



## दि प्लास्टिक्स एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन कौन्सिल

(भारत सरकार, वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, वाणिज्य विभाग द्वारा प्रायोजित)  
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### THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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Ref. : Plexh/Cir/466

04.05.2018

All Members/All Members of the COA

Dear Members,

#### **Sub : Review of US GSP benefit on exports from India**

This is further to our circular ref. Plexh/Cir/417 dated 02.05.2018 (annexed below), wherein we sought your inputs for today's stakeholders meeting on "Review of US GSP benefit on exports from India" at New Delhi.

Shri Shyamal Misra, Joint Secretary, EP-CAP, DoC, who headed the stakeholders meeting has requested all export promotion councils to kindly do the following before 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 in order to prepare a strong defence:

Member exporters of the council with exposure to United States are required to provide comments / justification highlighting reasons as to how the US-GSP program is benefiting their business as well as the country.

Member exporters of the council with exposure to United States are also required to speak to their respective importers based in the US to submit comments / justification to the Office of US Trade Representative (USTR) mentioning reasons as to how the GSP imports (especially from India) are benefiting the US industry.

**Please understand that the above actions are essential as they will help the Department of Commerce, Government of India, in building a strong case for advocating India's eligibility to the US-GSP program.**

Members are requested to kindly send **their replies latest by 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 by 3pm on e-mail id [bharti@plexconcil.org](mailto:bharti@plexconcil.org).**

Kindly do the needful.

With best regards,  
Yours sincerely,

Sribash Dasmohapatra  
Executive Director

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Ref. : Plexh/Cir/417

02.05.2018

All Members/All Members of the COA

Dear Members,

**Sub :Review of US GSP benefit on exports from India & Stakeholders meeting on 04.05.2018 in New Delhi**

**Ref. : F.No. 19/2/2015-FT-NAFTA/pt.1**

This has reference to communication received from the EP-CAP Section, Department of Commerce and also FT-NAFTA Division, Department of Commerce, respectively regarding Review of US GSP and also a stakeholders meeting to discuss on future course of action.

As you are aware the United States Generalised System of Preferences (US-GSP) program provides for the duty-free treatment of designated articles when imported from beneficiary developing countries. However, the Office of US Trade Representative (USTR) has announced that it is reviewing the eligibility of India and some other countries based on concerns about compliance with the program. For India, GSP country eligibility review is based on concerns related to its compliance with GSP market access criteria.

In this regard, USTR has launched a self-initiated GSP eligibility review of India based on concerns related to its compliance with market access criterion and is also accepting two petitions related to same criterion. The petitions are filed by US dairy industry and US medical device industry requested a review of India's GSP benefits, given the trade barriers affecting US exports. The US has formally notified in Federal register on 27/04/2018 initiating Country Practice Review of India regarding compliance with GSP eligibility criteria and notice is submitted for Public comments and hearing. The US is asserting that India has implemented wide range of trade barriers that adversely impact US Commerce. The acceptance of these petitions and GSP self-initiated review will result in overall review of India's compliance with GSP market access criterion.

The Federal Register (FR) provides for interested parties to submit comments and hearing as per following timelines:

5 June 2018 - Deadline for interested parties to submit comments, pre-hearing briefs and request to appear in the public hearing.

19 June 2018:- The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) will hold a public hearing for interested parties.

A transcript of the public hearing will be available on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) within approximately two weeks after the date of the hearing.

17 July 2018 - Deadline for interested parties to submit post-hearing briefs.

NAFTA Division, DoC has analysed the current GSP benefit being given by US to various the plastic sectors items falling under Chapter 39 and other. The excel sheet having list of such items is enclosed herewith for your ready reference.

***Members are requested to go through the list of items and also let us have your comments/ justification on the items being exported by your company highlighting why GSP benefit should continue and also how the GSP imports into India are benefiting US industry as most the items are intermediates and raw materials. Further, you can also mention how such exports to US are also benefiting our own MSMEs. Similarly, you can also impress upon your US importers to take up these responses at their end also.***

Kindly note that a **stakeholders meeting is being organised on 4th May 2018 in New Delhi** under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary EP-CAP, DoC to discuss the way forward in this matter.

Since time is short, members are requested to kindly send their **replies latest by 03/05/2018 (3pm) on e-mail id [bharti@plexconcil.org](mailto:bharti@plexconcil.org)** so that we can update the Department of Commerce accordingly during the stakeholders meeting.

With best regards,  
Yours sincerely,

Sribash Dasmohapatra  
Executive Director

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