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Committee on Import Licensing

IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM OF INDIA

QUESTIONS FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION TO INDIA

The following communication, dated 10 November 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the European Union.

The EU notes that India has not submitted yet a notification on the law Notification N° 12/2015-2020 of 12 June 2020 on "Amendment in Import Policy of Tyres", whereby the Directorate General of Foreign Trade of India announced that it is moving pneumatic tyres for motor cars, busses, lorries, motor scooters and motorcycles from the "free" category to the "restricted" category. In the lack of notification of this law, the EU would like to ask India to clarify the aspects listed below.

EU questions

- 1. When will India submit the notification of the above-mentioned law to the WTO, as required under Articles 1.5 and 5 of the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing procedures?
- 2. What was the reason leading to introduction of this new measure requiring to obtain a license in order to import pneumatic tyres to India?
- 3. Could India confirm that it is a non-automatic license and, should it be the case, give an overview of the applicable import procedures in accordance with Article 3 of the Import Licensing Procedures Agreement including the timeline in the procedures?
- 4. Could India share with us:
 - 4.1. the number of applications received under the new license regime (since its entry into force);
 - 4.2. the number of import licenses granted and
 - 4.3. the total quantity of pneumatic tyres actually imported under the new license regime?
- 5. Could India inform us whether and when Indian authorities issued guidelines on how to obtain the relevant license, within the relevant timeframe as required under Article 3.5 of the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing procedures? If yes, please provide a copy of these guidelines.