

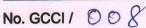
THE GANDHIDHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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Date: 08.05.2017

Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India, H Wing, Gate No. 2, Udyog Bhavan, Room No.110, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi - 110 011 Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Room No. 143, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi - 110 107

Sub: Request to include SALT (HS Code 250100) Export under MEIS and extension of Export Benefits thereof - midterm review of FTP 2015-20

Dear Sir,

The Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce & Industry is a pioneer organisation of Kandla -Gandhidham complex in Kachchh-Gujarat since 1953 with the main objective to serve as a bridge between local trade and industry fraternity and State / Central Govt. for the resolution of problems and also to endeavour for the welfare of citizens and township in public interest.

It has been observed that with the introduction of MEIS (FTP 2015-20) wherein the salt (HS Code No. 250100) has been completely removed from the list of benefits which earlier used to get Exports benefit under Focus Market Scheme.

As you are very well aware India is third largest producer of Salt and having good volume of export from Mundra, Kandla and Tuticorine Port. Day by day tough competition from various salt producing countries like Pakistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Senegal, Egypt, Turkey, Ghana, Nigeria, China, etc. is being increased. So, Indian salt exporters find it difficult to sustain against emerging tough competition, unless export benefits similar to Focus Market Scheme are extended to salt export.

In present scenario the viability of export of Indian salt is under question as we are no longer competitive to supply our salt to various overseas countries. Earlier the government incentive under Focus Market Scheme was providing some sort of assistance and support to remain viable in international market.

As the midterm review of FTP 2015-20 is under process by Central Government, we earnestly request you to include Salt under MEIS and extend the Export benefits similar to Focus Market Scheme to sustain and encourage exports of salt from India and continue earning valuable foreign exchanges.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Dinesh Gupta President