **KEY CHANGES IN GOODS AND SERVICES TAX ACT 2017**

#### 1. Insertion in the definition of Union Territory

#### - Section 2(114) of CGST Act 2017

The definition of Union Territory is amended to replace/include the UTs of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu; and Ladakh. This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

*Our Comments:* This amendment was made to give effect to making Ladakh a Union Territory with effect from 31.10.2019 and making Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu as one Union Territory from 26th January 2020. Similar amendment has been carried out in the UTGST Act also.

#### 2. Amendment in the Composition Scheme

#### - Section 10(2) of CGST Act 2017

A composition dealer was not allowed to supply **goods** which are not leviable to tax under the GST law, was not allowed to engage in inter-state supplies of **goods** and was not allowed to supply **goods** through an e-commerce operator who collects tax at source. However, these restrictions did not cover supply of services and thereby a composition of dealer could supply services which are not leviable to tax, in the course of inter-state trade and also through e-commerce operator who collects tax at source. However, the amendment now restricts supply of these **services** as covered under clause (b), (c) and (d) of clause 2 of section 10(2).

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Qur Comments:** Initially the composition scheme u/s 10 of the CGST Act, 2017 was available only to certain class of persons supplying goods and w.r.t. services only for supply of food covered under entry 6(b) of Schedule II. Subsequently, these suppliers were made eligible to the scheme even if they made supply of services to the extent of 10% of turnover or Rs. 10 lakhs, whichever is higher. However, corresponding amendment in section 10 was not done to extend the above-mentioned restrictions to these services, which is now achieved by this amendment. This restriction would

not have any impact on the composition dealer who has supplied services as mentioned above before the amendment is in force.

#### 3. Time-limit for taking credit in case of Debit Notes

#### - Section 16(4) of CGST Act 2017

The time-limit for availing input tax credit in respect of debit note would now be dependent on the **date when such debit note is issued** rather than the date of the invoice in respect of which it is issued.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

#### For Example -

If an invoice is issued, say during Feb '19 and a debit note pertaining to such invoice is issued during Sep '19 then, prior to this amendment, the last date for taking credit in respect of this debit note would have been the due date of filing Form GSTR-3B for the month of September, 2019.

However, post this amendment, the last date for taking such credit would be the due date of Form GSTR-3B for the month of **September 2020** as the debit note was issued in the FY 2019-20.

*Our Comments:* This is a welcome move as the time available for availing credit w.r.t. debit notes is effectively increased.

#### 4. Cancellation / Suspension of registration

#### - Section 29(1) of CGST Act 2017.

The registration w.r.t. persons who have taken voluntary registration under GST (i.e. registration taken by a person even when not liable to register under the Act) can now be cancelled by the proper office, either on his own motion or an application filed by such person.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** This amendment will enable the persons who have taken voluntary registration to apply for cancellation in case such person wishes to opt out and also gives power to the proper officer to cancel on his own motion. This facility was not

available earlier as section 29 carved out an exception for such persons who had taken voluntary registration.

#### 5. Powers to extend the time for Revocation of cancellation of registration

#### - Section 30 of CGST Act 2017

By virtue of section 30(1) any person whose registration is cancelled by the proper officer on his own motion may apply for revocation of cancellation of such registration within 30 days of service of cancellation order.

This time limit can **now** be further extended on sufficient cause being shown, and for reasons to be recorded in writing, by

- (a) Additional Commissioner or the Joint Commissioner for a period not exceeding 30 days:
- (b) Commissioner for a **further** period not exceeding 30 days, beyond (a).

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** Earlier the taxpayers were allowed a time-limit of 30 days to apply for revocation of the cancellation of registration. With the amendment, this time limit is further extendable to another 60 days on sufficient cause and reasons recoded in writing. The amendment provides that the proviso to section 30(1) is substituted however there was no proviso earlier and hence this seems to be a drafting error.

## 6. Power to Specify category of service or supplies for which tax invoice shall be issued

#### -Section 31of CGST Act 2017.

This amendment provides power to the Government, on the recommendations of the Council, to specify category of services or supplies in respect of which a tax invoice **shall** be issued, with in such time and such manner as may be prescribed.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** The existing provision only allows the Government to specify supplies in respect of which

a. any other document can be issued which would be deemed as tax invoice, or

b. no tax invoice may be issued. However, no provision allowed to notify categories of supplies in respect of which it can prescribe issuance of an invoice.

The above amendment will enable the Government to notify category of services/ supplies where issuance of a tax invoice can be mandated within such time and manner as may be prescribed.

#### 7. Powers to notify the form of TDS certificate

#### - Section 51 of CGST Act 2017

The provision relating to TDS under GST has been amended to provide that the TDS certificate will have to be issued in the form and manner as may be prescribed. Further, the late fee applicable for non-issuance of certificate by the deductor has been removed.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

*Our Comments:* The late fee of Rs. 200 per day on the deductor for non-furnishing of the TDS certificate to the deductee has been removed.

#### 8. Constitution of Appellate Tribunal in Jammu and Kashmir

#### - Section 109 of CGST Act 2017

The State Governments were required to notify an area bench for appellate Tribunal. However, an exception to this was carved out earlier for the State of Jammu and Kashmir, which has now been removed.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

*Our Comments:* As a result of the above amendment Jammu and Kashmir shall be able to constitute its own Bench of Appellate Tribunal.

#### 9. Penalty / punishment for certain offences

#### - Section 122, 132 of CGST Act 2017

<u>Section122</u> - Any person who **retains the benefit and** at whose order or instance, the following transactions are undertaken **would also** be liable to a penalty of an amount equivalent to the tax evaded or input tax credit availed of or passed on.

- a. Supply of any goods or services or both without issue of any invoice or issue of an incorrect or false invoice;
- b. Issuing any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder;
- c. Taking or utilising input tax credit without actual receipt of goods or services or both either fully or partially, in contravention of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder;
- d. Taking or distributing input tax credit in contravention of section 20 (Input service distributor), or the rules made thereunder;

Amendment to section 132–The punishment of imprisonment mentioned in section 132 would also extend to the person who **causes to commit and retain the benefits** arising out of any of the offences mentioned u/s 132(1).

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** The intention behind this amendment is to **also penalise/ punish** (including the person who has contravened), the persons who have benefited from the specified contravention **and** at whose instance the specified contravention is undertaken.

Earlier the penalty / punishment was only for the person who committed such offence while now this is being extended to the other person who is also involved in such activity.

However, it is to be noted that collusion and benefit from contravention are a necessity to attract these provisions and it cannot be applied to cases where there has been a genuine error or mistake or omission.

Further the offence of **fraudulent** availment of credit without invoice or bill would now be cognizable and non-bailable.

#### 10. Retrospective amendment in provisions relating to TRAN- credit.

- Section 140 of CGST Act 2017.

The provisions relating to transitional credit u/s 140 are amended w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> Jul '17 to enable prescription of the time and manner in which the transition credit eligible under such provision can be taken.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** The above amendments are made to nullify the effect of the judgment given in the case of Siddhartha Enterprises by the Hon'ble Gujrat High court wherein it was held that the Rules that prescribe the time limit to avail the transitional credit cannot override the Act.

#### 11. Board Approval not required in a few cases

#### - Section 168 of CGST Act 2017

Section 168 of the CGST Act has been amended to enable the Commissioner to issue instructions or directions relating to the expense in case of special audit u/s 66 and extension of time limit in the case of inputs and capital goods sent for job work u/s 143, without requiring the Board approval.

*Our Comments:* This would enable the Commissioner to issue directions for the above-mentioned purposes without having to approach the Board for approval.

#### 12. Extension of time limit for passing removal of Difficulty orders.

#### -Section 172 of CGST Act 2017.

As per section 172 the removal of difficulty orders (RoD) can be issued only up to 3 years from the implementation of GST i.e. up to 30.06.2020. This has been extended to another 2 years whereby the RoDs can be issued up to 30.06.2022.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** This would be a welcome move for the reason that the GST law has not stabilised and hence any amendments required or any extensions required can be done by these RoDs which will then be placed before each House of the Parliament. Similar amendment has been done in the IGST Act and the UTGST Acts.

#### 13. Retrospective change to scope of certain Schedule II entries

#### -Schedule II to CGST Act 2017.

The clause 4 of Schedule II which provided that transfer of business asset would be treated as goods or services also included transfers where no consideration was

involved. However, the same has now been removed <u>w.e.f. 01-Jul-2017</u>. Now clause 4 of Schedule II only includes transfer of business assets done for a consideration.

This amendment would be effective from a future notified date.

**Our Comments:** This was a defect where the levy failed as there was no consideration involved however Schedule II was deeming it to be a supply till 31.01.2019. However, this defect has been corrected now.

#### 14. Retrospective provision on rates and exemption

#### -Schedule 9(1) to CGST Act 2017 r/w Notifications

The Government has provided a retrospective amendment on the supply of fishmeal (covered by heading 2301) during the period 01-July-2017 to 30-Sep-2019 (both days inclusive).

Further, reduced rate of 12% has been prescribed retrospectively in respect of supply of pulley, wheels and other parts (falling under 8483) and used as parts of agricultural machinery (falling under 8432, 8433 and 8436), during the period 01-July-2017 to 31-Dec-2018(both days inclusive).

However, under both these benefits, refund of tax which has already been collected would not be available.

This amendment would be effective from the date of passing of the bill and assent of the President.

*Our Comments:* This is a welcome amendment which has provided relief to the ones who has not paid the tax then.

#### 15. Retrospective restriction on claiming refund under inverted duty

#### -Schedule 54(3)(ii) to CGST Act 2017

The Government has retrospectively restricted the supplier of tobacco products from claiming refund under inverted duty structure w.e.f. 01-Jul-2017.

This amendment would be effective from the date of passing of the bill and assent of the President.

**Our Comments:** This would increase the cost of manufacture as there would be ITC accumulation which though lying in the e-credit ledger would not be practically fully

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utilised with output turnover unless there are other supplies under the same registration.
All retrospective amendment which lead to a benefit being denied may see challenge at the Courts.

#### **KEY CUSTOMS NON-TARIFF CHANGES**

#### 1. Inclusion of "any other goods" under section 11 (2) (f) of Customs Act.

In section 11 of the Customs Act, 1962 (hereinafter referred to as the Customs Act), in sub-section (2), in clause (f), for the words "gold or silver", the words "gold, silver or any other goods" shall be substituted

**Our Comments:** Prior to amendment the prohibition of uncontrolled import or export of goods to prevent injury to the economy of the country was restricted only to gold or silver by the above amendment, such powers have extended to "any other goods".

## 2. To define cut-off date for governing the notices issued prior to finance act 2018

In section 28 of the Customs Act, for Explanation4, the following Explanation shall be substituted and shall be deemed to have been substituted with effect from the 29th day of March, 2018, namely: — "Explanation 4. —

For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any judgment, decree or order of the Appellate Tribunal or any Court or in any other provision of this Act or the rules or regulations made thereunder, or in any other law for the time being in force, in cases where notice has been issued for non-levy, short-levy, non-payment, short-payment or erroneous refund, prior to the 29th day of March, 2018, being the date of commencement of the Finance Act, 2018, such notice shall continue to be governed by the provisions of section 28 as it stood immediately before such date."

**Our Comments:** Prior to the amendment the explanation provided the time limit of governance of the notices issued prior to Finance Bill 2018 till the date of receipt of assent from the president. By this retrospective amendment, they have inserted the certain date of receipt of assent from President i.e. 29th March 2018 as the cut off date.

## 3. Widening the powers of recovery under section 28AAA of the Customs Act.

In section 28AAA of the Customs Act, in sub-section (1), --

- (a) for the words "by such person", the words "or any other law, or any scheme of the Central Government, for the time being in force, by such person" shall be substituted;
- (b) after the words "the rules", the words "or regulations" shall be inserted;
- (c) in Explanation 1, for the words "with respect to", the words, figures and letter "or duty credit issued under section 51B, with respect to" shall be substituted.

*Our Comments:* Prior to amendment the recovery power was limited only to the instruments which means i.e. Scrips, authorisation or licence or certificate or such other document issued under FT(D&R) Act or customs Act. By virtue of this amendment, the meaning of term "instrument" has been extended to include duty credit issued under the newly inserted section  $51B^1$  of Customs Act, 1962 and powers has extended to initiate recovery proceedings on instruments obtained under any other law or any scheme of the central government for time being in force and utilized under provisions of this act or rules or **regulations** made or notification issued thereunder.

#### 4. Insertion of new section 28DA of Customs Act

A new chapter VAA (a new section 28DA) is being incorporated in the Customs Act, 1962 to provide enabling provision for administering the preferential tariff treatment regime under trade agreements and to specifically provide for certain obligations on importer and prescribed for time bound verification from exporting country in case of doubt.

*Our Comments:* Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has pronounced" It has been observed that imports under Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) are on the rise. Undue claims of FTA benefits have posed threat to domestic industry. Such

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Amendment related insertion of section 51B of Customs Act has been covered separately in this document

imports require stringent checks. In this context, suitable provisions are being incorporated in the Customs Act. In the coming months we shall review Rules of Origin requirements, particularly for certain sensitive items, so as ensure that FTAs are aligned to the conscious direction of our policy".

By virtue of this amendment a new chapter VA "ADMINISTRATIONOF RULES OF ORIGIN UNDER TRADE AGREEMENT" has been inserted in order to provide the procedure regarding claim of preferential rate of duty on goods imported under a trade agreement entered between the Government of India and the Government of a foreign country or territory or economic union.

#### 5. Amendment to include electronic duty credit ledger for payment of duty

In Chapter VIIA of the Customs Act, in the heading, after the word "LEDGER", the words "AND ELECTRONIC DUTY CREDIT LEDGER" shall be inserted.

**Our Comments:** Chapter VIIA discusses about amount available in the electronic cash ledger which may be used for making any payment towards duty, interest, penalty, fees or any other sum payable under the provisions of this Act or under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 or under any other law. Prior to amendment the payable was only through electronic cash ledger by virtue of this amendment read with newly inserted section 51B of Customs Act, the payment facility has been extended through electronic duty credit ledger also.

#### 6. Ledger for duty credit - Insertion of section 51B in Customs Act

*Our Comments:* A new section 51B has been inserted for enabling the law to issue duty credit in lieu of remission of duty tax/or levy and to provide any financial benefit subject to conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed. Further it provides the manner of maintaining in a customs automated system in the form of electronic credit ledger of the person to whom it is issued or to whom it is been transferred towards making payment of duties under customs act and customs tariff act in such manner subject conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed.

#### 7. Amendment to section 111 of Customs Act

In section 111 of the Customs Act, after clause (p), the following clause shall be inserted, namely: –

"(q) any goods imported on a claim of preferential rate of duty which contravenes any provision of Chapter VAA or any rule made thereunder.".

**Qur Comments:** By virtue of this amendment any contravention made under newly inserted section 28DA Procedure regarding claim of preferential rate of duty would make such improperly imported goods liable for confiscation u/s 111 (q) of Customs Act 1962 under the category of smuggling.

#### 8. Amendment to section 156 of Custom Act

In section 156 of the Customs Act, in sub-section (2), after clause (h), the following clause shall be inserted, namely: —

"(i) the form, time limit, manner, circumstances, conditions, restrictions and such other matters for carrying out the provisions of Chapter VAA".

*Our Comments:* The inserted provision enables the Government to make rules in relation to procedure regarding claim of preferential rate of duty.

#### 9. Amendment to section 157 of Customs Act

In section 157 of the Customs Act, in sub-section (2), after clause (j), the following clause shall be inserted, namely: –

"(ja) the manner of maintaining electronic duty credit ledger, making payment from such ledger, transfer of duty credit from ledger of one person to the ledger of another and the conditions, restrictions and time limit relating thereto;".

*Our Comments:* The inserted provision enables the customs act to make regulations regarding the manner of maintenance and utilization conditions for electronic duty credit ledger.

#### 10. Levy of health cess on imported medical devices

By virtue of section 139 of Finance Bill 2020 the Government has proposed to impose Health Cess at the rate of 5% is proposed to be imposed on the import of medical devices.

<u>Our Comments:</u> This Health Cess shall be a duty of Customs. Health Cess shall not apply to medical devices which are exempt from BCD. Further, inputs/parts used in the manufacture of medical devices shall also be exempt from Health Cess. The proceeds of Health Cess shall be used for financing the health infrastructure and services.

#### 11. Power of Central Government to apply safeguard measures

Section 8B of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, which provided for imposition of safeguard duty as a trade remedy against surge in imports of a commodity

**Our Comments:** It is being amended to make provisions for application of other safeguard measures such as Tariff Rate Quota and other safeguard measure as the Central Government may deem necessary to protect the domestic industry from injury due to significant surge in imports.

#### 12. Proposed additional benefits to exporters

In Budget speech the Hon'ble finance minister has proposed to provide the following additional benefits for exporters:

a. To digitally refund to exporters, duties and taxes levied at the Central, State and local levels, such as electricity duties and VAT on fuel used for transportation, which are not getting exempted or refunded under any other existing mechanism.

**b.** To achieve higher export credit disbursement, a new scheme, NIRVIK is being launched, which provides for higher insurance coverage, reduction in premium for small exporters and simplified procedure for claim settlements.

**Our Comments:** The above benefits are being part of the budget speech. However, there are no suitable provisions inserted in Finance Bill 2020

The Government have to notify the Foreign Trade Policy for upcoming five years, it is expected that the aforementioned benefits may form part of the policy.

#### 13. Miscellaneous amendments

Changes are being made in the Rules to strengthen the anti-circumvention measures by making them more comprehensive and wider in scope to take care of all types of circumventions of antidumping duty in line with best international practice. Certain other changes are being made in these Rules for bringing clarity in the scope of these rules.

At present, there is no provision for investigation in case of circumvention of countervailing duties. A provision is being incorporated in the Countervailing Duty Rules to enable investigation into case of circumvention of countervailing duty for enabling imposition of such duty.

## **KEY CHANGES IN CUSTOMS RATE AND CESS**

#### 1. Amendment in Custom Tariff Act - 1985

S. No.	Notification	n No.		Description
	01/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
1.	February 2020			50/2017-Customs dated 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2017 so as to
				prescribe effective rate of Basic Customs Duty
				(BCD)
	02/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
2.	February 2020			57/2017-Customs, dated the 30th June, 2017
				so as to change the applicable BCD rate on
				specified parts of Cellular Mobile Phones.
	03/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
3.	February 2020			19/2019-Customs dated the 6th July, 2019 so
				as to extend the exemption from BCD and IGST
				on specified military equipment, if imported by
				DPSUs and PSUs for the defence forces.
	04/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
4.	February 2020			148/1994-Customs dated the 13th July, 1994 to
				exempt wool, woollen fabrics and apparels
				received as gifts by the Indian Red Cross
				Society.
	05/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to amend notification No. 25/99-Customs
5.	February 2020			dated 28th February, 1999 so as to withdraw
				BCD exemption on Gold used in manufacture of
				semi-conductor devices or light emitting diode
				and to provide exemption to specified parts for
				use in manufacture of fuses and connectors.
	06/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
6.	February 2020			24/2005-Customs, dated the 1st March, 2005
				so as to exclude copper and articles thereof
				from the exemption provided to raw materials

				use for manufacturing of ITA goods specified
				therein the notification.
	07/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
7.	February 2020			25/2005-Customs, dated the 1st March, 2005
				so as to exclude copper and articles thereof
				from the exemption provided to raw materials
				use for manufacturing of ITA goods specified
				therein the notification.
	10/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notifications mentioned
8	February 2020			in the Column (2) of the Table of the notification
				No. 10/2020-Customs, dated the 2nd February,
				2020 so as to align the notification mentioned
				in Column (2) with the new tariff lines created
				as per Finance Bill, 2020.
	11/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to further amend notification No.
9	February 2020			82/2017-Customs dated the 27th October,
				2017 so as to omit a redundant entry at S. No.
				31A.
	12/2020-Customs,	dated	2nd	Seeks to rescind certain customs notifications
10	February 2020			which have become redundant or entries in
				these notifications are being merged with other
				similar notifications granting exemptions.

#### **Our Comments:**

With effect from 02/02/2020 the rate of applicable customs duty for notified goods<sup>2</sup> has been amended as follows:

Sl.	Category of	Specific items	Rate of Duty	
No	goods	<u>-</u>	From	То
1.	Household	Tableware and kitchenware of porcelain or china,	10%/	20%

 $<sup>^2</sup>$ The list of goods provided in the summary updates is not exhaustive, hence it is suggested to go through the above referred notification for obtaining complete list.

	goods and	ceramic, clay, iron, steel, copper and aluminium,	15%	
	appliances	glassware, padlocks,		
		brooms, hand-sieves, combs, vacuum flasks, etc.		
2.	Electrical	Fans, food grinders/mixers, shavers and hair removing	10%	20%
	Appliances	appliances, water heaters, hair/hand drying apparatus,		
		ovens, cookers, toasters, coffee/ tea makers, insect		
		repellents,		
		heaters, irons, etc.		
3.	Footwear	a. Footwear	25%	35%
		b. Parts of footwear	15%	20%
4.	Furniture	Seats, articles of bedding including mattresses, lamps,	20%	25%
	goods	lighting, illuminated signs, and other articles of furniture		
5.	Stationery	Filing cabinets, paper trays, binders, clips, staples, sign-	10%	20%
	items	plates, name plates, numbers and symbols etc. made from		
		base metal		
6.	Toys	Tricycles, scooters, scale models, dolls, etc.	20%	60%
7.	Machinery	a. Specified goods used in high voltage power	5%	7.5%
		transmission project		
		b. Railway carriage fans	7.5%	10%
		c. Compressors of refrigerators and air conditioners	10%	12.5%
		d. Commercial freezers	7.5%	15%
		e. Welding and plasma cutting machine	7.5%	10%
		f. Rotary tillers/weeder	2.5%	7.5%
8.	Other	a. Glass beads	10%	20%
	miscellaneou	b. Artificial flowers		
	s items	c. Bells, gongs, statuettes, trophies and like, statuettes,		
		ornaments, photograph, frames, mirrors etc. of base		
		metal.		
a.	Changes in cu	stoms duty under Phased Manufacturing Programme	Rate of	Duty
	for Electric Vo	ehicles	From	То
1.	Completely Bu	25%	40%	
2.	Semi Knocked	Down (SKD) units of bus, trucks and two wheelers (with	15%	25%
	effect from 01.	04.2020)		
3.	Semi Knocked	Down (SKD) units of passenger vehicles and three	15%	30%
	wheelers (with			

	effect from 01.04.2020)		
4.	Completely Knocked Down (CKD) units of passenger vehicles, three wheelers, two wheelers, bus and trucks (with effect from 01.04.2020)	10%	15%
b.	Changes in customs duty under Phased Manufacturing Programme for	 r Cellular	Mobile
	Phones		Nobile
1.		10%	20%
	Phones	T	

Sl.	Category of			of duty
No.	Inputs/Raw	Specific Items	From	То
	materials			
1.	Fuels,	Very low sulphur fuel oil meeting ISO 8217:2017 RMG380	10%	Nil
	Chemicals	Viscosity in 220-400 CST standards/Marine Fuel 0.5% (FO)		
	and Plastics	Calcined Petroleum Coke	10%	7.5%
		Calendared plastic sheets used in manufacturing of smart	10%	5%
		cards		
		Polyester Liquid Crystal Polymers for use in manufacture of	7.5%	Nil
		connectors		
2.	Precious	Platinum or Palladium used in manufacture of:	12.5%	7.5%
	Metals	a) Colloidal precious metals, inorganic or organic		
		compounds of precious metal, amalgams of precious		
		metals		
		b) Catalyst with precious metal or precious metal		
		compounds		
		as the active substance		
		Spent Catalyst or Ash containing precious metal, subject to	12.5%	11.85%
		specified conditions		
3.	Machinery	Following parts of Microphone for use in manufacture of	10%	Nil
	and	Microphone namely,		
	Electronic	a) microphone cartridge		
	Goods	b) microphone holder		
		c) microphone grill		
		d) microphone body		

4.	Sports Goods	Willow is being included in the list of items allowed duty		Nil
		free import up to 3% of FOB value of sports goods exported		
		in the preceding financial year	Rate	
5.	Newsprint	Newsprint, when imported by importer registered with	10%	5%
		Registrar of Newspapers, India.		

Sl.	Category of	Specific Items	Rate of Duty	
No	Goods			То
1.	Food	Walnuts, shelled	30%	100%
	processing			
2.	Chemicals	Colloidal precious metals, inorganic or organic	7.5%	10%
	and Plastics	compounds of		
		precious metal, amalgams of precious metals		
		Butyl Acrylate	5%	7.5%
		Other prepared binders for foundry moulds or cores;	10%	17.5%
		Chemical		
		products and preparations of the chemical or allied		
		industries		
3.	Auto and	Catalytic converter	10%	15%
	auto parts	Noble metal solutions and noble metal compounds used	5%	10%
		in manufacture of catalytic converter and its parts		
		Completely Built Units (CBUs) of commercial vehicles	30%	40%
		(other than electric vehicles)		
		(with effect from 01.04.2020)		
4	Coin	Coin (other than gold coin), not being legal tender	10%	12.5%

## 2. Exemption from Social Welfare Surcharge (SWS) on various items and withdrawal of exemption in certain cases

Social welfare surcharge is being exempted on the following goods:

S No	HS Code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	0404 10 10	Whey, Concentrated, evaporated or condensed, liquid or semi solid
2	0406 90 00	Cheese, Other
3	0601, 0602	Bulbs or tubers, other live plants

4	0802 12 00	Almonds, Shelled
5	0802 31 00	Walnuts in shell
6	0802 32 00	Walnuts, shelled
7	1001 11 00, 1001 91	Wheat and Meslin
	00, 1001 99 20	
8	1005 90	Maize
9	1704 10 00	Chewing gum, whether or not sugar coated
10	1901 10	Preparations suitable for infant or young children, put up for retail
		sale.
11	2009 11 00	Orange juice, Frozen
12	2009 12 00	Orange juice, not frozen, or a Brix value not exceeding 20
13	2009 19 00	Orange Juice, other
14	2515 12 20	Marble and travertine slabs
15	6802 10 00	Tiles, cubes and similar articles, whether or not rectangular
		(including square), the largest surface area of which is capable of
		being enclosed in a square in the side of which is less than 7cm;
		artificially coloured granules, chippings and powder, other
		monumental or building stone and articles thereof, simply cut sawn
		with a flat even surface
16	6802 21 10	Marble Blocks/tiles
17	6802 21 20	Marble monumental stone
18	6802 21 90	Other tiles, cubes and similar articles
19	6802 91 00	Marble, travertine and alabaster
20	9802 92 00	Other calcareous stone
21	8702 or 8704	All commercial vehicles (including electrical vehicles) if imported as
		completely built unit (CBU)
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#### Sl. No. 21 ibid will be exempt from levy of SWS w.e.f. 1st April 2020.

Further, exemption from Social Welfare Surcharge which was available on certain items falling under chapter 84, 85 and 90 has been withdrawn. Refer Notification no. 09/2020 – Customs dated  $2^{nd}$  February 2020.