



Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution **Date:** December 21, 2023

Report Number: IN2023-0098

Report Name: India Authorizes Unrestricted Imports of Yellow Peas

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Agriculture in the News, Agriculture in the Economy, Agricultural Situation, Grain

and Feed, Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

On December 7, 2023, India's Ministry of Finance issued Custom Notification No. 64/2023, exempting imports of yellow peas (harmonized tariff system [HS] code 0713.1010) from customs duties and the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development CESS (AIDC) effective December 8, 2023, through March 31, 2024. On December 8, 2023, India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued Notification No. 50/2023, revising the import policy for yellow peas HS 0713.1010 authorizing unrestricted imports until March 31, 2024. Nevertheless, all imports of yellow peas during this period will be subject to compulsory registration under India's Import Monitoring System. The unrestricted import of the yellow peas helps to support the pulse trade from United States; however, imports of U.S. green peas remain restricted.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report is from India's Ministry of Finance issued Customs Notification No. 64/2023 of December 7, 2023, and Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued Notification No. 50/2023 of December 8, 2023. The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry.

GENERAL INFORMATION

On December 7, 2023, India's Ministry of Finance (MoF) issued **Customs Notification No. 64/2023**, exempting imports of yellow peas (harmonized tariff system [HS] code 0713.1010) from customs duties and the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development CESS (AIDC) effective December 8, 2023, through March 31, 2024 (see, Appendix I). On December 8, 2023, India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) issued **Notification No. 50/2023**, revising the import policy for yellow peas HS 0713.1010 authorizing unrestricted imports until March 31, 2024 (see, Appendix II). All imports of yellow peas during this period will be subject to compulsory registration under India's Import Monitoring System.

Background:

On December 7, 2023, the Ministry of Finance issued Customs **Notification No. 64/2023**, exempting imports of yellow peas HS code 0713.1010 from the prevailing 10 percent *ad valorem* customs duty levied on a cost-insurance-freight (CIF) basis on the import of yellow peas (all origins, including the United States), as well as from the 40 percent AIDC (on CIF basis) effective December 8, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

Subsequently on December 8, 2023, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued **Notification No. 50/2023**, revising the import policy for yellow peas HS 0713.1010 authorizing unrestricted imports until March 31, 2024. Nevertheless, all imports of yellow peas during this period remain subject to compulsory registration under India's Import Monitoring System (that is pending MoCI notification).

So, What Does it Mean for the Import Trade: With these two notifications, India is allowing for the unrestricted import of yellow peas, including: (i) dropping the total effective duty of 50 percent (10 percent basic duty + 40 percent AIDC) and (ii) exempting the minimum import price (MIP) restriction (Indian rupees [INR] 200 per kilogram) for duty assessment and the previous landing port restriction (imports previously authorized only at the Kolkata port). These policy conditions are in effect until March 31, 2024, after which the original restrictive policies will prevail anew. Importers are now anxiously awaiting the government's notification on import registration through the Import Monitoring System. The unrestricted import of the yellow peas helps to support the pulse trade from United States; however, imports of U.S. green peas remain restricted.

Ministry: India's Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Date of Announcement:** December 7, 2023, and December 8, 2023, respectively.

Products effected: Yellow peas, HS code 0713.1010.

Date of Enforcement: December 8, 2023, but effective implementation after the Ministry of Commerce notifies the Import Monitoring System.

APPENDIX I: India, Ministry of Finance, Customs Notification No. 64/2023

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRAORDINARY, PART II, SECTION 3, SUB-SECTION (i)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE)

Notification No. 64/2023-Customs

New Delhi, the 07th December, 2023

G.S.R.(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) read with section 124 of the Finance Act, 2021 (13 of 2021), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts the goods of the description specified in column (3) of the Table below, falling under the tariff item of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) (hereinafter referred to as the 'Customs Tariff Act'), specified in the corresponding entry in column (2) of the said Table, when imported into India, from the whole of the duty of customs leviable thereon under the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act and from the whole of the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess leviable thereon under the said section of the Finance Act, 2021 (13 of 2021), namely: -

Table

Sl. No.	Tariff item	Description of goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	0713 10 10	Yellow Peas

 This notification shall come into force with effect from the 8th day of December, 2023, and shall remain in force up to and inclusive of the 31st day of March, 2024.

[F. No. CBIC-190354/241/2023-TO(TRU-I)]

(Amreeta Titus) Deputy Secretary

APPENDIX II: India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, No. 50/2023

To be published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section-3, Sub-Section (II)

Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Directorate General of Foreign Trade

Notification No.50 /2023 New Delhi, Dated: 08th December, 2023

Subject: Amendment of Import Policy and Policy Conditions for Yellow Peas under ITC(HS) Code 07131010 of Chapter 07 of ITC(HS), 2022, Schedule –I (Import Policy).

S.O. (E).—In exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 and Section 5 of Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, read with paragraph 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023, as amended from time to time, the Central Government hereby amends Import Policy and Policy conditions for Yellow Peas under ITC(HS) Code 07131010 of Chapter 07 of ITC(HS), 2022, Schedule –I (Import Policy) as under—

HS Code & Description	Existing Import Policy	Existing Policy Condition	Revised Import Policy	Revised Policy Condition
07131010 Yellow Peas	Restricted	Import of Peas shall be subject to an annual (fiscal year) quota Minimum Import Price (MIP) of Rs. 200/- and above CIF per kilogram and import is allowed through Kolkata Sea port only. This Restriction shall not apply to Governments import commitments under any Bilateral or Regional Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding.	Free	a) Import is 'Free' without the MIP condition and without Port Restriction, for the period up to 31st March 2024. Import consignments where Customs out-of-charge is issued after 31st March 2024 shall not be considered as 'Free'. b) With effect from 1st April 2024, the 'Restricted' import policy and associated policy conditions as existing prior to this Notification shall come into force. c) All import of Yellow Peas during this period up to 31st March 2024 shall be allowed subject to compulsory registration under the Import Monitoring System.

Procedures in regard to prior registration of Yellow Peas consignments under the Import Monitoring System shall be notified separately. Effect of the Notification: Import of Yellow Peas under ITC(HS) Code 07131010 is "Free" subject to registration under the Import Monitoring system with immediate effect for the period up to 31st March 2024. MIP condition and Port Restriction shall also not be applicable to such Yellow Peas imports for the period up to 31st March 2024. This is issued with the approval of the Minister of Commerce & Industry. (Santosh Kumar Sarangi) Director General of Foreign Trade & Ex- officio Addl. Secretary to the Government of India E-mail: dgft@nic.in [Issued from F. No.M-5012/300/2002/PC-2[A]/Part-VI/E-9019]

Attachments:

No Attachments.