PRESS NOTE

DRI UNEARTHS UNDUE AVAILMENT OF BENEFIT OF MEIS SCHEME BY A WELL KNOWN INDIAN CORPORATE COMPANY; RECOVERS 5.12 CRORES

Acting upon a specific intelligence Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Ahmedabad Zonal Unit, Ahmedabad has detected a case of wrong availment of benefit of Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) under Chapter 3 of the Foreign Trade Policy of India (FTP 2015-20).

In terms of Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020 exporters are issued duty credit scrips under two schemes for exports of Merchandise and Services namely (i) Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) & (ii) Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS). The duty credit scrips are freely transferrable and can be used to import raw material, capital goods, etc. However, in terms of the FTP the Duty Credit Scrips can be used for Payment of Customs Duties for import of inputs or goods, except items listed in Appendix 3A. The Appendix 3A of the FTP consist list of items which are not allowed for import under Export from India Schemes under Chapter 3, unless otherwise specified. Also, as per the condition No. 2(10) of the Customs Notification No. 24/2015-Cus, dated 08/04/2015 the benefit under the notification shall not be available to the items listed in Appendix 3A of Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020.

During the investigation the importer has accepted that they had wrongly claimed and availed the benefit of exemption under the FTP and the Customs Notification. An amount of Rs. 5.12 Crores has been deposited by the importer voluntarily as their duty and interest liability. Further DRI investigation is in progress.