

Notifications Relating to Glass 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, 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 India’s Glass products for the month of April 2024. It also highlights the potential impact of these NTBs on India’s exports, if any.

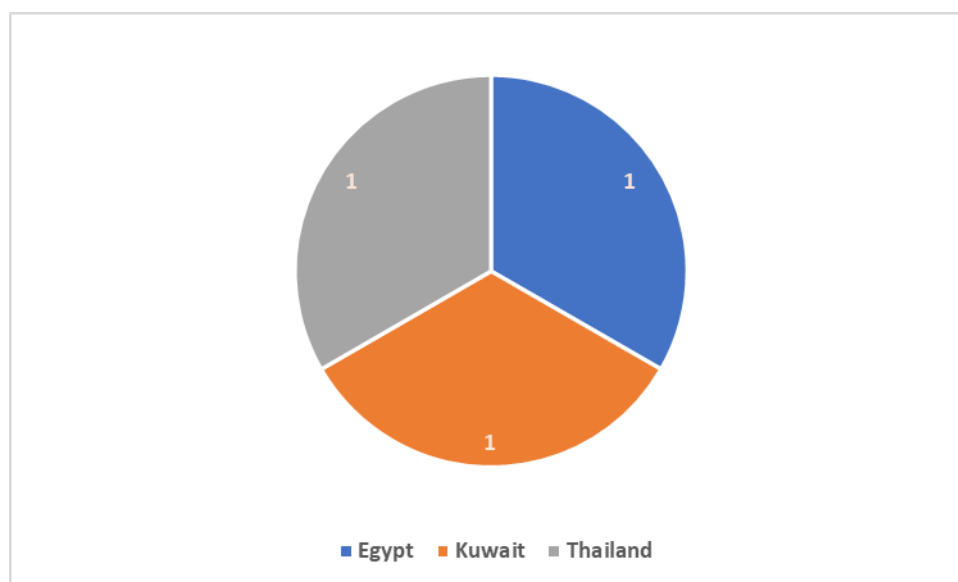
TBT Notifications Issued by WTO Member Countries

The various WTO Member countries issued 268 TBT notifications during April 2024. Three of these notifications are relevant to glass products.

Country-wise Break-up of TBT Notifications

A review of TBT Notifications relating to glass products for the month of April 2024 reveals that out of the total three notifications, Egypt (1), Kuwait (1) and Thailand (1) notifications, respectively. See Figure 1 for the distribution of TBT Notifications against glass products.

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



Potential Impact of TBT Notifications on Glass Products

Data analysis reveals that Notifications issued by the WTO Member countries in April 2024 could potentially affect India's exports worth US\$0.11 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, Thailand alone would account for a decline of over US\$0.11 million. India does not export any products to the markets of Egypt and Kuwait.

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 (Year 2022) Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
1	Egypt	03-04-2024	G/TBT/N/EGY/324/Add.1	This addendum concerns the notification of the Ministerial Decree No.502/2023 that gives the producers and importers a six-month transitional period to abide by the Egyptian Standard ES 353-5 for "Glass in building - Basic soda lime silicate glass products – Part 5: wired patterned glass "; It should be noted that the draft of this standard was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/324 dated 9 May 2022.Worth mentioning is that this standard is technically identical with EN 572-5:2012.Producers and importers are kept informed of any amendments in the Egyptian standards through the publication of administrative orders in the official gazette. Date of adoption: 18 December 2023Date of entry into force: 5 January 2024.	7016	0	62.43

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2	Kuwait, the State of	04-04-2024	G/TBT/N/KWT/673	This document applies to window and glass wall systems with thermal insulation intended for external facades in government, commercial and residential buildings mentioned in Technical Requirements 8/4; Using any of the double or triple glazing options, at any stage of the supply chain within Kuwait. This is in accordance with the relevant definitions and terms mentioned in Article (1) and the relevant specifications mentioned in Appendix (1), provided that this regulation will be updated when the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy makes an amendment or update to the Energy Conservation Code and its executive regulations.	7008	0	2.42
3	Thailand	11-04-2024	G/TBT/N/THA/454/A dd.2	The Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) has proposed to withdraw TIS 2602–2556 (2013) Safety Glazing Materials for Vehicles and replace it with TIS 2602–25XX. This addendum informs that this draft Ministerial Regulation mandates safety glazing materials for vehicles to conform to the Thai Industrial	700711	0	17.24

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				Standard TIS 2602-25XX (20XX) Safety Glazing Materials for Vehicles. This revised standard applies to safety glazing materials intended for installation as windscreens or other panes, or as partitioning, on vehicles of category L with bodywork, M, N, O, and T.			