

MAIT

MONTHLY DIGEST

Jan 2024



www.mait.com



contact@mait.com



011-35083169/269

Dear Readers,
Greetings!



As we welcomed January, the inaugural month of the year, it unfolded at MAIT as a time of significant activity and notable achievements. Within the walls of MAIT, it set the stage for positive developments and lasting impacts.

While the world celebrated the new year with great enthusiasm, MAIT marked the beginning of the year with two major policy breakthroughs. Firstly, the Parallel Testing provision was made permanent for 64 electronics goods under CRO. Secondly, the clarification from DGFT stated that goods like personal computers no longer fall under the 'restricted items' category of the Import Policy Provisions. Adding to the positive momentum were the successful hosting of two consecutive mega events: the 'Leveraging Tech to Empower Small Enterprises' conference and the 'MeitY-MAIT Industry Connect' programme. Both events strengthened MAIT's relationships with top government officials and industry leaders.

With these positive developments, MAIT looks forward to enhanced cooperation and stronger ties with its various partners and stakeholders. As we embark on this journey together, we remain committed to fostering an environment of collaboration and progress.

We are excited to announce the launch of our monthly newsletter, titled 'MAIT Monthly Digest.' In this newsletter, you can expect to find insightful updates, industry news, and highlights of our initiatives aimed at driving positive change. We hope you appreciate and enjoy reading this edition.

Best wishes to all!

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

Inside this Edition

Key Policy Win(s)

Policy Initiatives

Feedback Requests & Circulars

Internal/External Meetings & Events

Govt. Notifications & Knowledge Bank

MAIT in Media

Highlights

Guidelines Issued on Parallel Testing for 64 CRO Products

Notification on Import Provisions issued by DGFT

MeitY-MAIT Industry Connect



Leveraging Tech to Empower Small Enterprises Conference



Guidelines on Implementation of Parallel Testing for 64 CRO Products

- ▶ On 9 Jan' 24, BIS released the new guidelines titled "Guidelines for implementation of Parallel Testing for products covered under Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements of Compulsory registration Order), 2021."

MAIT had played a crucial role behind this amendment by constantly advocating on this matter with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), which resulted in the inclusion of all 64 CRO products under this testing scheme.

This initiative will boost the Go-To-Market (GTM) strategy, saving significant time as compared to sequential testing. In the current business scenario of rapid new model launches, GTM time is a critical competitive differentiator. Parallel Testing is a significant step in the same direction. MAIT appreciates BIS for this revolutionary step.

Notification on Import Provisions

- ▶ On 12 Jan' 24, the Department of Commerce and Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, issued a notification regarding **Import Policy Provisions**.

As per the notification, the 'Import Restriction' applicable to products under **HSN 8471** is only for Laptops, Tablets, All-in-one Personal Computers, Ultra Small Form Factor Computers, and Servers. It does not apply to other goods such as Desktop Computers, etc. under tariff head 8471.

This clarification is a welcome move by the industry.



MeitY-MAIT Industry Connect Evening



MAIT successfully organised the MeitY-MAIT Industry Connect programme on 30 Jan' 24 at Hotel Royal Plaza, Ashoka Road, New Delhi. Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY and Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar, Additional Secretary, MeitY were the chief guest and guest of honour at the programme respectively. The programme was designed to further strengthen the relationship between the ministry and the industry.

Addressing a diverse audience comprising industry leaders and policy experts from IT Hardware, Telecom, Mobile Phones, and other subsectors of the ICT industry as well as key government officials, Secretary Krishnan mentioned that the government aims to increase value addition in the overall electronics manufacturing sector.

Secretary Shri Krishnan further stated: "We are poised to become the largest market in electronics in the coming years. Electronics will constitute a significant portion of products in India that are traded and exported globally. If we aim to boost domestic manufacturing, India's component manufacturing has to grow."

The Additional Secretary Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar, in his speech, emphasized on the R&D aspect of MeitY, which is a major investment area of the ministry. He mentioned that the ministry has allocated a budget of INR 1000 Crores for R&D.

"Currently, 400 R&D projects are ongoing under MeitY. The R&D projects are posted on MeitY's Project Review and Information Management Electronics System (PRIME) portal," Shri Kumar mentioned while appealing to the industry to come up with ideas and work towards R&D.

MAIT organises Leveraging Tech to Empower Small Enterprises conference



- MAIT successfully organised the conference namely 'Leveraging Tech to Empower Small Enterprises' on 17 Jan' 24 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The conference had an impressive assemblage of government officials, senior industry experts from MNCs, Indian large business houses, MSMEs and academia. The conference witnessed more than 100 delegates.

Shri Sanket Bhondve, Joint Secretary, MeitY, was the chief guest for the inaugural session while Ms. Mercy Epao, JS, MSME, was the chief guest for the plenary session.

Shri Rajkumar Rishi, President-MAIT and also Managing Director of Consumer & Small Business, Vice President, and General Manager of APJ Retail, delivered the inaugural address.

Besides, thought leaders from financial institutions, academia, business consultancy, and manufacturing industry addressed the conference. The list of the speakers at the conference included Shri S.P. Singh, Chief General Manager, SIDBI, Dr. S. Glory Swarupa, Director General, National Institute of MSMEs (Ni-MSME), Shri Amrit Manwani, Chairman, Sahasra, Shri Devesh Rastogi, CEO, Laps N Tabs, Shri Rajveer Singh, MD, Apex Cluster Development Services (ACDS), Dr Guru Prasad, CEO, Ka-Naada, Shri Koreth Mathew, Director, A&T Video Networks, Shri Radhesh S, Director-Medium Business, Dell Technologies.

Col. Suhail Zaidi (Retd), Director General, MAIT, played an important role in organising the conference.

The key objective of the conference was to address the challenges and opportunities faced by small businesses in India within the dynamic digital landscape. The primary focus was to discuss how technology can be used as a catalyst to empower and transform small enterprises, fostering their growth and resilience.

11th MAIT Governing Council Meeting held



- ▶ On 30 Jan' 24, MAIT organised its 11th Governing Council (GC) Meeting at Hotel Royal Plaza, Ashoka Road, New Delhi. The meeting was steered by Mr. Sanjay Lodha, Vice President, MAIT, along with Mr. Amrit Jiwan, Vice President, MAIT. Various ICT industry issues took centre stage at this meeting

Virtual Brainstorming Session with EY on 'Movement of Used IT assets from SEZ Units to DTA'



- ▶ On 23 Jan' 24, MAIT organised a brainstorming session on the 'Movement of Used IT assets from SEZ Units to DTA' in association with leading consulting firm EY. The session deliberated upon the challenges faced by member companies operating under SEZ.

The brainstorming session was related to a DGFT notification issued on 01 Jan' 24, which allowed used IT assets to be moved from SEZ units to DTA without a license for *restricted imports* for the purpose of further use in their DTA operations only.

Engagements with Department of Telecommunications (DoT)

- ▶ MAIT represented the industry at the webinar on "The Telecommunications Act 2023" on 10 Jan' 24.
- ▶ MAIT represented the industry at the DoT meeting held on 02 Jan' 24 to discuss issue of test/prototype mobile devices regarding spectrum.

Engagements with Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)

- ▶ MAIT represented at the TEC Meeting of Sub-DCC & MF on 30 Jan' 24 to discuss the revision of GR on Lithium-ion Battery for Telecom Applications and submitted its inputs on behalf of the industry.
- ▶ MAIT represented the industry at the 5th TEC Committee meeting held on 19 Jan' 24 for the finalization of 'Vision, Action Plan and Strategy Paper on Circular Economy in Telecom Sector' and submitted its inputs on behalf of the industry.

Engagements with CPCB

- ▶ MAIT has been discussing regarding the EPR portal related operational challenges faced by the industry with CPCB. In order to address the same, the E-Waste and Battery Waste Division of CPCB organised a virtual meeting with the members on issues related to the EPR Portal and to resolve all portal related issues in order to facilitate smooth functioning of the system from 22-27 Jan' 24.
- ▶ MAIT had a meeting with Shri Bharat Kumar Sharma, Member Secretary, CPCB on 09 Jan' 24 to discuss the operational challenges faced by the industry under PWMR and BWMR.

Kick-off meeting of the MAIT Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) Committee

- ▶ MAIT organised the kick-off meeting of its EoDB Committee on 24 Jan' 24 with key stakeholders to deliberate upon the strategic roadmap for the Committee for the ensuing year.

Internal discussion on E-Waste Target Reduction

- ▶ MAIT organized an internal discussion on 22 Jan' 24 on the way forward for E-waste target reduction and also debriefing of the meeting held with CPCB.

Discussion regarding setting up the agenda of MAIT EXIM & Taxation Committee

- ▶ MAIT organised an internal discussion with key stakeholders on 12 Jan' 24 regarding the agenda of EXIM & Taxation Committee.

Engagement with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

- ▶ MAIT represented the industry on 11 Jan' 24 at the meeting organised by TRAI to discuss MAIT comments submitted to TRAI on *terahertz* range.

Engagement with Department of Consumer Affairs(DoCA)

- ▶ MAIT represented the industry at the meeting organised on 10 Jan' 24 by DoCA to protect the interests of consumers against Green Washing.

MAIT participates in Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) Meeting

- ▶ MAIT represented the industry at the C-DoT meeting to discuss issues relating to DCC & MF on 09 Jan' 24.



In January 2024, MAIT undertook deep study at the problems being faced by the electronics industry and took up the issues with the appropriate government departments for resolution. While MAIT conducted many policy initiatives during this period, some of the key issues that were taken up by the association are listed below:

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)

- ▶ MAIT filed a representation to Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary, MeitY on 15 Jan' 24 with regard to the concerns faced by the electronics industry under MOOWR.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT)

- ▶ On 05 Jan' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Pushendra Kumar Singh, Dy. Director General (Security Assurance), DoT. The representation was about 'MAIT's comments' on IMEI meeting held on 02 Jan' 24.
- ▶ MAIT filed a representation to Shri Sunil Kumar Singhal, Deputy Director General (AS), DoT, on 04 Jan' 24, seeking exemption in the end user KYC process for procuring new SIM card for R&D purposes.
- ▶ On 18 Jan' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Sanjay Kumar Agrawal, Dy. Director General (DM), DoT, requesting to avail the Auto Readout option in Hindi and English only and exemption for remaining Indian languages as per the Eighth Schedule.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

- ▶ MAIT filed a representation to Shri Sanjay Mangal, Principal Commissioner (GST-I), CBIC on 24 Jan' 24, requesting for clarification on *parallel proceedings*.
- ▶ On 23 Jan' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Vimal Kumar Srivastava, Principal Commissioner-Customs, Ministry of Finance. In the representation, MAIT requested the Ministry for the exemption of telecom goods, their parts and components under Section 65A of the Customs Act (MOOWR).
- ▶ MAIT filed a representation filed to Shri Anupam Prakash, Joint Secretary-Customs, CBIC on 17 Jan' 24 regarding issues pertaining to initiation of e-COO issued by Vietnam.

Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA)

- ▶ On 11 Jan' 24, MAIT filed a representation to Shri Rohit K. Singh, Secretary, DoCA, regarding industry comments and suggestions on the draft 'Guidelines for Prevention of Greenwashing, 2023.'

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

- ▶ MAIT filed a representation to Shri Anand Kumar, Director, CPCB on 09 Jan' 24 regarding MAIT's proposal on target reduction for FY 23-24 under EWM (Electronics Waste Management) Rules 2022.



- ▶ MAIT requested inputs from its members on 25 Jan' 24 for parliament question regarding the development of MSME in the country, as required by MeitY.
- ▶ On 24 Jan' 24, MAIT sought inputs from its members regarding parliament question regarding mobile phones, as required by MeitY.
- ▶ On 25 Jan' 24, MAIT shared the minutes of the meeting held on 22 Jan' 24 to discuss (Electronics Waste Management Rules (EWMR), Battery Waste Management Rules (BWMR) & Plastic Waste Management Rules(PWMR) issues with its members for information and knowledge.
- ▶ On 22 Jan' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members on a draft representation related to clarification on Parallel Proceedings.
- ▶ MAIT requested inputs from its members on 19 Jan' 24 regarding promoting manufacturing in India under PLI for Telecom.
- ▶ MAIT sought inputs from members on 18 Jan' 24 on draft representation on Auto Readout feature in Hindi and English language only.
- ▶ On 15 Jan' 24, MAIT requested its members to fill in MeitY survey on estimation of gig workers and contract workers in the IT-BPM, eCommerce Industry.
- ▶ MAIT sought inputs from its members on 15 Jan' 24 on draft MAIT representation on Auto Readout feature in Hindi and English language only.
- ▶ On 15 Jan' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members on draft representation to CBIC regarding the issues pertaining to initiation of e-COO issued by Vietnam.
- ▶ MAIT requested inputs from its members on 12 Jan' 24 with regard to IMEI tampering verifying authenticity of duplicate/cloned devices.
- ▶ On 12 Jan' 24, MAIT requested inputs from members regarding the concerns faced by the electronics industry under MOOWR.
- ▶ MAIT sought inputs from its members on 11 Jan' 24 concerning the software modification and its timeline on Panic Button issue
- ▶ On 10 Jan' 24, MAIT requested inputs from its members regarding draft TEC Technical Report on Direct Broadcasting to Mobile Handheld Devices.
- ▶ On 10 Jan' 24, MAIT circulated the modified guidelines released by BIS for all CRO products regarding Parallel Testing among its members, for their information and reference.

- ▶ MAIT requested inputs from its members on 09 Jan' 24 on Draft Greenwashing Guidelines, as shared by DoCA.
- ▶ On 09 Jan' 24, MAIT requested inputs from members on the first draft of the EoDB report on the environmental aspects.
- ▶ MAIT shared its agenda for the steering committee meeting on E-Waste was shared with its members for inputs on 09 Jan' 24.
- ▶ MAIT requested inputs from its members on 08 Jan' 24 on details of imports of Telecom and mNetworking Products and manufacturing capacity in India, as required by DoT.
- ▶ On 05 Jan' 24, MAIT shared the minutes of the core committee' meeting organised by DoC to monitor SPS and TBT notifications issued by other countries were circulated to members for their information & reference.
- ▶ MAIT sought inputs from its members on 05 Jan' 24 on draft document regarding the issue of IMEI number for test/prototype mobile devices.
- ▶ MAIT sought inputs from its members on 03 Jan' 24 on draft TEC's technical report on 'Direct Broadcasting to Mobile Handheld Devices.'
- ▶ On 09 Jan' 23, MAIT shared the minutes of the meeting held on 02 Jan' 24 to discuss the issue of test/prototype IMEI for mobile devices.




From Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)


 [Customs Notification No.09/2024 dated 30 January 2024 w.r.t. Mobile Phones](#)

 [Customs Notification No.08/2024 dated 30 January 2024 w.r.t. Mobile Phones](#)

From Department of Telecommunication, Telecommunication Engineering Centre

 [TEC Notification dated 23 January 2024 w.r.t. requirement of documents/exemption against certain parameters of ER of “PON Family of Broadband Equipment” under MTCTE.](#)

From Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Directorate General of Foreign Trade

 [Clarifications regarding Import Policy Provisions for Laptops, Tablets, All-in-One Personal Computers, Ultra Form Factor Computers, Servers under HSN 8471](#)

From Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Directorate General of Foreign Trade

 [DGTR Notification dated 29 Dec' 23 reg. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Printed Circuit Boards \(PCB\)” originating in or exported from China PR and Hong Kong.](#)


Knowledge Bank

 [EoDB Newsletter December 2023 \(Source: DPIIT\)](#)

New BIS norms to speed up electronics, IT hardware Companies' compliance process

Jan 14, 2024, 11:34:00 PM IST

Synopsis

The BIS on January 9 announced that the pilot project on parallel testing for select electronics goods would be institutionalised as a permanent provision, covering a total of 64 products under the Compulsory Registration Scheme (CRS). Manufacturers can opt for parallel testing voluntarily, while those preferring the traditional sequential method could continue to do so.



New Delhi: **Electronics and IT hardware makers can save as much as 4 to 13 weeks in compliance process** with the recent guidelines issued by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for implementing **parallel testing** of their products, an **industry body** said.

The BIS on January 9 announced that the pilot project on parallel testing for select electronics goods would be institutionalised as a permanent provision, covering a total of 64 products

[Economic Times, 14 Jan '24](#)

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

NATION WORLD STATES CITIES OPINIONS BUSINESS SPORT GOOD NEWS MOVIES PHOTOS VIDEOS

Join the movement for safer roads! **YOUR SAFETY OUR PRIORITY**

Business

64 IT, electronics items allowed for parallel testing

With parallel testing, BIS can simultaneously test all components, whereas currently there is a provision for a sequential testing process.



Related Sto

[The New Indian Express, 14 Jan' 24](#)

Govt finalises draft guidelines to prevent cos from false pro-green claims

Industrial pollution clearly shows "greenwashing" and "brownwash" claims. A new provision prohibits the use of green claims if the company does not meet green norms, said a statement.

Latest News

- Ayubhya Bham Manjari** inaugurates 20 bus... **Forwarding...**
- All Power should have** questioned gov't over Maratha... **quite delay...**
- India registers 20 fresh Covid-19** cases, active cases at 4,434

Illustration: AJAY KHANWATE

Press Trust of India (PTI) / News Click

2 FROM BUSINESS STANDARD JAN 11, 2024 7:58 PM IST

[Business Standard, 11 Jan '24](#)

PRODUCTS TO REACH MARKET FASTER

Parallel testing for electronics items

Samsung, Apple to benefit as govt eases testing norms

WELCOME MOVE

- Over the last one year, the govt was running a pilot for parallel testing, moving away from sequential testing.
- In parallel testing, different components are simultaneously tested.
- In sequential testing, the tests are done one after another.
- Electronics industry association MAIT, which represents the IT, mobile, telecom, consumer electronics companies, has called the move progressive.

As per the Compulsory Registration Scheme (CRS), electronic products, whether imported or manufactured locally, require to be mandatorily tested and need security approvals from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), before being deployed in the final product and sold to consumers. Over the last one year, the government was running a pilot project for parallel testing of components, ensuring easy access to the system of sequential testing.

In parallel testing, different components are simultaneously tested unlike sequential testing where the tests are done one after another. As a result, components can be deployed and products can reach market faster in parallel testing compared to sequential testing.

According to industry executives, the entire compliance process can now be completed within 4 to 13 weeks against 16-21 weeks in the case of sequential testing.

Continued on Page 2

[Financial Express, 15 Jan' 24](#)

The logo for Mait consists of the letters 'MAIT' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are stylized, with the 'M' and 'A' having a blocky, geometric appearance. The 'I' and 'T' are also blocky but with a slightly different proportion. The logo is centered on a blue background that features a glowing circuit board pattern in the upper right corner and bottom edge.

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

4th Floor, PHD House, Ramakrishna Dalmia Wing
4/2, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg
New Delhi 110 016, India
www.mait.com