

## Notifications Relating to Alcoholic Beverage Products

1st – 31st July 2024

Under the WTO's Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, member states, for valid reasons, are allowed to regulate markets, protect their consumers, and preserve their natural resources, using tools such as rules for product weight, size, or packaging; ingredient or identity standards; shelf -life restrictions; and import testing and certification procedures.

However, often these measures result in perceived discrimination against imports in order to protect domestic industries.

The TBT Agreement seeks to ensure that standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures are non-discriminatory and are applied on a non-discriminatory basis.

*This Newsletter captures NTBs notified by WTO members and its relevance to Alcoholic beverage products for the month of July 2024. It also highlights the potential impact of these NTBs on India's exports.*

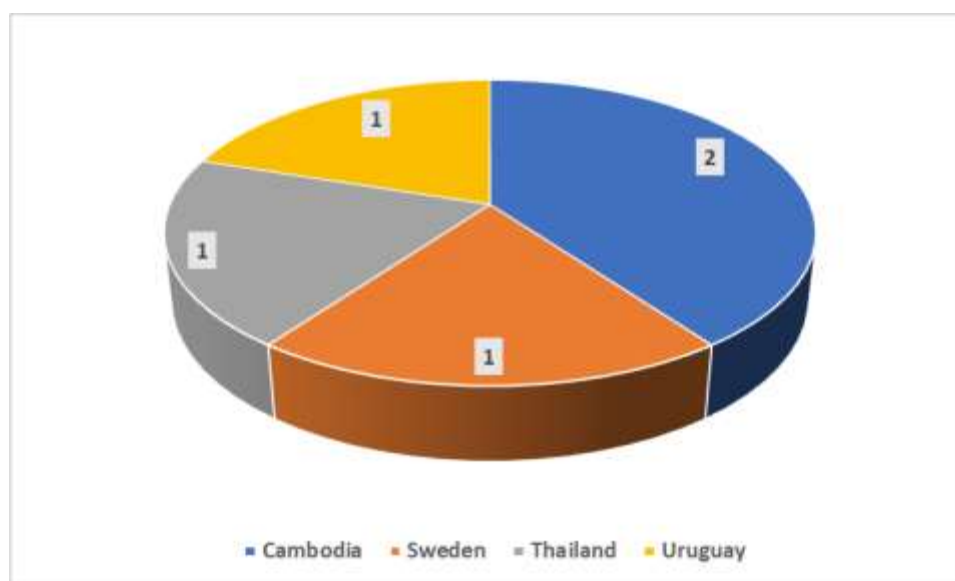
### TBT Notifications Issued by WTO Member Countries

The various WTO Member countries issued 483 TBT notifications during July 2024. Only five notifications are relevant to alcoholic beverages.

### Country-wise Break-up of NTBs Notifications

Review of TBT notifications relating to alcoholic beverage products for the month of July 2024: Cambodia issued two notifications, Sweden issued one notification, Thailand issued one notification, and Uruguay issued one notification. See Figure 1 for the distribution of TBT notifications against alcoholic beverage products.

**Figure 1 Distribution of TBT Notifications Against Alcoholic Beverage Products**



## **Potential Impact of TBT Notifications on Alcoholic Beverage Products**

Data analysis reveals that Notifications issued by the WTO Member countries in July 2024 could potentially affect India's exports worth US\$2.25 million if appropriate measures are not taken to resolve these issues in time.

At the country level, a data review reveals that out of the total potential decline in India's exports, Thailand alone would account for a decline of over US\$2.25 million. India does not export any of the products to the Cambodia, Sweden, and Uruguay markets.

A description of products and the Notifications issued is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Details of Notifications**

Sl. No.	Notifying Member	Distribution date	Document symbol	Description	HS code(s)	India's Exports of the product to issuing country in 2022 (Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
1	Sweden	11-07-2024	G/TBT/N/SWE/157	The proposal is that a provision be introduced in Chapter 5, Section 2, second paragraph, of the Alcohol Act that allows a person with farm sales authorisation to retail self-produced alcoholic beverages pursuant to the provisions in the Alcohol Act's proposed new Chapter 5a on farm sales. The new Chapter 5a includes provisions on requirements and conditions to be granted authorisation for farm sales. Farm sales authorisation can only be granted to independent manufacturers that professionally produce alcoholic beverages themselves. The manufacturers' annual production rates cannot exceed 75 000 litres of spirit drinks, 400 000 litres of fermented alcoholic beverages of up to 10 per cent alcohol by volume, or 200 000 litres fermented alcoholic beverages of more than 10 per cent alcohol by volume.	2203, 2204, 2205, 2206	0	873.75

Sl. No.	Notifying Member	Distribution date	Document symbol	Description	HS code(s)	India's Exports of the product to issuing country in 2022 (Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
2	Uruguay	23-07-2024	G/TBT/N/URY/27/Rev.1/Add.2	The Resolution of the Board of INAVI dated 27 June 2024 repeals the Resolution of the Board of INAVI of 14 February 2019. Accordingly, from 1 July 2024, there will no longer be a requirement, in the import procedure for wine products, for an accredited laboratory in the country of origin to provide proof that the shipment contains no percentage of exogenous water.	2204	0	13.71
3	Thailand	24-07-2024	G/TBT/N/THA/747	According to the Draft Notification of the Alcoholic Beverages Control, Re: Rules, Procedure and condition, on Packaging including warning statement of Alcoholic Beverages produced or imported, issued under B.E. ...., it is specified as follows: 1. Definition of "Packaging" means containers or packages, which are used to contain alcoholic beverages. "Container" means bottles, cans, jars, or containers in any other forms, which are used to contain alcoholic beverages. "Packaging" means material used to contain alcoholic beverage containers, whether by filling, covering, or other methods. 2. Packaging that is containers	2203 to 2208	2.25	460.27

Sl. No.	Notifying Member	Distribution date	Document symbol	Description	HS code(s)	India's Exports of the product to issuing country in 2022 (Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
				produced or imported for sale in the Kingdom shall have a net contained volume of no less than 0.175 litres per container; 3. Displaying warning messages on labels of alcoholic beverages to be exempt from having to comply with the Ministry of Public Health announcement regarding the labelling of food in containers.			
4	Cambodia	29-07-2024	G/TBT/N/KHM/23	This technical regulation shall apply to rice wine products containing methanol at levels less than or equal to 2,000 mg per litre of alcohol. This regulation mandates that anyone who produces, processes, imports, advertises, or sells rice wine must comply with these technical standards.	2204	0	3.8
5	Cambodia	31-07-2024	G/TBT/N/KHM/23/Add.1	This technical regulation shall apply to rice liquor containing methanol at levels less than or equal to 2,000 mg per litre of alcohol. This regulation mandates that anyone who produces, processes, imports, advertises, or sells rice liquor must comply with this requirement.	2204	0	3.8