



कालीन निर्यात संवर्धन परिषद CARPET EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Set up by Ministry of Textiles, Govt of India)

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Regional Office: IICT Campus, Baghi Ali Mardan Khan, Nowshera, Srinagar - 190023 (J & K)

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SANJAY KUMAR

Executive Director-cum-Secretary

No. CEPC/HQ/ED-Corrs/2021-22

Dated: 11th June, 2021

All Members of the CEPC

Sub.: **Request for SPS Issues.**

Dear Members,

Members may be aware that The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the "SPS Agreement") entered into force with the establishment of the World Trade Organization on 1 January 1995. It concerns the application of food safety and animal and plant health regulations. The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures sets out the basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health standards. It allows countries to set their own standards. But it also says regulations must be based on science. They should be applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health. And they should not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between countries where identical or similar conditions prevail. Member countries are encouraged to use international standards, guidelines and recommendations where they exist. However, members may use measures which result in higher standards if there is scientific justification. They can also set higher standards based on appropriate assessment of risks so long as the approach is consistent, not arbitrary. The agreement still allows countries to use different standards and different methods of inspecting products.

Department of Commerce vide e-mail dated 11th June, 2021 informed that meeting of SPS Committee is scheduled to be held in July, 2021 in DoC in which Govt. intended to raise Specific Trade Concerns against SPS Measures proposed/adopted by other WTO Members.

Members are requested to kindly inform the SPS issues faced by them for their exports of Handmade Carpets and other floor coverings, if any, by 11.00 a.m. of 14th June, 2021 to enable us to take up the same appropriately with the Department of Commerce.

Regards,

Sanjay Kumar
Executive Director