

# DGFT announces extension of FTP till 31st March 2021, Extension for MEIS

In order to provide relief to the handicrafts exporters and help them withstand the challenges posed by the current crisis, various representations received from exporters and different handicraft Association from across the country were represented by the EPCH at the highest level including Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and Ministry of Textiles. The Council also had two video conference meetings with Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry.

The Government of India, taking cognizance of EPCH's representations, have extended the FTP 2015-2020 by one year till 31st March 2021, hence giving extension to all the schemes including MEIS under the FTP. The extension by implication means continuation of all following schemes in the Foreign Trade Policy:

- DGFT has extended the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 and the Handbook of Procedures 2015-2020 from 31.3.2020 to 31.3.2021.
- All schemes in the Foreign Trade Policy including MEIS, Advance Authorisation, DFIA , EPCG, EOU, Deemed Export etc. extended till 31st March 2021.
- MEIS shipment with Let Export Order date falling between 1st Feb -31st May 2019, the applications can be filed within 15 months as against the normal time limit of 12 months.
- The validity of all Status Holder certificates extended till 30th June, 2020.
- Advance Authorization - where validity of authorization or Export Obligation period is expiring between 1st Feb to 31st July 2020, the period of validity or Export Obligation is automatically extended by six months from the date of expiry.
- DFIA Authorisation - where validity of authorization is expiring between 1st Feb to 31st July 2020, the period of validity is automatically extended by six months from the date of expiry.
- EPCG Authorisation - where validity of authorization is expiring between 1st Feb to 31st July 2020, the period of validity is automatically extended by six months from the date of expiry.
- It has been decided that the regional authorities of DGFT will not insist on valid RCMC issued by EPC's (in cases where the same has expired on or before 31st March 2020) for the applicants for any incentives / authorizations till 30th September 2020.
- **RBI increases the present period of realization from 9 months to 15 months.**

Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Director General, EPCH, said that the steps taken by the Govt. of India in these difficult times to rescue the exporters will surely boost the morale of the handicrafts exporting community and hoped such initiatives will help everyone sail through this crisis.