**Council for Leather Exports**

**FOREIGN TRADE POLICY 2015-20**

**DETAILED HIGHLIGHTS**

**The new Foreign Trade Policy and Procedures will come into effect from 1st April 2015.**

**1. Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)**

1.1 Earlier there were different schemes (Focus Product Scheme, Market Linked Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme etc.,) under Chapter 3 of Foreign Trade Policy for rewarding merchandise exports **(including notified leather products and footwear)** with different kinds of duty scrips with varying conditions (sector specific or actual user only) attached to their use. **Now all these schemes have been merged into a single scheme, namely Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) and there would be no conditionality attached to the scrips issued under the scheme.**

1.2 The main features of MEIS, including details of various groups of products supported under MEIS and the country groupings are given below.

* The basis of calculation of reward would be on realised FOB value of exports in free foreign exchange, or on FOB value of exports as given in the Shipping Bills in free foreign exchange, whichever is less, unless otherwise specified.
* MEIS Scheme benefit is also extended to units located in SEZs also.
* **All scrips issued under MEIS and the goods imported against these scrips would be fully transferable** and usable for payment of custom duty (of inputs/goods including capital goods), excise duty (for domestic procurement of inputs or goods, including capital goods as per Dept. Of Revenue Notification) and service tax. Basic Customs Duty paid in cash or through debit under Duty Credit Scrip can be taken back as Duty Drawback as per DoR Rules, if inputs so imported are used for exports.
* **Entitlement under MEIS :** Exports of notified goods/products with ITC[HS] code, to notified markets as listed in Appendix 3B, shall be rewarded under MEIS. Appendix 3B also lists the rate(s) of rewards on various notified products [ITC (HS) code wise].
* **Export of goods through courier or foreign post offices using e-Commerce :**  Exports of goods through courier or foreign post office using e-commerce, as notified in Appendix 3C **(Leather Footwear is one of the eligible item notified in Appendix 3 C),** of FOB value upto Rs. 25000/- per consignment shall be entitled for rewards under MEIS. If the value of exports using e-commerce platform is more than Rs 25000/- per consignment then MEIS reward would be limited to FOB value of Rs.25000/- only. Such goods can be exported in manual mode through Foreign Post Offices at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai. Export of such goods under Courier Regulations shall be allowed manually on pilot basis through Airports at Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai as per appropriate amendments in regulations to be made by Department of Revenue. Department of Revenue shall fast track the implementation of EDI mode at courier terminals. Application for availing this scheme should be filed in ANF 3D form.
* **Ineligible categories under MEIS**

The following exports categories /sectors shall be ineligible for Duty Credit Scrip entitlement under MEIS

(i) EOUs / EHTPs / BTPs/ STPs who are availing direct tax benefits / exemption.

(ii) Supplies made from DTA units to SEZ units

(iii) Export of imported goods covered under paragraph 2.46 of FTP;

(iv) Exports through trans-shipment, meaning thereby exports that are originating in third country but trans-shipped through India;

(v) Deemed Exports;

(vi) SEZ/EOU/EHTP/BPT/FTWZ products exported through DTA units;

(vii) Items, which are restricted or prohibited for export under Schedule-2 of Export Policy in ITC (HS), unless specifically notified in Appendix 3B.

(viii)Service Export.

(ix) Red sanders and beach sand.

(x) Export products which are subject to Minimum export price or export duty.

(xi) Diamond Gold, Silver, Platinum, other precious metal in any form including plain and studded jewellery and other precious and semi-precious stones. 60

(xii) Ores and concentrates of all types and in all formations.

(xiii) Cereals of all types.

(xiv) Sugar of all types and all forms.

(xv) Crude / petroleum oil and crude / primary and base products of all types and all

formulations.

(xvi) Export of milk and milk products.

(xvii)Export of Meat and Meat Products.

(xviii)Products wherein precious metal/diamond are used or Articles which are studded with precious stones.

(xix) Exports made by units in FTWZ.

**Appendix 3B MEIS Schedule**

**Table 1-List of Countries under Country Group A, Country Group B and Country Group C**

**I-Country Group A (30 countries)**

(1) Austria, (2) Belgium, (3) Bulgaria, (4) Canada, (5) Croatia, (6) Cyprus, (7) Czech Republic, (8) Denmark, (9) Estonia, (10) Finland, (11) France, (12) Germany, (13) Greece, (14) Hungary, (15) Ireland, (16) Italy, (17) Latvia, (18) Lithuania, (19) Luxembourg, (20) Malta, (21) Netherlands, (22) Poland, (23) Portugal, (24) Romania, (25) Slovak Republic, (26) Slovenia, (27) Spain, (28) Sweden, (29) United Kingdom, (30) United States of America

**II-Country Group B (Emerging and Focus Markets – 139 countries)**

1. Algeria, (2) Angola, (3) Antigua, (4) Argentina, (5) Armenia, (6) Azerbaijan, (7) Bahamas, (8) Bahrain , (9) Barbados, (10) Belarus, (11) Belize, (12) Benin, (13) Bermuda, (14) Bolivia, (15) Botswana, (16) British Virgin Islands, (17) Brazil, (18) Brunei, (19) Burkina Faso, (20) Burundi, (21) Central African Republic, (22) Cambodia, (23) Cameroon, (24) Canary Island, (25) Cape Verde Island, (26) Cayman Island, (27) Chad, (28) Chile, (29) China PRP, (30) Colombia, (31) Comoros, (32) Congo Democratic Republic, (33) Congo Republic, (34) Costa Rica, (35) Cote D' Ivoire, (36) Cuba, (37) Djibouti, (38) Dominic Rep, (39) Dominica, (40) Ecuador, (41) Egypt , (42) El Salvador, (43) Equatorial Guinea, (44) Ethiopia, (45) Falkland Island, (46) French Guiana, (47) Gabon, (48) Gambia, (49) Georgia, (50) Ghana, (51) Grenada, (52) Guadeloupe, (53) Guatemala, (54) Guinea, (55) Guinea Bissau, (56) Guyana, (57) Haiti, (58) Honduras, (59) Indonesia, (60) Iran, (61) Iraq, (62) Israel, (63) Jamaica, (64) Japan, (65) Jordan, (66) Kazakhstan, (67) Kenya, (68) Korea Republic (South Korea), (69) Kuwait, (70) Kyrgyzstan, (71) Lao PDR, (72) Lebanon, (73) Lesotho, (74) Liberia, (75) Libya, (76) Madagascar, (77) Malawi, (78) Malaysia, (79) Mali, (80) Martinique, (81) Mauritania, (82) Mauritius, (83) Mexico, (84) Moldova, (85) Montserrat, (86) Morocco, (87) Mozambique, (88) Myanmar, (89) Namibia, (90) Netherland Antilles, (91) Nicaragua, (92) Niger, (93) Nigeria, (94) Oman, (95) Panama Republic, (96) Paraguay, (97) Peru, (98) Philippines, (99) Qatar, (100) Reunion, (101) Russia, (102) Rwanda, (103) Sao Tome, (104) Saudi Arab, (105) Senegal, (106) Seychelles, (107) Sierra Leone, (108) Singapore, (109) Somalia, (110) South Africa, (111) St Helena, (112) St Kitt N A, (113) St Lucia, (114) St Vincent, (115) Sudan, (116) Suriname, (117) Swaziland, (118) Syria, (119) Taiwan, (120) Tajikistan, (121) Tanzania Republic, (122) Thailand, (123) Togo, (124) Trinidad, (125) Tunisia, (126) Turkey, (127) Turkmenistan, (128) Turks and Caicos Islands, (129) United Arab Emirates, (130) Uganda, (131) Ukraine, (132) Uruguay, (133) Uzbekistan, (134) Venezuela, (135) Vietnam Socialist Republic, (136) Virgin Island US, (137) Yemen Republic, (138) Zambia, (139) Zimbabwe.

**III-Country Group C (Other markets – 70 countries)**

1. (1) Afghanistan, (2) Albania, (3) American Samoa, (4) Andorra, (5) Anguilla, (6) Antarctica, (7) Aruba, (8) Australia, (9) Bangladesh, (10) Bhutan, (11) Bosnia and Herzegovina, (12) Channel Islands, (13) Christmas Islands, (14) Cocos Islands, (15) Cook Islands, (16) Eritrea, (17) Faroe Islands, (18) Fiji Island, (19) French Polynesia, (20) French Southern and Antarctic Lands (Fr S Ant Tr), (21) Gibraltar, (22) Greenland, (23) Guam, (24) Heard Macdonald, (25) Hong Kong, (26) Iceland, (27) Kiribati Rep, (28) Korea DPR (North Korea), (29) Liechtenstein, (30) Macao, (31) Macedonia, (32) Maldives, (33) Marshall Islands, (34) Micronesia, (35) Monaco, (36) Mongolia, (37) Montenegro, (38) N. Mariana Islands, (39) Nauru Republic, (40) Nepal, (41) Neutral Zone, (42) New Caledonia, (43) New Zealand, (44) Niue Islands, (45) Norfolk Islands, (46) Norway, (47) Pacific Islands, (48) Pakistan (49) Palau, (50) Panama, (51) Papua New Guyana, (52) Pitcairn Islands, (53) Puerto Rico, (54) SaharwiA.Dm Republic, (55) Samoa, (56) San Marino, (57) Serbia, (58) Solomon Island, (59) Sri Lanka DSR, (60) St Pierre, (61) Switzerland, (62) Timor Leste, (63) Tokelau Islands, (64) Tonga, (65) Tuvalu, (66) Serbia (67) Montenegro, (68)Vanuatu Republic, (69) Territory of the Wallis and Futuna Islands (70) Any other country not listed in the Country Groups A or B will be treated as part of Country Group C

**List of eligible products under MEIS (leather, leather products and footwear)**

* Details enclosed as a separate attachment (PDF file)

Application for availing MEIS should be filed in ANF 3A form.

**Common Provisions for Exports from India Schemes (MEIS and SEIS) : Proof of Landing**

(a) Wherever the reward under MEIS is available to all countries, proof of landing shall not be required to be submitted for claiming the reward

(b) Uploading/submission of documents, as a proof of landing:

As a measure of ease of doing business, documents as a proof of landing of export consignment in notified market can be digitally uploaded in the following manner:-

(i) Any exporter may upload the scanned copy of document as mentioned at paragraph 3.03 (c) (i) under his digital signature.

(ii) Status holders falling in the category of Three Star, Four Star or Five Star export house category may upload scanned copies of documents as mentioned at paragraph 3.03(c) (iv).

(iii) In all other cases the physical copy, in original, shall be filed by all categories of exporters.

(c) Applicant shall be required to submit or upload, as the case may be, any one of the following documents as a proof of landing of export consignment in notified Market:

(i) A self attested copy of import bill of entry filed by importer in specified market, or

(ii) Delivery order issued by port authorities, or

(iii) Arrival notice issued by goods carrier, or

(iv) Tracking report from the goods carrier (Shipping Line/Airline etc. or his accredited agent in India) duly certified by them, evidencing arrival of export cargo to destination Market, or

(v) For Land locked notified Market, Rail/Lorry receipts of transportation of goods from Port to Land locked notified Market,

(vi) Any other document that may satisfactorily prove to RA concerned that goods have landed in / reached the notified Market.

(d) In case of (iv) and (vi) above, the accredited agent of the Goods Carrier must certify that he is the accredited agent of the concerned Goods Carrier on the date of issuance of the tracking report / document.

(e) Further, in the case of issuance of any other document under (vi) above, the accredited agent must state that proof of landing of goods in relevant notified Market is given based on information available in the Goods Carrier’s backup database and he has verified the same and issued this document accordingly.

(f) In cases of exports using e commerce, exporter may submit express operator landing certificate/online web tracking print out indicating airway bill number as prescribed in enclosure (B) to ANF 3D.

**Common Procedural features applicable to MEIS and SEIS, unless specifically provided for:**

**Transitional Arrangement**

(a) For the goods exported or services rendered upto the date of notification of current Foreign Trade Policy, which were otherwise eligible for issuance of scrip under erstwhile chapter 3 of the earlier Foreign Trade Policy(ies) and scrip is applied on or after the date of notification of current Foreign Trade Policy against such export of goods or services rendered, the application shall be made to Jurisdictional RA in the form with documents as prescribed in the HBP v I 2009-2014.

(b) Upto 30th June 2015, applicants in respect of exports on which FPS/MLFPS/FMS/VKGUY/SFIS are claimed, shall have a choice to file applications in the manner prescribed in the previous policy(ies) or in the manner given in paragraph 3.01 or paragraph 3.04, as applicable, of HBP 2015-20. From 1st July 2015, all such applications shall be submitted in the manner given in paragraph 3.01 or paragraph 3.04, as applicable, of HBP 2015-20 only.

(c) Applicants shall continue to file application in respect of SHIS, IEIS and Agri Infrastructure incentive scheme scrip in the application form and manner prescribed in the previous policy (ies).

**Validity period and Revalidation :** Duty Credit Scrip shall be valid for a period of 18 months from the date of issue and must be valid on the date on which actual debit of duty is made. Revalidation of Duty Credit Scrip shall not be permitted unless covered under paragraph 2.20(c) of HBP.

**Last date of filing of application for Duty Credit Scrips :** (a) Application for obtaining Duty Credit Scrip under MEIS shall be filed within a period of : (i) Twelve months from the Let Export (LEO) date or (ii) Three months from the date of : (1) Uploading of EDI shipping bills onto the DGFT server by Customs. (2) Printing/ release of shipping bills for Non EDI shipping bills whichever is later, in respect of shipments for which claim is being filed.

**2 Special Provisions – Para 2.37 – Foreign Trade Policy - Special provision for Hides Skins and semi-finished goods**

Hides, Skins and semi-finished leather may be imported in the Public Bonded warehouse for the purpose of DTA sale and the unsold items thereof can be re-exported from such bonded warehouses at 50% of the applicable export duty. However, this facility shall not be allowed for import under Private Bonded warehouse.

**3 Status Holders**

* All exporters of goods, services and technology having an import-export code (IEC) number shall be eligible for recognition as a status holder. Status recognition depends upon export performance. An applicant shall be categorized as status holder upon achieving export performance during current and previous two financial years, as indicated in paragraph 3.21 of Foreign Trade Policy. The export performance will be counted on the basis of FOB value of export earnings in free foreign exchange.
* For deemed export, FOR value of exports in Indian Rupees shall be converted in US$ at the exchange rate notified by CBEC, as applicable on 1st April of each Financial Year.
* For granting status, export performance is necessary in at least two out of three years.
* **Status Category**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Status Category | Export Performance - FOB / FOR (as converted) Value (in US $ million) |
| One Star Export House | 3 |
| Two Star Export House | 25 |
| Three Star Export House | 100 |
| Four Star Export House | 500 |
| Five Star Export House | 2000 |

*(Earlier nomenclature of Export House, Star Export House, Trading House, Star Trading House, Premier Trading House has been changed to one, two, three, four and five star export house as mentioned above)*

**Free of Cost Exports for status holders :** Status holders shall be entitled to export freely exportable items on free of cost basis for export promotion subject to an annual limit of Rs.10 lakh or 2% of average annual export realisation during preceding three licensing years whichever is higher.

**Validity of status certificate :** (a) Status Certificates issued under this FTP shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date on which application for recognition was filed. (b) Status Certificates valid beyond 31.3.2020 shall continue to remain in force, in case provisions of subsequent Foreign Trade Policy continue to recognize the status.

**4 Duty Exemption Schemes**

* The Duty Exemption schemes consist of the following:

(i) Advance Authorisation (AA) (which will include Advance Authorisation for Annual Requirement).

(ii) Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA).

* Duty Remission Scheme consist of Duty Drawback (DBK) Scheme, administered by Department of Revenue.

**5 EPCG Scheme**

* **EPCG Scheme allows import of capital goods for pre-production, production and post-production at Zero customs duty continues.** Alternatively, the Authorisation holder may also procure Capital Goods from indigenous sources in accordance with provisions of FTP.
* Import under EPCG Scheme shall be subject to an export obligation equivalent to 6 times of duty saved on capital goods, to be fulfilled in 6 years reckoned from date of issue of Authorisation
* Authorisation shall be valid for import for 18 months from the date of issue of Authorisation. Revalidation of EPCG Authorisation shall not be permitted.
* In case countervailing duty (CVD) is paid in cash on imports under EPCG, incidence of CVD would not be taken for computation of net duty saved, provided CENVAT is not availed.
* Second hand capital goods shall not be permitted to be imported under EPCG Scheme.
* Authorisation under EPCG Scheme shall not be issued for import of any Capital Goods (including Captive plants and Power Generator Sets of any kind) for Export of electrical energy (power) , Supply of electrical energy (power) under deemed exports

Use of power (energy) in their own unit, and Supply/export of electricity transmission services

* Import of items which are restricted for import shall be permitted under EPCG Scheme only after approval from Exim Facilitation Committee (EFC) at DGFT Headquarters.
* If the goods proposed to be exported under EPCG authorisation are restricted for export, the EPCG authorisation shall be issued only after approval for issuance of export authorisation from Exim Facilitation Committee at DGFT Headquarters.
* **Coverage :** (a) EPCG scheme covers manufacturer exporters with or without supporting manufacturer(s), merchant exporters tied to supporting manufacturer(s) and service providers. Name of supporting manufacturer(s) shall be endorsed on the EPCG authorisation before installation of the capital goods in the factory / premises of the supporting manufacturer (s). In case of any change in supporting manufacturer (s) the RA shall intimate such change to jurisdictional Central Excise Authority of existing as well as changed supporting manufacturer (s) and the Customs at port of registration of Authorisation.
* **Actual User Condition :** Import of capital goods shall be subject to Actual User condition till export obligation is completed.
* **Export Obligation (EO) :** Following conditions shall apply to the fulfilment of EO:-
  + EO shall be fulfilled by the authorisation holder through export of goods which are manufactured by him or his supporting manufacturer / services rendered by him, for which the EPCG authorisation has been granted.
  + EO under the scheme shall be, over and above, the average level of exports achieved by the applicant in the preceding three licensing years for the same and similar products within the overall EO period including extended period, if any; except for categories mentioned in paragraph 5.13(a) of HBP. Such average would be the arithmetic mean of export performance in the preceding three licensing years for same and similar products.
  + **In case of indigenous sourcing of Capital Goods, specific EO shall be 25% less than the EO stipulated .**
  + Shipments under Advance Authorisation, DFIA, Drawback scheme or reward schemes under Chapter 3 of FTP; would also count for fulfillment of EO under EPCG Scheme.
  + Export shall be physical export. However, deemed exports as specified in paragraph 7.02 (a), (b), (e), (f) & (h) of FTP shall also be counted towards fulfillment of export obligation, alongwith usual benefits available under paragraph 7.03 of FTP.
  + EO can also be fulfilled by the supply of ITA-I items to DTA, provided realization is in free foreign exchange.
  + Royalty payments received by the Authorisation holder in freely convertible currency and foreign exchange received for R&D services shall also be counted for discharge under EPCG.
  + Payment received in rupee terms for such Services as notified in Appendix 3E shall also be counted towards discharge of export obligation under the EPCG scheme.
* **Calculation of Export Obligation :** In case of direct imports, EO shall be reckoned with reference to actual duty saved amount. In case of domestic sourcing, EO shall be reckoned with reference to notional Customs duties saved on FOR value.
* **Incentive for early EO fulfilment :** With a view to accelerating exports, in cases where Authorisation holder has fulfilled 75% or more of specific export obligation and 100% of Average Export Obligation till date, if any, in half or less than half the original export obligation period specified, remaining export obligation shall be condoned and the Authorisation redeemed by RA concerned. However no benefit under para 5.21 of HBP shall be permitted where incentive for early EO fulfilment has been availed.
* **Reduced EO for North East Region and Jammu & Kashmir :** For units located in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Jammu & Kashmir, specific EO shall be 25% of the EO, as stipulated in Para 5.01. There shall be no change in average EO imposed, if any, as stipulated in Para 5.04.
* **Post Export EPCG Duty Credit Scrip(s)** 
  + Post Export EPCG Duty Credit Scrip(s) shall be available to exporters who intend to import capital goods on full payment of applicable duties in cash and choose to opt for this scheme.
  + Basic Customs duty paid on Capital Goods shall be remitted in the form of freely transferable duty credit scrip(s), similar to those issued under Chapter 3 of FTP.
  + Specific EO shall be 85% of the applicable specific EO under the EPCG Scheme. However, average EO shall remain unchanged.
  + Duty remission shall be in proportion to the EO fulfilled. 104
  + All provisions for utilization of scrips issued under Chapter 3 of FTP shall also be applicable to Post Export EPCG Duty Credit Scrip (s).
  + All provisions of the existing EPCG Scheme shall apply insofar as they are not inconsistent with this scheme.

**6 Export Promotion Councils**

**FOREIGN TRADE POLICY PROVISIONS**

* Recognition of Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) to function as Registering Authority for issue of RCMC.
* Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) are organizations of exporters, set up with the objective to promote and develop Indian exports. Each Council is responsible for promotion of a particular group of products/ projects/services as given in Appendix 2T of AANF. **Council for Leather Exports is one of the notified EPCs under Appendix 2T.**
* EPCs are also eligible to function as Registering Authorities to issue Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) to its members. The criteria for EPCs to be recognized as Registering Authorities for issue of RCMC to its members are detailed in para 2.92 of the Handbook of Procedures.

**Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC)**

Any person, applying for:

(a) An Authorisation to import/export (except items) listed as ‘Restricted’ items in ITC (HS)

Or

(b) Any other benefit or concession under FTP shall be required to furnish or upload on DGFT’s website in the Importer Exporter Profile, the RCMC granted by competent authority in accordance with procedure specified in HBP, unless specifically exempted under FTP. Certificate of Registration as Exporter of Spices (CRES) issued by Spices Board shall be treated as Registration-Cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) for the purposes under this Policy.

**PROVISIONS IN HANDBOOK OF PROCEDURES**

**Export Promotion Council (EPC)/ Commodity Boards:**

**Registering Authorities**

(a) Registering Authority is a body notified by DGFT in this regard to register importers/ exporters as its members by issuing RCMC.

(b) The list of notified Registering Authorities is at **Appendix-2 T. CLE is one of the registering authorities notified under this Appendix.**

**Registration- cum- Membership Certificate (RCMC)**

(a) An exporter may, on application given in **ANF 2C** register and become a member of EPC. On being admitted to membership, applicant shall be granted forthwith Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) of EPC concerned, in format given in **Appendix 2R**, . In case an exporter desires to get registration as a manufacturer exporter, he shall furnish evidence to that effect.

(b) Prospective / potential exporters may also, on application, register and become an associate member of an EPC.

**Applying for RCMC**

(a) While applying for RCMC, an exporter has to declare his main line of business in the application. The exporter is required to obtain RCMC from the Council which is concerned with the product of his main line of business.

(b) In case an export product is not covered by any Export Promotion Council/Commodity Board etc., RCMC in respect thereof is to be obtained from FIEO. Further, in case of multi product exporters, not registered with any EPC, where main line of business is yet to be settled, the exporter has an option to obtain RCMC from Federation of Indian Exporters Organization (FIEO).

(c) In respect of multi product exporters having their head office/ registered office in the North Eastern States, RCMC may be obtained from Shellac & Forest Products Export Promotion Council (except for the products looked after by APEDA, Spices Board and Tea Board).

(d) In respect of exporters of handicrafts and handloom products from the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Director, Handicrafts, Government of Jammu & Kashmir is authorised to issue Registration Cum Membership Certificate (RCMC).

**Validity Period of RCMC**

RCMC shall be deemed to be valid from 1st April of licensing year in which it was issued and shall be valid for five years ending 31st March of the licensing year, unless otherwise specified.

**Intimation Regarding Change in Constitution of Business of RCMC holder**

(a) In case of change in ownership, constitution, name or address of an exporter, it shall be obligatory on part of RCMC holder to intimate such change to registering authority within a period of one month from date of such change. Registering authority, however, may condone delays on merits.

(b) Exporter shall furnish quarterly return /details of his exports of different commodities to concerned registering authority. However, status holders shall also send quarterly returns to FIEO in format specified by FIEO.

**De- Registration**

Registering authority may de-register an RCMC holder for a specified period for violation of conditions of registration. Before such de-registration, RCMC holder shall be given a show cause notice by registering authority, and an adequate and reasonable opportunity to make a representation against the proposed de-registration. Upon de–registration, concerned EPC shall intimate the same to all RAs.

**Appeal Against De-registration**

A person aggrieved by a decision of registering authority in respect of any matter connected with issue of RCMC may prefer an appeal to DGFT or an officer designated in this behalf within 45 days against said decision and decision of appellate authority shall be final.

**Directives of DGFT**

DGFT may direct any registering authority to register or deregister an exporter or otherwise issue such other directions to them consistent with and in order to implement provisions of FT (D&R) Act, Rules and Orders made there under, FTP or this Handbook

**7 Self Certification of Originating Goods**

**2.61 Approved Exporter Scheme for Self Certification of Certificate of Origin.**

(i) Currently, Certificates of Origin under various Preferential Trade Agreements [PTA], Free Trade Agreements [FTAs], Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements [CECA] and Comprehensive Economic Partnerships Agreements [CEPA] are issued by designated agencies as per Appendix 2B of Appendices and Aayat and Niryat Forms. A new optional system of self certification is being introduced with a view to reducing transaction cost.

(ii) The Manufacturers who are also Status Holders shall be eligible for Approved Exporter Scheme. Approved Exporters will be entitled to self-certify their manufactured goods as originating from India with a view to qualifying for preferential treatment under different PTAs/FTAs/CECAs/CEPAs which are in operation. Self-certification will be permitted only for the goods that are manufactured as per the Industrial Entrepreneurial’s Memorandum (IEM) / Industrial Licence (IL)/Letter of Intent (LOI) issued to manufacturers.

(iii) Status Holders will be recognized by DGFT as Approved Exporters for self-certification based on availability of required infrastructure, capacity and trained manpower as per the details in Para 2.109 of Handbook of Procedures 2015-20 read with Appendix 2F of Appendices & Aayaat Niryaat Forms.

(iv) The details of the Scheme, along with the penalty provisions, are provided in Appendix 2F of Appendices and Aayaat Niryaat Forms and will come into effect only when India incorporates the scheme into a specific agreement with its partner/s and the same is appropriately notified by DGFT (CRES) issued by Spices Board shall be treated as Registration-Cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) for the purposes under this Policy.

**8 Exhibits and Samples:**

**Exhibits Required for National and International Exhibitions or Fairs and Demonstration**

(a) Import / export of exhibits, which are freely importable/exportable, including construction and decorative materials required for the temporary stands of foreign / Indian exhibitors at exhibitions, fair or similar show or display for a period of six months on re-export / re-import basis, shall be allowed without an Authorisation on submission of a bond/ security to Customs and ATA Carnet.

(b) Extension beyond six months for re-export / re-import will be considered by Customs authorities on merits. Consumables such as paints, printed material, pamphlets, literature etc. pertaining to exhibits need not be re-exported/re-imported.

**Sale of Exhibits**

(a) Restricted Items: Sale of exhibits of restricted items, mentioned in ITC (HS), imported for an international exhibition / fair may also be made, without an Authorisation within bond period allowed for re-export, on payment of applicable customs duties, subject to a ceiling limit of Rs.5 lakh (CIF) for such exhibits for each exhibitor.

(b) Freely importable items: However, sale of exhibits of items which are freely importable shall be allowed within bond period allowed for re-export on payment of applicable customs duties.

(c) If goods brought for exhibition are not re-exported or sold within bond period due to circumstances beyond control of importer, Customs Authorities may allow extension of bond period on merits.

**Import of Samples**

(a) No Authorisation shall be required for Import of bonafide technical and trade samples of items restricted in ITC (HS) except vegetable seeds, bees and new drugs. Samples of tea not exceeding Rs.2000 (CIF) in one consignment shall be allowed without an Authorisation by any person connected with Tea industry.

(b) Duty free import of samples upto Rs.3,00,000 for all exporters shall be allowed as per terms and conditions of Customs Notification.

**Exports of Samples / Exhibits**

(a) Exports of bonafide trade and technical samples of freely exportable item shall be allowed without any limit.

(b) An application for export of samples/exhibits, which are restricted for export, may be made to DGFT as per **ANF-2Q**.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*