



MONTHLY DIGEST

March 2024



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From the Desk of the Director General



Dear Readers,
Greetings!

March plays a vital role for organizations in India, especially during an election year. At this pivotal juncture, MAIT has been actively driving its policy advocacy initiatives.

Firstly, as part of fostering knowledge exchange, MAIT partnered with Deloitte to conduct a webinar on Exim and Taxation issues. Secondly, in matters of sustainability, MAIT contributed to the draft guidelines on 'Greenwashing' and engaged in various sustainability initiatives. Additionally, MAIT's Environment Committee engaged in strategic discussions aimed at creating a far-reaching impact for a sustainable world, collaborating with various stakeholders.

Furthermore, MAIT strongly advocated for the inclusion of Interactive Flat-Panel Displays within the scope of the "All in One PC" category under the PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT hardware.

Lastly, MAIT has been invited to contribute to the upcoming India Mobile Congress-2024.

This edition encapsulates the exciting initiatives undertaken by MAIT during the last month. We hope you find it an engaging read.

Warm regards,
Col Suhail Zaidi (Retd)
Director General, MAIT

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POLICY INITIATIVES

During the last month, MAIT has been actively involved in understanding the challenges faced by the Electronics Industry and addressing them with the relevant Government departments for resolution. While undertaking numerous initiatives during this period, some of the key issues addressed by the association are outlined below:

Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)

- On 30 Mar' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Communications & Electronics & IT, Government of India, regarding the challenges faced by the ICT Industry related to the EPR compliance.
- MAIT filed a representation to Shri Nirmod Kumar, Director, Ministry of Electronics & IT, on 07 Mar' 24 regarding the inclusion of 'Interactive Flat-Panel Display' within the scope of the "All in One PC" category under the PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT hardware.

Department of Telecommunication (DoT)

On 20 Mar' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Chairman DCC & Secretary (T), Department of Telecommunications, requesting for additional TAC ranges for prototype/test/trial mobile device IMEIs and meeting appointment.

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

- MAIT filed a representation to Shri Pramod Kumar Tiwari, Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards on 11 Mar' 24, requesting further measures to augment the security of a brand's product/model information in the www.crsbis.in portal.
- On 11 Mar' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Smt. Chitra Gupta, DDG (FMC, Hallmarking and Registration Dept.), Bureau of Indian Standards, request to allow flexibility in the "Publish date" option in the BIS portal.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)

- On 30 Mar' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister, MoEF&CC, Government of India regarding the challenges faced by the ICT Industry with respect to the EPR Compliance.
- MAIT filed a representation to Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC on 18 Mar' 24 regarding the communication with CPCB on EWM, PWM and BWM issues faced by the ICT Industry held on 04 Mar' 24.



POLICY INITIATIVES

Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

MAIT filed a representation to Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director General, DGFT on 21 Mar' 24 related to SEZ concerns pertaining to SEZ ONLINE (NSDL) to ICEGATE Migration.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

On 22 Mar' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Tanmay Kumar, Chairman, CPCB, highlighting the challenges faced by the industry regarding the BWM compliance.

Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA)

On 21 Mar' 24, MAIT submitted its inputs on Draft Greenwashing Guidelines to the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoI&B)

On 19 Mar' 24, MAIT submitted its inputs to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MoI&B) regarding the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)'s recommendations on promoting local manufacturing in the television broadcasting sector.



FEEDBACK REQUESTS/CIRCULARS

- On 28 Mar' 24, MAIT shared the minutes of the meeting held with the BWM division of CPCB that had held on 27 Mar' 24 were shared with members.
- Requested inputs from members on 28 March 2024 on Letter w.r.t. the EPR Compliance challenges faced by the industry.
- MAIT shared the points discussed in the meeting held on 14 March 2024 regarding EoDB Environment Report with its members on 23 March 2024.
- MAIT shared the key takeaways from the 17th Customs Consultative Group (CCG) held on 21 March' 24 with its members on the same day.
- On 21 Mar' 24, MAIT extended invitation to its members regarding the MAIT-Dialogue Roundtable on "Development of Component Ecosystem in India" that is scheduled for 02 Apr' 24
- MAIT requested inputs from its members on 21 Mar' 24 on draft Greenwashing Guidelines.
- MAIT extended invitation to its members on 21 Mar' 24 for BIS' two-day Young Professionals Workshop that was scheduled for 27 & 28 March 2024
- On 20 Mar' 24, MAIT shared the draft representation on challenges faced by industry regarding the BWM Compliance with its members for inputs.
- MAIT sought comments from its members on 20 Mar' 24 on the draft representation on SEZ ONLINE (NSDL) to ICEGATE Migration - Challenges for SEZs.
- MAIT requested inputs from its members on 20 Mar' 24 on break down of battery pack, display module and camera module in IT hardware products, as required by MeitY.
- On 20 Mar' 24, MAIT shared its comments on TAC ranges for prototype/test/trial mobile device IMEIs with its members for inputs.
- MAIT requested inputs from its members on 19 Mar' 24 regarding the inclusion of tempered glass screen protector under the Compulsory Registration Order (CRO), as required by MeitY.
- On 19 Mar' 24, MAIT requested comments from its members related to the issues surrounding the 'Panic Button' feature in mobile handsets that was referred in MeitY meeting.
- MAIT sought information from its members on 19 Mar' 24 regarding the manufacturing status of desktop, tablet, laptop and mobile phones, as required by MeitY.



FEEDBACK REQUESTS/CIRCULARS

- On 15 Mar' 24, MAIT shared the minutes of the MAIT Environment Committee Strategy Meeting held on 05 Mar' 24 with its members.
- On 15 Mar' 24, MAIT shared the draft representation with its members for inputs regarding the discussion with CPCB that was held on 04 Mar' 24.
- MAIT requested inputs from members on Model Configuration Upgradation of Laptop, Desktop & Tablet PCs under PPP-MII on 14 Mar' 2024.
- On 13 Mar' 24, MAIT sought comments from its members on issues pertaining to the customs duty being faced by the electronics industry.
- MAIT requested comments from its members on Jan Vishwas 2.0 on 13 Mar' 24, as required by DPIIT.
- On 13 Mar' 24, MAIT reached out to its members regarding inputs required by MeitY in connection with a parliament question related to *Task Force to Resolve Trade Barrier*.
- MAIT shared the office memorandum of DoT regarding the removal of requirement to obtain Wireless Operating License (WOL) with its members on 13 Mar' 24 for information & reference.
- MAIT circulated the guidelines to establish and operate "Spectrum Regulatory Sandbox/Wireless Test Zones (WiTe Zones)" with its members on 13 Mar' 24 for information & reference.
- MAIT sought inputs from its members on 13 Mar' 24 regarding the TEC's 'Formulation of Template of Safety' requirement for all types of telecom equipment.
- On 12 Mar' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members regarding FDI in mobile component manufacturing from China via Automatic Approval Route, as required by MeitY.
- MAIT sought comments from its members on 11 Mar' 24 on issues related to the customs Duty being faced by the electronics industry.
- On 11 Mar' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members regarding the monitoring of WTO TBT notifications.
- On 08 Mar' 24, MAIT reached out to its members for comments from members on issues pertaining to the customs duty issues faced by the electronics industry.



FEEDBACK REQUESTS/CIRCULARS

- MAIT sought inputs from its members on 06 Mar' 24 regarding the inclusion of tempered lass Screen Protector under Compulsory Registration Order (CRO).
- On 06 Mar' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members on TEC's annual action plan.
- On 05 Mar' 24, MAIT reached out out to its members for inputs from members on the suggestions received from DoT on IMEI Tampering.
- MAIT requested for inputs from its members on 05 March 2024 on draft representation to BIS regarding the 2nd level of authentication in the crsbis.in portal and the flexibility in the publish date provision for BIS applications.
- MAIT sought inputs from its members on 05 Mar' 24 on TEC's 'Formulation of Template of Safety' requirement for all types of telecom Equipment.



INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MEETINGS & EVENTS

Engagements with MeitY

- MAIT had a meeting with Ms Tulika Pandey, Sr Director & GC, MeitY on 21 Mar' 24 to discuss issues related to cyber security.
- On 20 Mar' 24, MAIT had a meeting with Shri Sushil Pal, Jt. Secretary, in order to extend an invitation for MAIT-Dialogue Roundtable scheduled for 02 April 2024.
- MAIT represented the industry at the MeitY meeting held on 18 Mar' 24 regarding the 'Panic Button' feature in mobile handsets and shared its inputs on behalf of the industry.
- On 18 Mar' 24 MAIT represented the industry in another consultation meeting organised by MeitY regarding the communication devices with more than 4 SIMs.
- MAIT had a courtesy meeting with Mrs Sunita Verma, Scientist "G" & GC, MeitY on 15 Mar' 24.
- MAIT had a meeting with Ms Asha Nangia, Scientist G & GC, MeitY on 11 Mar' 24 to discuss issues associated with customs.
- MAIT represented the industry at the MeitY Meeting held on 11 Mar' 24 to discuss the issues pertaining to the customs duty being faced by the electronics industry and shared its inputs on behalf of the industry.
- MAIT represented the industry at the MeitY organized on 08 March 2024 to discuss Model Configuration Upgradation of Laptop, Desktop & Tablet PCs under PPP-MII and shared its inputs on behalf of the industry.
- MAIT represented the industry at the MeitY meeting held on 07 Mar' 24 w.r.t. inclusion of Tempered Glass Screen Protector under Compulsory Registration Order (CRO) and shared its inputs on behalf of the industry.
- MAIT had a meeting with Shri Nirmod Kumar, Director, MeitY on 04 Mar' 24 to discuss issues relating to Interactive Flat-Panel Display.

Engagement with BIS

MAIT represented the industry at the Virtual 12th BIS meeting of Active Assisted Living Sectional Committee & its Panels (LITD 3) on 05 Mar' 24.



INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MEETINGS & EVENTS

Engagements with DoT

- MAIT represented the industry at the DoT meeting held on 22 Mar' 24 to discuss the way forward and prospective contributions by the stakeholders regarding the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024.
- On 15 Mar' 24, a MAIT delegation had a courtesy meeting with Shri V J Christopher, Advisor-Wireless, DoT.

Virtual Discussion on amendments released under EWM and PWM

Recently, MoEF&CC released some amendments under Plastic Waste Management Rules and E-Waste Management Rules. MAIT organized an internal meeting on 22 Mar' 24 for the Producers' Sub-Group on 22 Mar' 24 to discuss these recently released amendments and to discuss the action plan. The members deliberated on the interpretations of the rules as well as the impact on the industry and decided the way forward.

Engagement with Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

MAIT represented the industry at the 17th Customs Consultative Group (CCG) meeting held on 21 Mar' 24 chaired by Member-Customs, CBIC and submitted its inputs on behalf of the industry.

Engagement with the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)

MAIT represented the industry at the combined meeting for DCC Sub-Committee and Manufacturer Forum (MF) organised by TEC on 14 Mar' 24 to discuss Standard for Generic Requirements (GRs) of Open - Radio Access Network (O-RAN).

MAIT Mobile & Components Committee Strategy Meeting

MAIT organised its Mobile & Components Committee's strategy meeting on 13 Mar' 24 to plan the activities of the Committee for the ensuing year.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MEETINGS & EVENTS

Engagements with DoCA



- On 26 Mar' 24, MAIT had a courtesy meeting with Ms Nidhi Khare, Secretary, DoCA where MAIT appreciated various initiatives of DoCA on empowering the Indian consumers while ensuring the ease of doing business in India. In the meeting, MAIT also took the opportunity of congratulated the Secretary on the larger opportunities bestowed upon him.
- MAIT had a meeting with Shri Ashutosh Agrawal, Director, DoCA on 26 Mar' 24 to discuss Legal Metrology (LM) issue.
- MAIT represented the industry at the meeting organised by DoCA on 08 Mar' 24 to discuss onboarding on Right to Repair Portal.

MAIT-Deloitte Webinar on EXIM & Taxation Issues

On 15 Mar' 24, MAIT successfully organised a webinar on 'EXIM & Taxation' issues in partnership with leading consulting firm Deloitte. The webinar created an insightful platform for the participants and helping them strengthen their understanding in three key areas consisting of customs duty, current trends in GST and India- European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade Agreement.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MEETINGS & EVENTS

Engagements with CPCB



- A MAIT delegation had a meeting with Member Secretary, CPCB along with the E-Waste, Plastic Waste and Battery Waste Directors on 04 Mar' 24. The meeting was convened by the Member Secretary in a hybrid mode to deliberate on the EPR challenges represented by the industry in the last few months. The representatives of MoEF&CC also joined virtually to hear the industry perspectives on key issues.



- On 27 Mar' 24, a MAIT delegation met the Shri V. P. Yadav, Director, Battery Waste Division, CPCB and Ms. Youthika, Sr. Environment Engineer to deliberate on and to discuss several challenges faced by the industry under the Battery Waste Management Rules. Following the cordial meeting, MAIT is optimistic that the CPCB will address some of the pressing concerns of the industry.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MEETINGS & EVENTS

MAIT Strategy Meeting of Environment Committee



On 05 Mar' 24, MAIT convened the strategy meeting for its Environment Committee in a hybrid format. The objective of the meeting was to reflect on the achievements of the previous year, articulate the long-term objectives for the current year and delineate the Committee's key goals.

The meeting encompassed several important decisions including the publishing of a white paper and enhance engagement with Government officials through events and other outreach initiatives.

Engagement with Department for Promotion on Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

- On 12 Mar' 24, MAIT represented the industry at the DPIIT Meeting on Jan Vishwas 2.0 with industry associations.
- MAIT had a meeting with Ms. Karamjeet Kaur, Joint Director, DPIIT on 07 Mar' 24 to discuss issues related to CRO.

GOVT. NOTIFICATIONS – WHATS NEW!



MoF Notification No.03/2024-Customs (ADD) dated 14 March 2024 w.r.t. PCBs



MoEF&CC Notification dated 14 March 2024 w.r.t. Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules 2024.



DoT OM dated 11 March 2024 regarding removal of requirement to obtain Wireless Operating License (WOL).



DoT OM dated 11 March 2024 reg. Guidelines to establish and operate “Spectrum Regulatory Sandbox/Wireless Test Zones (WiTe Zones).



DGFT Notification No.70/2023 dated 08 March 2024 reg. Extending RoDTEP support for exports made by Advance Authorisation holders, EoU & SEZ units.

KNOWLEDGE BANK



State of India’s Digital Economy 2024 (Source: ICRIER)

MAIT IN MEDIA



11 March 2024, Deccan Herald



11 March 2024, Business Standard



“India’s apex Industry body empowering
IT, Telecom & Electronics Hardware”

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