

Notifications Relating to Cement Products

1st – 30th April 2024

Under the WTO’s Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, member states for valid reasons are allowed to regulate markets, protect their consumers, 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 their relevance to India’s cement products for April 2024. It also highlights the potential impact of these NTBs on India’s exports, if any.

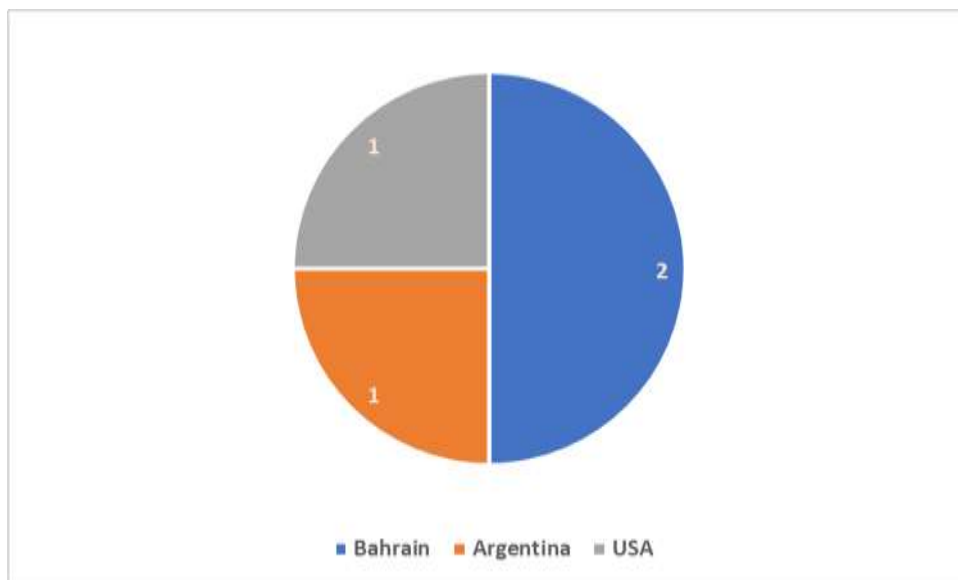
TBT Notifications Issued by WTO Member Countries

During April 2024, the various WTO Member countries issued 268 TBT notifications. Four of these notifications are relevant to cement.

Country-wise Break-up of TBT Notifications

A review of TBT Notifications relating to cement products for the month of April 2024 reveals that out of the total four notifications, Bahrain issued the relatively largest number of Notifications, 2, followed by Argentina (1) and the USA (1) notifications, respectively. See Figure 1 for the distribution of TBT Notifications against cement products.

Figure 1. Distribution of Country-wise TBT Notifications Against Cement Products



Potential Impact of TBTs Notifications on Cement Products

Data analysis reveals that Notifications issued by the WTO Member countries in April 2024 could potentially affect India's exports worth US\$26.46 million if appropriate measures are not taken to resolve these issues in time.

At the country level, data review reveals that out of the total potential decline in India's exports, the USA alone would account for a decline of over US\$26.46 million. India does not export any products to the markets of Argentina and Brazil.

A description of products and the Notifications issued is presented in 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	Bahrain, Kingdom of	12-04-2024	G/TBT/N/BHR/694	This draft is an update to the National Technical Regulation that aims to regulate the import, manufacture, and use of cement products of all types, by specifying the basic requirements for the safety of the products included in the scope of this regulation and specifying the conformity assessment procedures that economic operators must adhere to, in order to ensure that these products conform to the basic requirements.	2523	0	62.43
2	Bahrain, Kingdom of	17-04-2024	G/TBT/N/BHR/694 /Corr.1	The notification contained an incorrect file attachment. The correct file attachment for the notification is therefore attached in this correction.	2523	0	62.43
3	United States of America	26-04-2024	G/TBT/N/USA/185 0/Add.3/Corr.1	The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is correcting a >final rule that appeared in the Federal Register of Thursday, 28 March 2024, which finalized the rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act >TSCA) to address to the extent necessary the unreasonable risk of injury to health presented by chrysotile	2524, 6813	26.46	187.3

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)
				<p>asbestos based on the risks posed by certain conditions of use. The injuries to human health include mesothelioma and lung, ovarian, and laryngeal cancers resulting from chronic inhalation exposure to chrysotile asbestos.>This correction is effective on 28 May 2024.89 Federal Register (FR) 31655, Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 751.</p>			
4	Argentina	29-04-2024	G/TBT/N/ARG/339 /Add.5	<p>It is reported that by Resolution 11/2024 of the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce of the Ministry of Economy, the provisions of point 1.4 of Annex II of Resolution No. 54 dated October 2, 2018 are suspended until July 1, 2025. of the former Secretariat of Commerce Of The Former Ministry of Production And Labor and its amendment, referring to compliance with the requirement established in point 4 of Annex I of the aforementioned Resolution, regarding the packaging of cement in 25 kg bags, notified under symbol G /TBT/N/ARG/339/Add.1.</p>	2523	0	5.07