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Info

ENGINEERING EXPORT BULLETIN

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Highlights

INDEE - Johannesburg, 2007

EEPC is organising an Indian Engineering Exhibition (INDEE) in Johannesburg, South Africa from 23rd to 26th October, 2007. Members are requested to register their participation within 15th June, 2007.

India Pavilion at MIDEST-2007, Paris, France

EEPC is inviting participation for India Pavilion at MIDEST-2007, Paris, France to be held on November 13 - 16, 2007. Members are requested to enlist their participation within 29th June, 2007.

Govt. Notifications/ Circular

Notification No. 52/2007-NT-Customs dated 28.05.07 – Exchange Rate effective from 1st June, 2007 relates to imported goods.

Notification No. 53/2007-NT-Customs dated 28.05.07 – Exchange Rate effective from 1st June, 2007 relates to export goods.

Notification No. 29/2007-Service Tax dated 22.05.07 – Amendments in Service Tax (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006.

Notification No. 32/2007-Service Tax dated 22.05.07 – Central Govt. - Works Contract (Composition Scheme for Payment of Service Tax) Rules, 2007.



Shri Kamal Nath, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India lighting the Lamp on the occasion of All India Award for Export Excellence (2005-06) on 1st June, 2007 in New Delhi. He is flanked by Shri Mahesh K. Desai and Shri Amanpreet Singh Chadha, Vice Chairmen, EEPC (L); Shri Rakesh Shah, Chairman, EEPC (R)

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For information about India Engineering Center, Chicago
visit : www.indiaengineeringchicago.com

For information about Engineering Export Promotion Council
visit : www.eepcindia.org

For information about EEPC Exhibitions
visit : www.eepcindee.com

Chairman's Pen



My dear fellow exporters,

Friends, on June 1, 2007, Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister, Shri Kamal Nath presented the National Awards for Export Excellence for the year 2005-06. 86 Award Winners received their awards from the hands of Shri Kamal Nath. On this occasion, the Strategy Paper for Growth of Engineering Process Outsourcing (EPO), commissioned by the Council and prepared by A. F. Ferguson & Co. was also released by the Hon'ble Minister. Members interested in procuring the Strategy Paper are requested to contact the Council Offices.

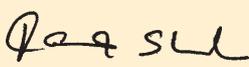
The Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister acknowledged the contribution of the engineering exporters in increasing India's total exports to USD 125 billion last year and urged the Council to fix the exports target for the engineering sector for the current year. Shri Kamal Nath appreciated the problems faced by the engineering exporters and requested the Council for its suggestions on an incentive scheme that neutralizes the Rupee appreciation and the high cost of export credit. He also stated that the Service Tax exemption notification with regard post production services for exports will be issued since the Prime Minister of India had cleared this announcement made in the April 19th FTP amendment statement. The Hon'ble Minister also stated that all issues pertaining to EPO promotion will be dealt by the Council and requested that greater focus be given to the development of the EPO sector.

The presence of the Hon'ble Commerce Minister at the National Award's presentation gave an opportunity to the Council to also place before him some of the major concerns of our member exporters. The issue of Rupee appreciation, the need to immediately come out with the Service Tax notification exempting service tax on post-production exports of goods, as also the lowering of export credit cost was raised at the presentation ceremony. This apart, the Council also pointed out that the tariff line (HS 6814) with respect to Mica and Mica products that has been added to the Focus Product Scheme (FPS) in the April 19th announcement dealt with only 5% of the total Mica and related product exports category. Accordingly, other tariff lines like HS 2525 and 8545 should also be included in the FPS list. The Council also recommended that Ferro alloys exports that face an unequal level playing field due to domestic power cost disability factor should be brought under the FPS list.

The Council has also expressed its concern over the new Customs Valuation rules as per the recent amendments to Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962. The Council has stated that the very thinking on the basis of which the above amendment to Section 14 is being made is flawed. The evaluation by the customs officer, as per new rules, will become hindrance for the real exporters and will give rise to "Inspector Raj", which has in the past gravely hindered industrial growth. In fact, new rules while attempting to stop around 5% industries who mis-declare, will in effect lead to the harassment of 95% of the industries.

Finally, the Council has sent a detailed representation to the DGFT on the various pressure points that members have pointed out to us with regard to the April 19th pronouncement by the Commerce & Industry Minister regarding the annual changes brought about in the Foreign Trade Policy. One important notification that has been issued by the DGFT pertains to allowing exports from non-EDI ports to get benefits under the Focus Market Scheme and Focus Product Scheme. This is, indeed, a long-felt demand and a welcome move by the Government.

Yours sincerely,


(RAKESH SHAH)



ENGINEERING EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

Invites Participation in

**INDEE - Johannesburg, 2007
(Indian Engineering Exhibition)**

October 23 - 26, 2007

**In association with
Manufacturing Technology International Expo (MTI)
at
Expo Centre, Nasrec, Johannesburg, South Africa**

Preamble

It has always been EEPC's endeavour to foster exports of India's state-of-the-art Engineering Industry into world market.

In line with above EEPC is pleased to announce one of its major events – INDEE, Johannesburg – to be held in South Africa at Expo Centre, Nasrec, Johannesburg during 23-26 October, 2007. This is a major step forward to enter into the South African market.

About South Africa

South Africa is the economic powerhouse of Africa with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) four times that of its Southern African neighbours and comprising around 25% of the entire continent's GDP. The country leads the continent in industrial output (40% of the total output) and mineral production (45%) and generates most of Africa's electricity (over 50%). Its major strengths include its physical and economic infrastructure, natural mineral and metal resources, a growing manufacturing sector, strong growth potential in the tourism, high value-added manufacturing and service industries. The financial and industrial sectors are concentrated in Gauteng Province which on its own accounts for over 30% of the country (GDP).

South African economy has been showing an upward trend since September-1999 and the annual economic growth rate from September-1999 through June-2005 has averaged at 3.5%. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was running at an annualized 4.8% at the second half of 2005 (compared to 3.7% in 2004 and 2.8% in 2003).

India-South Africa Trade Relations

Since 1994 India South Africa relation has shown smooth development with signing of a number of bilateral agreements in diverse areas ranging from Defence, Culture, Science and economic cooperation.

Total trade between the two countries has grown significantly since 2001 with surge in both export and import, but India has remained a net Importer. But in the engineering sector, India's export to South Africa has maintained a steady growth 89.5% in 2005-06 and 94% in 2004-05 on year on year basis.

Potential growth areas for Indian exports to South Africa are – Vehicle and vehicle components, Transport equipments, Castings, Forgings, Hand Tools, Agricultural equipments, Two wheelers etc. There are also good potential for exports in the service industry like Software expertise, technical man-power training.

Indian investments in South Africa have grown significantly both in quantity as well as diversity. Major investors includes UB Group of India, Tatas, Mahindras, Ranbaxy, Cipla, Godrej, Ashok Leyland etc.

Product Sector

INDEE - Johannesburg will be focusing mainly on following industry sectors :

- Castings
- Forgings
- Bright Bars
- Fasteners
- Machine Tools
- Cutting Tools
- Automobile & Components
- Primary Iron & Steel
- Bicycle & Parts
- Industrial Machinery
- Food Processing Machinery
- Textile & Jute Mill Machinery
- Pumps & Compressors
- Cranes
- Lifts & Winches
- Electric Home Appliances & Parts
- Electrical Power Equipments
- Heating & Cooling Equipments
- Utensils & Kitchenwares
- Tractors & Agricultural Equipments
- Primary Aluminium & Aluminium Products
- Ferro Alloys
- Construction Machinery

Date and Time of Exhibition

Date : October 23-26, 2007

Time : 10.00 Hrs. – 17.00 Hrs.

Venue of the Exhibition

Expo Centre, Nasrec, Johannesburg

Display Booth

Only built up booth of minimum 9 sq. mtrs. will be available with following standard furniture :

1 Table, 2 Chairs, 1 Waste Paper Basket, 1 Ashtray, 3 Spot Lights, Fascia, one 10 Amp. Electrical Socket, Carpet.

Larger booth in multiple of 3 sq. mtrs. will be available for booking.

Participation Charge

One side open booth : Rs. 17,000/- per sq. mtrs.

Two side open booth : Rs. 18,700/- per sq. mtrs.

Due to limited availability of 2 side open booths, allocation will be done on first-come-first-served basis subject to receiving full payment.

Payment

Full payment should be made along with **Application Form**, duly filled in latest by 15th June, 2007. The payment should be made by way of **Demand Draft** drawn in favour of "**Engineering Export Promotion Council**" payable at New Delhi.

Reservation requests will be considered only on receipt of full payment.

Acceptance of application and allocation of stall will be at the sole discretion of the Council.

Cancellation

Any request for cancellation received on or after **29th June, 2007** shall result in forfeiture of the amount paid on this account.

Shipment of Exhibits

In order to facilitate shipment of exhibits, Council will appoint a Shipping Agent.

Selection Criteria

Final selection of the participants will be done by a Committee based on the criteria such as Accreditation to the International Standards (like ISO, QS, etc.) foreign collaboration, annual export, and exports to South Africa.

Travel and Hotel Accommodation

Council will assist participants in locating suitable air lines and hotels at Johannesburg at negotiated rates through accredited Travel Agents. However, participants are free to stay and travel through their own agencies.

MDA Grant

All eligible participants will be entitled to MDA grant under Focus Africa Programme of Ministry of Commerce, Government of India as per the MDA Guidelines effective from April 01, 2006.

Assistance would be permissible on travel expenses by Air in Economy Excursion Class fare and/or charges of built up furnished stall subject to an upper ceiling of Rs. 1,50,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Thousand only).

Further, eligibility for MDA grant is subject to exporting companies having FOB value of exports up to Rs. 15 crores in the preceding year, having complete 12 months membership with EEPC with regular filing of returns and fulfilling other conditions, details of which can be obtained from respective Regional Offices of EEPC.

Submission of Application

Interested firms may please send their **Application** (as per enclosed format) duly filled in and signed, along with payment **latest by 15th June, 2007** to any of the following :-

R. Maitra

Executive Director

Engineering Export Promotion Council
Vandhna, 4th Floor
11, Tolstoy Marg
New Delhi – 110 001
Tel. : 91-11-23711124/25
Fax : 91-11-23310920
E-mail : eepcto@eepc.gov.in
Website : www.eepcindia.org

Rajat Srivastava

Regional Director

Engineering Export Promotion Council
Centre 1, 12th Floor
World Trade Centre
Cuffe Parade
Mumbai – 400 005
Tel. : 91-22-22186655/56/60
Fax : 91-22-22180119
E-mail : eepcmum@mtnl.net.in, eepcmum@vsnl.com

Bhaskar Sarkar

Addl. Executive Director & Secretary
Engineering Export Promotion Council
Vanijya Bhavan (1st Floor)
International Trade Facilitation Centre
1/1, Wood Street, Kolkata – 700 016
Tel. : 91-33-22890651/52
Fax : 91-33-22890654
E-mail : eepcho@eth.net
Website : www.eepcindia.org

S. Dole

Regional Director

Engineering Export Promotion Council
19, Kasturba Gandhi Marg
Surya Kiran (4th Floor)
New Delhi – 110 001
Tel. : 91-11-23314171/74
Fax : 91-11-23317795
E-mail : eepc@spectranet.com

Ms. Anima Pandey

Regional Director

Engineering Export Promotion Council
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International Trade Facilitation Centre
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Kolkata – 700 016
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Fax : 91-33-22890687
E-mail : eepcokol@vsnl.net

M. Ganesan

Regional Director

Engineering Export Promotion Council
Greems Dugar (3rd Floor)
149, Greems Road
Chennai – 600 006
Tel. : 91-44-28295501/02
Fax : 91-44-28290495
E-mail : eepcchen@md4.vsnl.net.in

Application Form

INDEE - Johannesburg, 2007 (23 - 26 October, 2007)

Name of the Company	:			
Postal Address	:			
Phone (with area code)	:			
Fax (with area code)	:			
E-mail	:			
Website	:			
Name & Designation of the Chief Executive	:			
Name & Designation of the Participant	:			
Status	:	<input type="radio"/> Manufacturer/Exporter	<input type="radio"/> Merchant Exporter	<input type="radio"/> Export House
Booth Requirement	:	<input type="radio"/> One side open	<input type="radio"/> Two side open	
Area (Minimum Booth area : 9 sq. mtrs.)	:	Total area required :		
Total Annual Export (in Million US\$)	:	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
Total Export to South Africa (in Million US\$)	:	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
Foreign Collaboration, if any	:			
Products Manufactured/Exported	:			
Countries of Export	:			
Accreditation to International Standards (like ISO, QS, etc.)	:			
Nature of Display	:	<u>Display of Samples</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Display of Posters</u> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Name to be displayed in the Fascia (in capital letters)	:			

1. Please use separate sheet to furnish details of your company (**within 80 words**) for the Exhibitors' Profile.
2. Please send us this Form duly completed and signed along with your participation fees by Demand Draft and 2 (two) copies of passport size colour photographs of the Participant.

Date : _____ Signature : _____
 Office Seal : _____

EEPC Invites Participation for MIDESt-2007, Paris, France (November 13 - 16, 2007)

MIDESt is the world's largest Industrial Subcontracting Show. It provides a service for manufacturers, component suppliers and assemblers who want face-to-face meetings with solution providers in the fields of metals, plastics, electronics and industry services. MIDESt-2007 is scheduled to be held from 13 to 16 November, 2007 at Paris, France.

MIDESt attracts an average of 2,000 exhibitors every year out of which 38% exhibitors are from countries other than France. Last year the fair was visited by 47,915 visitors, 14% of which come from 61 outside countries.

The export of engineering goods from India to European countries has reached a level of US\$ 4.40 billion in 2005-06 against a value of US\$ 3.95 million during 2004-05 thereby registering a growth of 11.14%. The last three years trend indicates an average growth of 36.78%. This shows that the Indian engineering goods are regularly finding a favourable place in European market.

Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) is inviting participation for India Pavilion at MIDESt-2007, Paris which would provide an excellent opportunity for business relationships with customers from all over the world.

Focus Products

Main focus of the Council would be on the following items :

- Metal Processing
 - Fabrication
 - Screw cutting
 - Industrial fasteners
 - Foundry
 - Forging
 - Metal cutting
 - Semi-finished products in metal processing
 - Machining, special machines
 - Finishing, thermal & surface treatments in metal processing
- Tooling/Moulds/Models/Equipment
 - Tooling – Moulds – Models
 - Accessories and industrial equipment
- Industry Services
 - Engineering, design, research, quality, services
 - Industrial maintenance

Venue

Paris-Nord Villepinte Exhibition Centre, France

Date

13 - 16, November, 2007 (4 days)

Participation Charges

Built-up booths minimum 9 sq. mtrs.

Rs. 19,000/- per sq. mtr. for one side open stall.

Corner stall charges will be extra.

Display Booth

Participation charge includes following services :

- Fascia
- Carpeting
- Structure/participation
- Decoration
- Accessories (details to follow)
- Electricity – 3 Spotlights, 1 triple plug, showcase connection
- Furniture (details to follow)
- Floral decoration

Mode of Payment

Full payment is to be made by Demand Draft/at par Cheque favouring "Engineering Export Promotion Council" payable at "Kolkata" along with the filled-up Application Form.

Date of Payment

Full payment is to be made along with the **Application Form latest by 29th June, 2007.**

Cancellation of Participation

Request for cancellation of participation will be accepted if Council receives the same in writing on or before **16th July, 2007.** Council shall not entertain any cancellation afterwards. Any cancellation after the due date shall result in forfeiture of the amount already paid on this account.

Selection Criteria

Since limited space is available, selection of participation will be done strictly on *first-come-first served* basis.

Benefit of the member-exporters

EEPC is organizing this event under the MAI Scheme of Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. Therefore no MDA grant would be available. The rates mentioned above are highly subsidized as per MAI Scheme guidelines of Government of India.

Interested firms may please send the **Application Form**, duly filled in and signed, along with full payment **latest by 29th June, 2007** to the respective Regional Offices or to :

Bhaskar Sarkar

Addl. Executive Director & Secretary

Engineering Export Promotion Council

Vanijya Bhawan, 1st Floor

International Trade Facilitation Centre

1/1 Wood Street, Kolkata 700016

Tel. : (+91 33) 22890651/52

Fax : (+91 33) 22890654

E-mail : eepcho@eth.net

Application Form
EEPC Invites Participation for MIDEEST-2007 at Paris, France
(November 13 - 16, 2007)

Name of the Company	:			
Postal Address	:			
Phone (with area code)	:			
Fax (with area code)	:			
E-mail	:			
Website	:			
Total Space required	:			
Amount with DD/Cheque No. & date	:			
Name & Designation of the Chief Executive	:			
Name & Designation of the Participant	:			
Type of Units (please tick mark)	:	<input type="checkbox"/> SSI	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-SSI	
Status (please tick mark)	:	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer/Exporter	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Exporter	<input type="checkbox"/> Export House
Total Annual Export (in Million US\$)	:	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
Total Export to European countries (in Million US\$)	:	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
Foreign Collaboration, if any	:			
Products Manufactured/Exported	:			
Countries of Export	:			
Accreditation to International Standards (like ISO, QS, etc.)	:			

Please use separate sheet to furnish details of your company (**within 80 words**) for the Exhibitors' Profile.

Please send us this Form duly completed and signed along with your participation fees by Demand Draft/Cheque and 2 (two) copies of passport size colour photographs of the Participant.

Signature :

Date : Office Seal :



Automobile Industry in Malaysia

Executive Summary

A continuing decline in Malaysia's new vehicle sales – down 11.3% year-on-year (y-o-y) as of October 2006 – suggests that there is little hope of a return to growth in the remainder of the year. Indeed, BMI's Malaysia Automotives Report includes a revised forecast, which projects sales of around 481,500 units in 2006, down 12% y-o-y. Production will also take a downward turn, despite the Government's attempts to encourage the current incumbents to increase output, while rationalizing models in order to streamline the industry. Production for the first 10 months of the year combined fell from 466,172 units in 2005 to 428,937 units.

There is still cause for optimism in the market, however. The freezing of interest rates at Bank Negara Malaysia's last three policy meetings, coupled with the view that the current rate of 3.50% will be held until 2007, suggests that there will be no further squeeze on borrowing. Moreover, national manufacturer **Proton** may have finally found the international partner needed to raise its game. The Malaysian Government has revealed that it is in talks with France's **PSA Peugeot Citroen** regarding a potential strategic alliance. Proton entered into an initial agreement with PSA in September, signing a letter of intent to work together in areas such as joint vehicle development and sourcing of components.

Malaysia's business environment still provides cause for concern, however. The country has fallen to joint 13th place in **BMI's** Business Environment Ranking for the automotive industry in the Asia Pacific region. This is largely due to a substantial decrease in our production forecast for the next five years, which has reduced the country's completely built unit (CBU) output potential rating. Meanwhile, a high level of vehicle ownership compared with the rest of the region, coupled with lingering protectionist policies, continue to reduce the scope for new market entrants. Not all manufacturers have been deterred from their plans for the country, however, with **Hyundai** announcing plans to begin production of a sports utility vehicle (SUV) in Malaysia next year.

International car makers continue to grow in influence in Malaysia. In October, national brands accounted for sales of 23,938 units, down 64.7% from 39,441 in October 2005. Non-national brands sold 11,625 units, down from 17,316 units. Although both sides lost out, this shows national brands' share of sales falling from 81% to 65% over the year, despite the aim of the National Automotive Policy (NAP) to create a strong domestic industry. Proton's approach of forming ties with the big names could prove to be the best possible solution, but it is unlikely that the national firm will regain its dominance of earlier years in the face of international competition.

Malaysia Auto Industry SWOT

Strengths

- Ties with other ASEAN markets are strengthening all the time through AFTA-induced tariff reductions, which will provide advantages for carmakers basing themselves in Malaysia
- The market continues to attract investment from major car makers, with Hyundai pledging in October 2006 to expand its locally-built range.

Weaknesses

- The national industry is in decline, with Proton posting a loss in market share of 4% (to 30%) and Perodua remaining static (on 25%) in 2005
- Protectionist measures are still barring new entrants, particularly Chinese manufacturers such as Geely



- Car ownership levels are relatively high at one car for every four people, compared with one in 30 in neighbouring Thailand and Indonesia.

Opportunities

- Toyota has commenced exports from Malaysia, becoming the first carmaker to benefit from export incentives offered under Malaysia's new National Automotive Policy (NAP)
- Proton also stands to benefit from new incentives linked to investment, as the company plans to spend MYR 5 bn on R&D over the next five years, helping to retain a strong national player
- The national manufacturer should also regain some ground in the market through partnerships with Chery and PSA Peugeot Citroen.

Threats

- Malaysia's trade dispute with Thailand over non-trade barriers in the automotive industry could hamper the export projects of major car makers
- Burgeoning capacity levels of around 700,000 units could result in a supply glut
- Thailand's 'Detroit of Asia' strategy threatens other manufacturing bases in the region; the country plans to invest THB 10 bn in achieving output of one million vehicles by 2006.

Malaysia Economic SWOT

Strengths

- During the past four decades, Malaysia has transformed itself from a commodities-dependent backwater into a major world source for electronics and computer parts
- Malaysia is the world's largest producer of rubber, palm oil, pepper and tropical hardwoods, and is also a net exporter of crude oil. All this provides a solid platform for economic growth.

Weaknesses

- Malaysia's relative insulation from global energy price shocks is being eroded. It is now possible that within the next five years Malaysia will become a net importer of oil
- Malaysia's economic openness can be as much of a burden as a benefit, since it confers a high degree of vulnerability to global growth and capital flows.

Opportunities

- The opportunity for private-sector-led growth will improve if the Government sticks to its pledge this year to conduct its biggest ever divestment of state shareholdings as it seeks to raise money to plug a yawning budget deficit
- Malaysia's move to a managed float exchange rate should allow the central bank to stabilize the ringgit at a competitive level against its trading partners.

Threats

- Wages are higher in Malaysia than in a number of its competitors, such as China and Vietnam, which could be a long-term hindrance to economic expansion. To maintain competitive edge, Malaysia needs a steady stream of inward investment
- Export competitiveness could be eroded if the exchange rate is allowed to appreciate rapidly, and inflation continues to rise.

Malaysia Business Environment SWOT

Strengths

- Standards of corporate governance have improved greatly in Malaysia since the Asian financial crisis - more so, in fact, than in many neighbouring countries
- Foreign companies, or at least foreign manufacturing companies, looking to do business in Malaysia will continue to be welcomed with open arms - with the Government offering lavish tax breaks and concessions.



Weaknesses

- State subsidization of prices will remain a peripheral but persistent part of daily economic life in Malaysia
- Doing business in Malaysia will always, to some extent, mean dealing with the politically well-connected
- Big construction projects - and big contracts for foreign construction firms - are unlikely to be as much of a priority for Malaysia's Government as they were under the previous administration of former Prime Minister Mr. Mahathir Mohamad.

Opportunities

- The opportunity to invest in Malaysian state assets could improve. The Government, if it sticks to its word, will soon conduct its biggest ever divestment of state shareholdings
- Malaysia is eager to compete globally in banking and although it currently lacks a domestic champion, with ten main institutions in the market, bank consolidation is a strong possibility.

Threats

- The waterways and shipping lanes that surround Malaysia will continue to pose the threat of piracy and terrorism
- Malaysia is at risk, conceivably, of losing out to China in the race for foreign investment. Penang, once the pillar of Malaysia's electronics industry, has seen an exodus of foreign firms, with Seagate, Motorola and Solectron all shifting production to elsewhere in Asia.

Regional Market Overview

The Asia Pacific region has been emerging in recent years as a real force in the automotive industry, both in terms of acting as a production base and providing manufacturers with relative untapped markets. Many car makers have shifted production operations from traditional US and Western European locations to Asian countries with lower costs.

The markets of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have become prominent and are expected to account for 13% of Asia's total vehicle output by 2011, compared with 7% at present according to industry data. In 2005, output from the four major markets of the region – Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia – surpassed 2.3 million units, and is projected to exceed 3 million by the end of our forecast period in 2010.

Thailand is the leading production base in the ASEAN bloc, accounting for output of 1.125 million units in 2005. As the world's second-largest producer of pick-up trucks and a flourishing export base, thanks largely to Government incentives, the country is set to continue attracting foreign investment and was expected to exceed output of 1 million units in 2005. That milestone had already been passed by November 2005. The country's importance as a hub has been underlined by a series of projects by multinational car makers.

Honda, for example, has revealed plans to consolidate its parts operations in Thailand under one new subsidiary. The company has invested THB 1.28 billion in **Asian Parts Manufacturing Company**, which will produce parts for Honda models built in Asia (including Oceania), Europe and Japan. Due to become operational in June 2007, the new business will employ 200 people. The venture is a response to the growing demand for body parts in Honda's global production operations. Establishing a single parts unit will reduce costs and improve delivery efficiency, while the existing **Honda Asian Parts Centre** in Chachoengsao will continue in its role of managing Honda's global parts supply network and acting as a regional sourcing and logistics centre.

Nissan Motor, meanwhile, has set up a base for the export of automotive parts in Laem Chabang, Thailand. The unit, which will be operated by local subsidiary **Siam Nissan Trading**, will source parts from 94 Thai suppliers, to be shipped



to Nissan production plants in 110 countries. The centre will become operational in January 2007, supplying body panels and roof assemblies for the Tiida compact car to countries where the model is assembled, including Mexico. Further parts will be added to the range in the future, as the base is expected to become Nissan's second-largest export base outside Japan.

The Philippines is also enhancing its position as a production hub, with **Toyota** choosing the country as the base for its largest transmission production base outside Japan. Exports will play a large role in the development of the Philippines auto industry, as the Government has recently introduced a vehicle export programme. The country has also played a part in vehicle innovation, as **Ford** became the first company in April 2006 to roll out a flex-fuel vehicle in the Philippines, with the launch of a Focus model powered by either gasoline, ethanol or a mixture of the two.

The Philippines Government is promoting the use of coco-biodiesel, sugarcane ethanol and jathropa biodiesel as alternatives to conventional fuel, as the country aims to reduce its dependence on imported oil. Indeed, the Government is offering tax breaks and other incentives to manufacturers that invest in hybrid development.

A raft of new assembly licences awarded to international manufacturers has increased Malaysia's annual production capacity to 700,000 units, although this has raised the question of over-capacity in a market of under 500,000 units. In 2005, actual output totaled just 563,408 units. A report published by Malaysia's Ministry of International Trade & Industry (MITI) in July 2006, outlines the Government's aim to create an automotive industry centred on two strong national manufacturers under the National Automotive Policy (NAP). The domestic giants will be 'complemented' by overseas producers, possibly with local partners. The Government is looking to the current incumbents to increase production, while rationalizing models in order to streamline the industry. As a result, the component sector is expected to become more efficient, largely due to the merging of companies, while output grows and the sector becomes more integrated into the global industry.

Overseas manufacturers have not be deterred from investing in local production, however, as Hyundai plans to begin production of an SUV in Malaysia next year, through local importer **Hyundai-Sime Darby Motors**. The model is yet to be revealed, although Hyundai currently imports the Tuscon compact SUV and Santa Fe crossover SUV. The announcement was made as Hyundai-Sime Darby launched its latest domestically produced vehicle, the Getz 1.4-litre model. Producing the Getz in Malaysia has enabled the company to reduce the price of the model by over MYR 10,000 from the imported version of MYR 58,000.

In Indonesia, some industry figures are understandably concerned about the impact of reduced tariffs on the country's domestic industry. The Indonesian Finance Ministry has finalized the second round of tariff reductions for imported automotive products, on its way to achieving AFTA obligations by 2010. The new structure will apply to vehicles between 1,500cc and 3,000cc, with tariffs falling from 70% to 60%. By 2010, tariffs on all CBUs must be lowered to 40% in all categories. Manufacturers in Indonesia produced 530,000 vehicles in 2005 and imported 75,000 from other Southeast Asian countries and 15,000 from outside of the region. However, Gaikindo, the Indonesian Automotive Producers Association, estimates that local car makers will only be able to produce 500,000 units in 2006, due to increasing operating costs and growing competition from imported vehicles.

Despite this, **General Motors** is mulling the prospect of re-opening its production plant in Indonesia. The plant, with an annual production capacity of 15,000 units, has been idling since March 2005. The project is a notable show of confidence in Indonesia, which has witnessed a contraction in the automotive market over the year to date, as a result of escalating interest rates and a Government policy to double fuel prices in October 2005. GM is carrying out a feasibility study in order to determine the level of investment and models to be produced at the plant, which is due to re-open in 2007.

Outside of the ASEAN trade bloc, the two major forces are China and India. China's rapid growth in recent years led the China Federation of Machinery Industry to forecast a 20% y-o-y increase in output in 2005, to over 6 million units, which would have toppled Germany from its position as the world's third-largest automotive producer. In fact, China produced 5.71 million units, up 12.6% y-o-y. China's production segment is supported by an equally burgeoning component industry, with many international parts manufacturers planning to expand, based on the rapid growth of CBU production in China.

Indeed, US car maker Ford has announced plans to spend US\$ 2.6 billion on the procurement of parts and equipment from China for its global production. Following a Q3 loss of US\$ 5.8 billion for its global operations, Ford is looking to cut back on costs and has suggested that China will play an increasing role in its restructuring plans. This level of spending is twice the US\$ 1.3 billion invested by Ford since its arrival on the mainland in 2001, and Ford Executive Chairman Mr. William Clay Ford Jr. has confirmed that further investment for China is on the cards.

India was the world's fastest-growing auto market in 2004 and has established a position as a popular production and export base due to its low operation costs. India was responsible for output of around 1.7 million (four-wheeled) vehicles in 2005-06, around 14% of which was exported. By 2010, we expect the country's annual output to exceed 3 million units, as its export potential is further developed.

**Table : Asia-Pacific Autos Production – Historical Data & Forecasts
(CBUs unless otherwise stated)**

	2003	2004	2005	2006f	2007f	2008f	2009f	2010f
Australia	408,186	405,314	388,985	396,764	404,699	410,770	418,984	427,361
China (mn)	4.444	4.910	5.710	6.566	7.551	8.684	10.160	12.192
Hong Kong	n/a							
India (mn)	1.264	1.277	1.699	2.042	2.332	2.662	3.035	3.436
Indonesia	322,044	408,311	524,930*	556,000	585,200	605,050	626,983	652,061
Japan (mn)	10.286	10.617	10.799	10.993	11.213	11.577	11.810	12.046
Malaysia	350,000	471,975	563,408	546,505	562,900	574,158	585,641	603,210
Pakistan	105,280	152,529	200,160	246,341	253,334	266,011	279,311	293,278
Philippines	53,777	70,728	113,000*	149,000	156,500	175,280	196,313	215,944
Singapore	n/a							
S. Korea (mn)	3.177	3.469	3.699	3.948	4.181	4.268	4.354	4.440
Taiwan	386,686	430,814	446,345	348,879	359,345	370,125	384,930	400,327
Thailand	763,000	928,081	1.125 mn	1.215 mn	1.313 mn	1.418 mn	1,531 mn	1.653 mn
Vietnam	43,000	32,500	33,800	38,400	88,800	139,200	189,600	257,856

*f = forecast, *BMI estimate, n/a = not available. (Sources : OICA, BMI research)*

In terms of sales, the regional market is expected to expand further as more developed markets in the West saturate. According to industry data, vehicle sales in the ASEAN countries alone are expected to account for 4.4% of global sales by 2010. In China, sales are slowing slightly following a feverish couple of years in 2003 and 2004. However, sales in excess of 8.8 million units are still forecast for 2010. In 2005 vehicle sales reached 5.76 million units. Domestic sales have been largely boosted by the removal of import quotas under WTO obligations.

In contrast, the more developed market of South Korea is facing sluggish domestic demand, based on reasonably high car ownership. Sales on the home market fell by 17% in 2004, although South Korean manufacturers offset this poor performance with a 41.7% increase in export sales. Domestic demand is expected to pick up, however, in the region of 30% by 2010. The upswing began in 2005 as domestic sales rose 4.3%, with exports again boosting sales with growth of 19.1%.

**Table : Asia-Pacific Autos Sales – Historical Data & Forecasts
(CBUs unless otherwise stated)**

	2003	2004	2005	2006f	2007f	2008f	2009f	2010f
Australia	909,811	955,229	988,269	1.038 mn	1.079 mn	1.158 mn	1.243 mn	1.333 mn
China (mn)	4.390	4.878	5.760	6.451	7.096	7.805	8.430	8.852
Hong Kong	30,306	34,717	34,028	34,436	34,849	35,267	35,691	36,119
India (mn)	1.159	1.251	1.055	1.150	1.253	1.379	1.544	1.730
Indonesia	354,331	483,295	533,841	341,913	364,821	386,710	409,913	426,309
Japan (mn)	5.828	5.820	5.852	5.854	5.942	6.060	6.181	6.366
Malaysia	405,100	487,605	551,042	568,742	602,866	639,038	677,380	718,023
Pakistan	103,606	140,738	200,893	235,528	249,659	264,638	279,633	293,616
Philippines	92,336	88,075	97,603	103,947	110,681	119,536	129,099	139,426
Singapore	113,797	131,222	145,058	153,241	158,534	165,909	171,839	178,098
S. Korea (mn)	1.318	1.093	1.142	1.222	1.303	1.388	1.479	1.568
Taiwan	361,878	422,232	446,477	334,858	344,904	355,251	369,461	384,239
Thailand	533,176	626,000	703,432	713,983	749,683	809,657	874,430	944,385
Vietnam	63,264	64,131	52,264	43,787	46,689	51,450	59,808	67,465

f = forecast,

**BMI estimate.*

(Sources : OICA, BMI research)

Japanese companies tend to dominate the competitive landscape in Asia, with Toyota taking the lead in its domestic market, many of the ASEAN countries, Singapore and Taiwan. One of the keys to its success is a varied product portfolio, which includes small cars and sedans through to the pick-up trucks that form the backbone of the International Innovative Multi-purpose Vehicle (IMV) programme. In the rapid growth market of India, however, it is **Maruti Suzuki** that claims over half of the passenger car market. Suzuki also leads the passenger segment in neighbouring Pakistan, accounting for over 58% of sales and continuing the Japanese hold on the Asian region.

The increasingly valuable Chinese market, however, is a different story, with German giant **Volkswagon** (VW) fighting it out with US major GM through respective joint ventures. Volkswagon took the lead in 2004, but GM hit back in 2005 increasing sales at its Chinese joint ventures by 35% to 665,390 units, resulting in a top-ranking market share of 11.2%.

(Source : EEPC Singapore Office)

(To be continued at next issue)



Afghanistan

(EEPC Ref. No. DB-1634)

Project : Education Quality Improvement Program
Grant No. H-119, Project ID No. P083964
Grant from IDA

Notice No. : **WB2032-704/07**

Issued by : Ministry of Education, 3rd Floor
Mohammad Jan Khan Watt
Deh Afghanan, Kabul
Afghanistan
Attn. : Mr. Sibghatullah Hamid
Procurement Manager
Tel. : (93-75) 201-7482
E-mail : hamid@afhanglobe.net

For : - Lot A : 4WD Cross-country Vehicle (All Terrain Vehicle) - 11 units
- Lot B : Motorcycle (125 cc) - 20 units
- Lot C : 4WD Cross-country Vehicle (Station Wagon) - 4 units

Bid security : - Lot No. A : US\$ 5,500 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
- Lot No. B : US\$ 525 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
- Lot No. C : US\$ 5,000 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Bid deadline : **12.07.2007**

Armenia

(EEPC Ref. No. DB-1635)

Project : Health System Modernization Project
Credit No. IDA 3920 AM; Project ID No. P073974
Credit from IDA

Notice No. : **WB2042-704/07**

Issued by : Health Project Implementation Unit State Agency
17 Shirvanzade St.
Polyclinic of "Arabkir" Medical Center, 1st Floor
(Health PIU office is located on the 1st & 2nd Floors
of the right wing of Polyclinic, and the entrance to the office is from Shirvanzade St.)
Yerevan 0014, Armenia
Attn. : Mr. Narek Yervandyan
Procurement Officer
Tel. : (374-10) 622-310, 622-148; (374-91) 679-453
Fax : (374-10) 622-334
E-mail : hpiu@arminco.com

For : Procurement and installation of X-ray equipment for Marz Central Hospital Networks (in 10 Marzes - regions - of Armenia).

Tender cost : Non-refundable fee in AMD 45,000 or US\$ 100

Bid security : US\$ 40,000 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Bid deadline : **25.07.2007**

Grenada

(EEPC Ref. No. DB-1636)

Project : OECS Education Development Project
Loan No. 7187-GD, Credit No. 3809-GD, Project ID No. P077759
Loan from IBRD

Notice No. : **WB2019-704/07**

Issued by : Portfolio Manager
Project Coordinating Unit
Ministry of Education
Botanical Gardens
Tanteen, St. George's
Grenada W, I.
Tel. : 473 440 7439
Fax : 473 440 7701
E-mail : pmugrn@spiceisle.com

For : Supply of Science Equipment for seven schools (4 lots)

Tender cost : Non-refundable fee of EC\$ 270 or US\$ 100 or equivalent in a freely convertible currency

Bid security : Lot 1 : US\$ 1,000; Lot 2 : US\$ 2,000; Lot 3 : US\$ 2,000; and Lot 4 : US\$ 3,600 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Bid deadline : **13.07.2007**

Indonesia

(EEPC Ref. No. DB-1637)

Project : Domestic Gas Market Development Project
Loan No. 4810-IND; Project ID No. P077175
Loan from IBRD

Notice No. : **WB2054-704/07**

Issued by : Tender Committee for Domestic Gas
Market Development Project
Pt. Perusahaan Gas Negara (Persero), Tbk
Building B, 1st Floor
Jl. KH. Zainul Arifin No. 20
Jakarta 11140, Indonesia
Tel. : (62-21) 633-4838/4848/4861
Fax : (62-21) 633-1541
E-mail : panlel_wjd@pgn.co.id

For : Pipeline Construction Contractor (PCC) for Greater Jakarta Distribution Branchline. The Scope of Works will include but not limited to the following :

- (a) Design, and installation of various diameter gas distribution pipeline from 4" up to 10" diameter with total length approximately 48.745 km and cathodic protection system complete with all attendant civil work, mechanical and procurement of installation materials excluding coated pipes.
- (b) Pre-commissioning of the Pipeline System comprised within the Project.

Tender cost : Non-refundable fee of Rp. 5,000,000

Bid security : Not less than 2% of bid price or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Bid deadline : **19.07.2007**

(Source : UN Development Business Website)

Mauritius

Issued by : Airports of Mauritius Co. Ltd.
AML House
SSR International Airport
Plaine Magnien
Mauritius
Tel. : 230 603 6000
Fax : 230 637 5306

For : Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of three units of cabin baggage screening X-Ray machines.

Tender cost : Non-reimbursable sum of MUR 2500 per set.

Closing date: **18.06.2007** at 13.00 hrs.

For further details, please contact :

Mr. Gaurav Shresth
First Secretary (Commerce)
High Commission of India
Port Louis, Mauritius
Tel. : 230 2083775/76
E-mail : hicombc@intnet.mu

(Source : High Commission of India, Port Louis)

Mauritius

Plaines Wilhems Sewerage Project Stage 1

Issued by : Wastewater Management Authority
The Celicourt
Sir Celicourt Antelme Street
Port Louis, Mauritius
Tel. : (230) 206-3000
Fax : (230) 211-7007
E-mail: wma@intnet.mu

Website : wma.gov.mu

Contract No. : **WW80F**

For : - Lot 1A : Construction of reticulation system

The contract comprises the construction of sewers, manholes, house connections and associated civil works.

Tender cost : Non-refundable fee of Mauritian Rupees (MUR) 2,000.00 or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency.

The Prequalification Document may also be dispatched on request, against payment of an additional non-refundable fee of MUR 1500.00 per set.

Further information on this notice of prequalification may be obtained by writing or by Fax to :

C. Lotti & Associati
20, Avenue Des Rosiers
Morc. St. Jean
Quatre Bornes
Tel. : (230) 467 4262/37
Fax : (230) 467 3829

or

Mr. Gaurav Shresth
First Secretary (Commerce)
High Commission of India
Port Louis
Mauritius
Tel. : 230 2083775/76
E-mail : hicombc@intnet.mu

(Source : High Commission of India, Port Louis)

Trade Enquiries



Australia

(Source : Direct from the party)

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Addresses</i>	<i>Contact Person/Tel./Fax/E-mail</i>	<i>Items interested</i>
Reliable Traders	74 Hillcrest Road Alexander Heights W.A. 6064 Australia	Attn. : Mr. Balbir Rajput Tel/Fax : 61-8-93432932 E-mail : businessguru@hotmail.com	Brass terminals (link bars) in 2 sizes as per following details : These are to be made from 9 x 12 mm rectangular bar. The bigger terminal will have 7 x 2 holes with screws & one 4 mm dia hole in the centre for fixing it to the board. It weighs 46 gm. The screws will be brass plated with Philips head. The smaller terminal will have 5 x 2 holes with screws & one 4 mm dia hole in the centre for fixing it to the board. It weighs 34 gm. The screws will be brass plated with Philips head. Quote for the supply of 6000 pcs. each size on CIF (Fremantle, Australia) basis preferably in AUDs. (Drawing/photograph can be obtained from any of the EEPC offices in India/downloaded from EEPC Website under Trade Enquiries section).

Singapore

(Source : EEPC Singapore Office)

Hi-Cool Trading Co. Pte. Ltd.	10, Ubi Crescent #02-28 Ubi Techpark Singapore 408564	Attn. : Mr. Lawrence Chua Director Tel. : 65-68460193/4193 Fax : 65-68460194/0196 E-mail : sales@hicool.com.sg Website : www.hicool.com.sg	Refrigerators and air-conditioning parts.
Precision Auto Air-Conditioning Co. (Pte.) Ltd.	203, Kaki Bukit Ave. 1 Singapore 416036	Attn. : Mr. H. P. Lim Tel. : 65-67430933/67453231/ 677426289 Fax : 65-67480900	Parts & accessories for vehicles.

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Addresses</i>	<i>Contact Person/Tel./Fax/E-mail</i>	<i>Items interested</i>
Wui Hong Enterprises (Pte.) Ltd.	No. 24, Ubi Road 4 Wui Guang Building Singapore 408612	Attn. : Mr. Peter Yap Tel. : 65-67479864/67425370/ 677424886 Fax : 65-67482941 E-mail : wuihong@pacific.net.sg Website : www.wuihong.com.sg	Parts & accessories for vehicles.
Chong Aik International Pte. Ltd.	No. 221, Onan Road Singapore 424603	Attn. : Mr. Dennis Teh Managing Director Tel. : 65-63455183 Fax : 65-63447376 E-mail : chongaik@pacific.net.sg Website : www.chongaik.com.sg	Motorcycle spare parts & accessories.



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 52/2007-NT-Customs

Dated 28th May, 2007

S.O.(E) – In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (i) of clause (a) of Sub-Section (3) of Section 14 of Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and in supersession of the Notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No.32/2007-NT-Customs, dated the 25th April, 2007 [S.O.649(E) dated the 25th April, 2007], the Board hereby determines for the purposes of said Section, relating to **imported goods**, that the rate of exchange of conversion of each of the foreign currency specified in column (2) of each of *Schedule - I* and *Schedule - II* appended hereto into Indian currency or *vice versa* shall, with effect from the 1st June, 2007 be the rate mentioned against it in the corresponding entry in column (3) thereof.

SCHEDULE - I

S. No.	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Australian Dollar	33.60
2.	Canadian Dollar	37.75
3.	Danish Kroner	7.40
4.	EURO	55.00
5.	Hong Kong Dollar	5.25
6.	Norwegian Kroner	6.80
7.	Pound Sterling	81.25
8.	Swedish Kroner	6.00
9.	Swiss Franc	33.80
10.	Singapore Dollar	26.85
11.	US Dollar	40.90

SCHEDULE - II

S. No.	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Japanese Yen	33.35

Sd/-

(S. P. RAO)

(F.No. 468/7/2007-Cus. V)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 53/2007-NT-Customs

Dated 28th May, 2007

S.O. (E) – In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (i) of clause (a) of Sub-Section (3) of Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and in supersession of the Notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 33/2007-NT-Customs, dated the 25th April, 2007 [S.O.650(E), dated the 25th April, 2007], the Board hereby column (2) of each of *Schedule - I* and *Schedule - II* appended hereto into Indian currency or *vice versa* shall, with effect from the 1st June, 2007 determines for the purposes of said Section relating to **export goods**, that the rate of exchange of conversion of each of the foreign currency specified in, be the rate mentioned against it in the corresponding entry in column (3) thereof.

SCHEDULE - I

S. No.	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Australian Dollar	33.00
2.	Canadian Dollar	37.15
3.	Danish Kroner	7.25
4.	EURO	54.10
5.	Hong Kong Dollar	5.15
6.	Norwegian Kroner	6.65
7.	Pound Sterling	80.05
8.	Swedish Kroner	5.90
9.	Swiss Franc	33.25
10.	Singapore Dollar	26.40
11.	US Dollar	40.40

SCHEDULE - II

S. No.	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of 100 units of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Japanese Yen	32.85

Sd/-

(S. P. RAO)

(F.No. 468/7/2007-Cus. V)

Under Secretary to the Government of India



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 23/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (A) and clause (B) of Section 135 of the Finance Act, 2007 (22 of 2007), the Central Government hereby appoints the 1st day of June, 2007, as the date on which the provisions of the said clauses of Section 135 of the Finance Act, 2007 (22 of 2007) shall come into force.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.B1/16/2007-TRU]



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 24/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994) (hereinafter referred to as the Finance Act), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts the taxable service of renting of immovable property, referred to in sub-clause (zzzz) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Finance Act, from so much of the service tax leviable thereon as is in excess of the service tax calculated on a value which is equivalent to the gross amount charged for renting of such immovable property less taxes on such property, namely property tax levied and collected by local bodies :

Provided that any amount such as interest, penalty paid to the local authority by the service provider on account of delayed payment of property tax or any other reasons shall not be treated as property tax for the purposes of deduction from the gross amount charged :

Provided further that wherever the period for which property tax paid is different from the period for which service tax is paid, property tax proportionate to the period for which service tax is paid shall be calculated and the amount so calculated shall be excluded from the gross amount charged for renting of the immovable property for the said period, for the purposes of levy of service tax.

Example :

Property tax paid for April to September = Rs. 12,000/-
Rent received for April = Rs. 1,00,000/-
Service tax payable for April = Rs. 98,000/- (1,00,000–2,000) *applicable rate of service tax

2. This Notification shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2007.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.B1/5/2007-TRU]



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 25/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994) (hereinafter referred to as the Finance Act), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts commercial or industrial construction service, referred to in sub-clause (zzq) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Finance Act, and services provided in relation to the execution of works contract, referred to in sub-clause (zzzza) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Finance Act, provided to any person by any other person in relation to construction of port or other port, from the whole of the service tax leviable thereon under Section 66 of the Finance Act.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this Notification, it is hereby declared that,-

- (i) commercial or industrial construction service or services provided in relation to the execution of works contract in relation to construction of port or other port shall not include services of completion and finishing, repair, alteration, renovation, restoration, maintenance or repair provided in relation to existing port or other port; and
- (ii) "port" and "other port" have the meanings respectively assigned to them in clauses (81) and (76) of Section 65 of the Finance Act.

2. This Notification shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2007.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.B1/5/2007-TRU]



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 26/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994) (hereinafter referred to as the Finance Act), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby rescinds the Notification of the Government of India in Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No.16/2005-Service Tax, dated the 7th June, 2005, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number G.S.R. 358(E), dated the 7th June, 2005, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such rescission.

2. This Notification shall come into force with effect from the 1st day of June, 2007.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No. B1/5/2007-TRU]

Note. - The principal Notification No. 16/2005-Service Tax, dated the 7th June, 2005 was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number G.S.R. 358(E), dated the 7th June, 2005 and was last amended vide Notification No.19/2006-Service Tax, dated the 25th April, 2006 vide number G.S.R. 249(E), dated the 25th April, 2006.



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 27/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (2) of Section 68 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following further amendment in the Notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 36/2004-Service Tax, dated the 31st December, 2004, which was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number G.S.R. 849(E), dated the 31st December, 2004, namely :-

In the said Notification, in paragraph (A), in sub-paragraph (i), for the words "a telephone connection or pager or a communication through telegraph or telex or a facsimile communication or a leased circuit", the words "telecommunication service" shall be substituted.

2. This Notification shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2007.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No. B1/16/2007-TRU]

Note. - The principal Notification No. 36/2004-Service Tax, dated the 31st December, 2004 was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide number G.S.R. 849(E), dated the 31st December, 2004 and was last amended by Notification No. 3/2007-Service Tax, dated the 1st March, 2007 vide number G.S.R. 157(E), dated the 1st March, 2007.



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 28/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Sections (1) and (2) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Service Tax Rules, 1994, namely :-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Service Tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2007.
(2) They shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2007.
2. In the Service Tax Rules, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the said rules), in rule 2, in sub-rule (1), in clause (d), in sub-clause (i), for the words "a telephone connection or pager or a communication through telegraph or telex or a facsimile communication or a leased circuit", the words "telecommunication service" shall be substituted.
3. In the said rules, in rule 6, after sub-rule (4B), the following sub-rule shall be inserted, namely :-
"4C. Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rules (4), (4A) and (4B), where the person liable to pay service tax in respect of services provided or to be provided in relation to renting of immovable property, referred to in sub-clause (zzzz) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Act, has paid to the credit of Central Government any amount in excess of the amount required to be paid towards service tax liability for a month or quarter, as the case may be, on account of non-availment of deduction of property tax paid in terms of Notification No. 24/2007-Service Tax, dated the 22nd May, 2007, from the gross amount charged for renting of the immovable property for the said period at the time of payment of service tax, the assessee may adjust such excess amount paid by him against his service tax liability within one year from the date of payment of such property tax. The details of such adjustment shall be intimated to the Superintendent of Central Excise having jurisdiction over the service provider within a period of fifteen days from the date of such adjustment".

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F. No. B1/5/2007-TRU]

Note. - The principal rules were notified vide Notification No. 2/94-Service Tax, dated the 28th June, 1994 and published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary vide number G.S.R.546 (E), dated the 28th June, 1994 and were last amended vide Notification No. 20/2007-Service Tax, dated the 12th May, 2007 vide G.S.R. 349(E), dated the 12th May, 2007.

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 29/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (aa) of Sub-Section (2) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Service Tax (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006, namely :-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Service Tax (Determination of Value) (Amendment) Rules, 2007.
(2) They shall come into force with effect from the 1st day of June, 2007.
2. In the Service Tax (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006, after rule 2, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:-
“2A. Determination of value of services involved in the execution of a works contract :
(1) Subject to the provisions of Section 67, the value of taxable service in relation to services involved in the execution of a works contract (hereinafter referred to as works contract service), referred to in sub-clause (zzzza) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Act, shall be determined by the service provider in the following manner :-
(i) Value of works contract service determined shall be equivalent to the gross amount charged for the works contract less the value of transfer of property in goods involved in the execution of the said works contract.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this rule,-

- (a) gross amount charged for the works contract shall not include Value Added Tax (VAT) or sales tax, as the case may be, paid, if any, on transfer of property in goods involved in the execution of the said works contract;
- (b) value of works contract service shall include,-
 - (i) labour charges for execution of the works;
 - (ii) amount paid to a sub-contractor for labour and services;
 - (iii) charges for planning, designing and architect's fees;
 - (iv) charges for obtaining on hire or otherwise, machinery and tools used for the execution of the works contract;
 - (v) cost of consumables such as water, electricity, fuel, used in the execution of the works contract;
 - (vi) cost of establishment of the contractor relatable to supply of labour and services;
 - (vii) other similar expenses relatable to supply of labour and services; and
 - (viii) profit earned by the service provider relatable to supply of labour and services;



- (ii) Where Value Added Tax or Sales Tax, as the case may be, has been paid on the actual value of transfer of property in goods involved in the execution of the works contract, then such value adopted for the purposes of payment of Value Added Tax or Sales Tax, as the case may be, shall be taken as the value of transfer of property in goods involved in the execution of the said works contract for determining the value of works contract service under clause (i).

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F. No. B1/7/2007-TRU]

Note : The principal rules were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary vide Notification No. 12/2006-Service Tax, dated the 19th April, 2006, vide number G.S.R. 228 (E), dated the 19th April, 2006, and were last amended vide Notification No. 24/2006-Service Tax, dated the 27th June, 2006, vide number G.S.R. 383(E), dated the 27th June, 2006.



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 31/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 93 and 94, read with Section 66A of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules to amend the Taxation of Services (Provided from Outside India and Received in India) Rules, 2006, namely :-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Taxation of Services (Provided from Outside India and Received in India) (Amendment) Rules, 2007.
- (2) They shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2007.
2. In the Taxation of Services (Provided from Outside India and Received in India) Rules, 2006, in rule 3, in clause (i), for the brackets, letters and word "(zzzh) and (zzzr)", the brackets, letters and word "(zzzh), (zzzr), (zzzy), (zzzz) and (zzzza)" shall be substituted.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.B1/16/2007-TRU]

Note.- The principal rules were notified vide Notification No. 11/2006-Service Tax, dated the 19th April, 2006 and published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary vide number G.S.R. 227(E), dated the 19th April, 2006.



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 32/2007-Service Tax

Dated 22nd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 93 and 94 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely :-

1. Short title and commencement.–

- (1) These rules may be called the Works Contract (Composition Scheme for Payment of Service Tax) Rules, 2007.
- (2) They shall come into force with effect from the 1st day of June, 2007.

2. Definitions.– In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,-

- (a) “Act” means the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994);
- (b) “Section” means the Section of the Act;
- (c) “works contract service” means services provided in relation to the execution of a works contract referred to in sub-clause (zzzza) of clause (105) of Section 65 of the Act;
- (d) words and expressions used in these rules and not defined but defined in the Act shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 67 of the Act and rule 2A of the Service (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006, the person liable to pay service tax in relation to works contract service shall have the option to discharge his service tax liability on the works contract service provided or to be provided, instead of paying service tax at the rate specified in Section 66 of the Act, by paying an amount equivalent to two per cent. of the gross amount charged for the works contract.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this rule, gross amount charged for the works contract shall not include Value Added Tax (VAT) or Sales Tax, as the case may be, paid on transfer of property in goods involved in the execution of the said works contract.

- (2) The provider of taxable service shall not take CENVAT credit of duties or cess paid on any inputs, used in or in relation to the said works contract, under the provisions of CENVAT Credit Rules, 2004.
- (3) The provider of taxable service who opts to pay service tax under these rules shall exercise such option in respect of a works contract prior to payment of service tax in respect of the said works contract and the option so exercised shall be applicable for the entire works contract and shall not be withdrawn until the completion of the said works contract.

Sd/-

(G. G. PAI)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.B1/7/2007-TRU]



**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 33/2007-Service Tax

Dated 23rd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E) – In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts all taxable services specified in Section 65 of the said Act provided by any person, for the official use of a foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India, from whole of the service tax leviable under Section 66 of the said Act, namely :-

1. Procedure :- To claim the exemption the following procedure shall be fulfilled, namely :-
 - (i) the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India, is issued with a certificate by the Protocol Division of the Ministry of External Affairs that it is entitled to exemption from service tax, as stipulated in the certificate, based on the principle of reciprocity;
 - (ii) the head of such foreign diplomatic mission or consular post, or any person of such mission or post authorized by him, shall furnish to the provider of taxable service, a copy of such certificate duly authenticated by him or such authorized person, along with an undertaking in original, signed by him or such authorized person, bearing running serial number commencing from a financial year and stating that the services received are for official purpose of the said foreign diplomatic mission or consular post;
 - (iii) the head of such foreign diplomatic mission or consular post or such authorized person shall maintain an account of such undertakings issued during a financial year and such account shall contain :-
 - (a) the serial number and date of issue of such undertakings;
 - (b) the name and the registration number of the provider of taxable service; and
 - (c) the description of taxable service and invoice number.
 - (iv) the invoice or bill or as the case may be, the challan issued under the provision contained in rule 4A of the Service Tax Rules, 1994 shall, in addition to the information required to be furnished under the said rule, contain the serial number and the date of the undertaking furnished by the said head of foreign diplomatic mission or consular post; and
 - (v) the provider of taxable service shall retain the documents referred to in point number (i) above alongwith a duplicate copy of invoice issued, for the purposes of verification.
2. In case the Protocol Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, after having issued a certificate to any foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India decides to withdraw it subsequently, it shall communicate the withdrawal of such certification to the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post.
3. The exemption from the whole of the service tax granted to the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India for official purpose shall not be available from the date of withdrawal of such certification given to them.

Sd/-

(ASHIMA BANSAL)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No. 137/17/2007-CX.4]

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 34/2007-Service Tax

Dated 23rd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E) - In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts all taxable services specified in Section 65 of the said Act provided by any person, for the personal use or for the use of the family members of diplomatic agents or career consular officers posted in a foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India, from whole of the service tax leviable under Section 66 of the said Act, namely :-

1. Procedure :- To claim the exemption the following procedure shall be fulfilled, namely :-
 - (i) the Protocol Division of the Ministry of External Affairs issues a certificate that the diplomatic agents or career consular officers posted in such foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India, are entitled to exemption from service tax, as stipulated in the certificate based on the principle of reciprocity;
 - (ii) the Protocol Division of the Ministry of External Affairs or the Protocol Department of the State concerned issues to each of such diplomatic agent or career consular officer an identification card bearing unique identification number and containing a photograph and name of such diplomatic agent or career consular officer and the name of the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India where he is posted;
 - (iii) the head of such foreign diplomatic mission or consular post or any person of such mission or post authorized by him, shall furnish to the provider of taxable service, a copy of such certificate duly authenticated by him along with an undertaking in original, signed by him, bearing running serial number commencing from a financial year and the unique identification number as appearing in the identification card issued to the diplomatic agent or career consular officer and stating that the services received are for personal use of the said diplomatic agent or career consular officer or members of his/her family;
 - (iv) the head of such foreign diplomatic or consular post or such authorized person shall maintain an account of such undertakings issued during a financial year and such account shall contain :-
 - (a) the serial number and date of issue of such undertakings;
 - (b) the name, designation and unique identification number of the diplomatic agent or career consular officer in favour of whom such undertaking has been issued;
 - (c) the name and the registration number of the provider of taxable service; and
 - (d) the description of taxable service and invoice.
 - (v) the invoice or bill or as the case may be, the challan issued under the provision contained in rule 4A of the Service Tax Rules, 1994 shall, in addition to the information required to be furnished under the said rule, contain the serial number and the date of such undertaking and the unique identification number of the diplomatic agent or career consular officer; and
 - (vi) the provider of taxable service shall retain the documents referred to in point numbers (ii) and (iii) above along with a duplicate copy of invoice issued for the purposes of verification.



2. In case the Protocol Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, after having issued a certificate to any foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India or as the case may be the identification card issued to a diplomatic agent or career consular officer, decides to withdraw any one or both of them subsequently, it shall communicate the withdrawal of such certificate or identification card, as the case may be, to the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post.
3. The exemption from the whole of the service tax granted to the foreign diplomatic mission or consular post in India for the personal use or use of their family members shall not be available from the date of withdrawal of such certification or identification card or as the case may be.

Sd/-

(ASHIMA BANSAL)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No. 137/17/2007-CX.4]

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
New Delhi**

Notification No. 35/2007-Service Tax

Dated 23rd May, 2007

G.S.R.(E) - In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby rescinds the following Notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), as specified in column(2) of the Table below, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such recession namely :-

Table

Serial Number	Notification Number and Date
(1)	(2)
1.	5/96-Service Tax, dated the 3rd April, 1996 [G.S.R. 174(E), dated the 3rd April, 1996]
2.	10/96-Service Tax, dated the 26th November, 1996 [G.S.R. 543(E), dated the 26th November, 1996]
3.	44/98-Service Tax, dated the 20th January, 1998 [G.S.R. 47(E), dated the 20th January, 1998]
4.	50/98-Service Tax, dated the 15th June, 1998 [G.S.R. 346(E), dated the 15th June, 1998]
5.	51/98-Service Tax, dated the 15th June, 1998 [G.S.R. 347(E), dated the 15th June, 1998]
6.	1/2001-Service Tax, dated the 3rd July, 2001 [G.S.R. 504(E), dated the 3rd July, 2001]

Sd/-

(ASHIMA BANSAL)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

[F.No.137/17/2007-CX.4]



Reserve Bank of India
Foreign Exchange Department
Central Office, Mumbai 400 001

RBI/2006-2007/419

A. P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 64

Dated 25th May, 2007

**Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) Regulations, 2000 -
Operation of NRO account by Power of Attorney Holder**

Attention of Authorised Dealer Category-I (AD Category - I) banks and authorised banks (the banks) is invited to paragraph No. 7 of Schedule 3 to Notification No. FEMA 5/2000-RB dated May 3, 2000 viz., Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) Regulations, 2000 (the Notification), as amended from time to time, in terms of which a person resident outside India may open with an AD Category - I/authorised bank, a Non-Resident Ordinary Rupee (NRO) account, jointly with residents.

2. As announced in the Annual Policy Statement for the year 2007-08 [para 146(ii) (ii)], it has been decided to extend the facility of operation of NRO account by Power of Attorney granted in favour of a resident by the non-resident individual account holder. Accordingly, the banks may allow operations on an NRO account in terms of such a Power of Attorney, provided such operations are restricted to (i) all local payments in rupees including payments for eligible investments subject to compliance with relevant regulations made by the Reserve Bank; and (ii) remittance outside India of current income in India of the non-resident individual account holder, net of applicable taxes.

3. The resident Power of Attorney holder is not permitted to repatriate outside India funds held in the account other than to the non-resident individual account holder nor to make payment by way of gift to a resident on behalf of the non-resident account holder or transfer funds from the account to another NRO account.

4. Necessary amendments to Notification No. FEMA 5/2000-RB dated May 3, 2000 [Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) Regulations, 2000] are being notified separately.

5. AD Category - I banks and authorised banks may bring the contents of the circular to the notice of their constituents and customers concerned.

6. The directions contained in this circular have been issued under Sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) and is without prejudice to permissions/approvals, if any, required under any other law.

Sd/-
(SALIM GANGADHARAN)
Chief General Manager



Important Notice

Engineering Export Promotion Council

Vanijya Bhavan (1st Floor), International Trade Facilitation Centre, 1/1 Wood Street, Kolkata-700 016

**To
All Members of the Council**

May 29, 2007

Sub : Voters' List for Working Committee Election (2007-08)

This is to inform you that the Election of the Working Committee of the Council is now due to be held. As you are aware, Ordinary Members are eligible to vote in this Election to elect a member to the Working Committee, from the Panel in which they are primarily classified, in place of the retiring members.

Similarly, two members from each region from amongst Associate Members of the concerned region are elected to the Working Committee in place of those who retire.

Panelwise Voters' List and also the Regionwise Associate Members' List for Working Committee Election have been prepared and copies of the same - certified by the Auditors of the Council, are available at the Head Office, Regional and Sub-Regional Offices of the Council. However, the list is subject to changes in the Panel, to be decided by the Panel Sub-Committee at its next Meeting.

Members are requested to kindly check-up inclusion of their name in the concerned Voters' List and, in case, they find that they have made full payment of the annual membership subscription for the year 2006-07 to the Council by 30th June, 2006 as well as furnished CA Certificate on or before 31st December, 2006 certifying FOB value of their physical exports of engineering goods/services in the year prior to the immediate preceding year i.e. 2004-05 and their name has not been included in the concerned Voters' List, they may kindly send their objection immediately to the Council, preferably by Courier or Fax, together with a copy of the money receipt issued to them by the Council or pay-in-slip acknowledged by HDFC Bank towards full payment of their annual membership subscription on or before 30th June, 2006, so as to reach this office positively by **13th July, 2007**, failing which **Voters' List will be treated as correct and no objection in this regard will be entertained in future.**

(B. SARKAR)

Addl. Executive Director & Secretary

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