



PRE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CUSTOM DUTY FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

The following was the criteria for selection of the cases for reduction of custom duty for medical devices:

1. Products currently not manufactured in India
2. Technology intensive products which require a lead time of 3 or more years to develop
3. High on investment and lower sales volumes
4. Used in diagnosis/ treatment of diseases in focus (cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, stroke, mortality rates etc.)

S. No.	Care Area	Key Issue	Justification	Recommendation
1	Oncology (HS Code: 902214)	Medical cyclotrons are designed, built and equipped <u>only for medical use</u> for the production of short lived radio isotopes. Radio isotopes are converted into radiopharmaceuticals for diagnosis of cancer through Positron Emission Tomography (PET) studies. Duty for medical application cyclotrons is the same as industrial cyclotrons at 26.69%	<p>Medical cyclotrons cannot be used for any application other than medical / healthcare purpose.</p> <p>In most developed countries the ratio of PET equipment to cyclotron is about 3:1. Currently in India we have around 155 PET/CT scanners being serviced by 16 cyclotrons. As per the Ernst and Young report on Cancer Care 2015, 1 PET system is needed for every million population. This means that India needs to scale up to 1200 units of PET over the upcoming years. Medical Cyclotrons need to be scaled up to around 150 to be able to serve the PET units.</p> <p>While there are medical cyclotrons & other accelerators for research in physics & industrial purposes, duty for medical cyclotrons is currently being levied at 26.69%, the Customs duty for Medical cyclotrons should be made duty free to encourage and provide impetus to invest towards early cancer diagnosis and therefore saving lives and at affordable treatment costs. Just 1 to 2 cyclotrons are being installed every year. Due to the small numbers sold, the revenue impact from duty exemption to the Government would be minimal and duty exemption can fuel increase investment multi-fold. This is also a product which in the current scenario will be an unlikely candidate for manufacture in India due to huge investment, high cost (15 to 20 crores INR) and low volumes</p>	Customs Duty for Cyclotrons used solely in Medical Applications should be made zero.
2	Oncology (HS Code: 90229030)	Medical Linear Accelerators are designed, built and equipped only for medical use for the treatment of Cancerous Tumour and Lesions. Electrical energy is converted into non ionizing radiation for treatment of cancer using Electrons and Photons. Medical Linear Accelerators cannot be used for any application other than medical/ healthcare purpose. Customs duty for medical accelerators is currently at 18.94%	<p>Currently in India we have around 370 Linear Accelerators in Government and Private Hospitals. As per the Ernst and Young report on Cancer Care 2015, at least 1 Linear Accelerator system is needed for every million population and at present only 40 out of 640 districts in India have Linear accelerator. India needs to scale up to at least 800 units of Linear Accelerators in the next 4-5 years to tackle expected 3-fold increase in patients who would require Radiation Oncology treatment as RT treatments are fast becoming a choice treatment option due to its precision and accuracy clubbed with advanced treatment option with fewer sittings than before. At present the installations per annum is around twenty (20) equipments.</p> <p>The indigenous manufacturing is attempted with the help of know how transfer but only for low energy equipment and is in nascent state and to be able to build high end medical equipment in India we need to build technical know-how, skilling of manufacturing resource, transfer of technology, sourcing of parts and assembling and setting up of factory lines which will need several years to acquire. The energy levels/ technology advancements matter a lot when it comes to treatment of different tumours and the low energy / low end equipment fails to deliver requisite dose in deep seated tumours and skin cancers. Moreover the high end technology for</p>	Customs Duty for medical linear accelerators should be made zero.



			<p>accurate treatment is only available in High Energy equipment e.g. Image Guided radio therapy, tumour tracking and brain tumours. The High end equipment also provides image guided treatment which is mandatory for total tumour control. Further all the technological advancements with respect to treatments are only available on High End equipment.</p> <p>The Cancer treatment in India is already unaffordable for a large section of Society and high Custom duty on the product effect's the end patient's pocket. Custom duty for medical linear accelerator is currently being levied at 18.94%; which rather contrasts the effort by the Government towards providing affordable medical treatment to all sections of society moreover Linear Accelerator is cost heavy equipment ranges between \$1 Million to \$3 Million and high custom duties have already impacted the Hospitals planning to set up cancer care centers in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.</p> <p>Customs duty for Medical Linear Accelerators should be made duty free to encourage and provide impetus to investment towards cancer treatment and therefore saving lives and at affordable treatment costs. The per year installation of linear accelerators in India is also low, the revenue impact to the Government would be minimal but would help regain the imbalance in equipment installed verses patient requiring treatment for this disease.</p>	
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3	Trauma / Diagnosis (HS Code: 90181990)	MRI is used for anatomical studies. Tissue characteristics obtained through a MRI help in diagnosis of disorders related to spine, nervous system, musculo-skeletal, stroke, degenerative diseases, cancer to name a few. MRI is non-radiation device and hence can be used even when X-Ray emitting devices cannot be used such as in cases with children and pregnant women.	<p>For a population of 1.2 Billion, only 1400 units are available in India currently. USA with 350 million population has close to 30,000 units. China has around 14,000 MRI units. The already existing gap will further widen as increased duty from 11.64% to 18.94% increases the cost of MRI equipment by up to 70 Lakh Rupees. Investment decisions are being deferred.</p> <p>Manufacturers are striving to bring MR manufacturing to India as part of "Make In India" strategy. Due to intensive technology and investment, this would take between 2 and 3 years with our best efforts. In the meanwhile, it would help immensely to maintain the current momentum in supply of MRI making it accessible and affordable.</p>	Customs duty for MRIs should be rolled back to 11.64%
4	Endoscopy / Minimally Invasive Surgery (HS Code: 900630)	<p>Endoscopy Camera system and Medical Devices used in Minimal Access surgical procedures is treated as commercial camera and levied a duty of 29% similar to a commercial camera.</p> <p>This is a high end, high technology medical device and should be treated as a medical device and levied a duty similar to essential medical devices and equipment i.e. 12%.</p>	<p>Endoscopy cameras are high end medical grade devices and the total market size annually (based on installation) in India is approximately less than 5000 units in all. It is a very high investment project to set up a manufacturing facility in India and is commercially unviable to set up a manufacturing facility for such low volume local consumption. The number of units sold annually will be few thousand units.</p> <p>Endoscopy camera technology is a complex technology for which adequate component manufacturing ecosystem is not available and there is a big gap in skilled manpower for meeting the rigorous requirements of product development in India. And with the current small market size it is commercially unviable to develop a product in India.</p> <p>The medical camera technology has long gestation period for product development and low product lifecycle as the new advances in technology need to be upgraded on a very regular basis. This is the reason no company is manufacturing the medical grade imaging cameras for minimal access surgery and therapeutic use in India.</p> <p>This is an essential device used in all minimal access surgical and therapeutic procedures which include the minimal access surgeries of cancer, metabolic surgery for diabetics and pelvic surgeries related to women's health as well as family planning.</p> <p>The latest advances in the camera technology also help the surgeons in better diagnosis of onco-pathologies during surgery and help take informed critical lifesaving decisions during surgeries.</p>	Reduce duty on endoscopy cameras to that of medical devices.
5	Endoscopy / Minimally Invasive Surgery (HS Code: 90189021)	Customs duty is 18.94% on Medical Laproscopic Devices (staplers, cutters, and hand instruments), Clips and Clip Appliers (Instrument), Endoscopic surgery for access (Trocars), Generator and Cart (Harmonic scalpel). The basic custom duty was increased to 7.5% & 4% SAD exemption was removed. Hence overall	<p>Minimally invasive procedures, which include laparoscopic surgery, use state-of-the-art technology to reduce damage to human tissue when performing surgery. The advantages of MIS are less major bleeding, fewer post-op infections, fewer complications, shorter length of stay, quicker return to normal activities, and less scarring. This not only benefits the patient but also helps to improve efficiency of the hospital with better bed turn over which is critical especially in a resource constrained healthcare environment.</p> <p>The development of these technologies requires significant research, investment in terms of time (3-5 years), resources to ensure safety, and quality standards are met and patient outcomes are excellent.</p>	Customs duty on these products must be rolled back to 12.04%



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		duty increased from 12.04% to 18.94%	<p>Indigenous manufacturing of medical technology in India is currently restricted to only basic medical equipment and can progress to more sophistication only when we have the right duty structure and other policies that foster innovation with focus on patient safety, optimal standards of healthcare delivery and quality.</p> <p>Staplers, cutters, instruments used for sealing vessels, Trocars in Endoscopic surgery for access, Generator and Cart, Probes, Footswitch, Headpiece etc. are used in Minimally invasive surgeries.</p>	
6	Diabetes (HS Code: 90278090)	<p>Customs duty on blood glucose monitoring strips is 18.94%, for Lancet & control solutions ~25%.</p> <p>Customs duty for strips should be made duty free to encourage self-testing of blood glucose at affordable cost & to improve quality of diabetic patient's life.</p>	<p>In India more than 70 million people are diabetic. Diabetes patients will have greater risks of developing other health problems, such as heart disease, kidney disease, weakening of vision, nerve problems and aridity of skin. Hence regular monitoring can help spot patterns to try to avoid high and low blood glucose, reduce complications of diabetes, and help control diabetes.</p> <p>91% patients still do NOT own a Blood Glucose Monitoring (BGM) in India. The main reason for this is affordability & intent to pay. As a consequence, these diabetes patients do not test themselves and therefore do NOT manage their diabetic condition. This 'working class' productive population now becomes a financial and health burden on the country.</p> <p>The BGM industry is at nil/very low profitability. This is mainly due to import duties. Each meter is sold at a (actual) loss to the company. Since the industry is a low profitable, local manufacturing is a distant dream. Current import or any further increase in duties will adversely affect either the profitability of the company or affordability of the patient.</p> <p>India does NOT reimburse BGM meters and strips, unlike most other countries. In USA, EU, China which reimburse the cost of BGM meters and strips to their patients. The reimbursing bodies do this since they see financial benefits of doing so.</p>	Customs duty for strips and BGMs should be made duty free.
7	Diabetes (HS Code: 30051090 & 90189091)	Due to high incidence of custom duties, Hydro Cellular Foam Dressing, Hydro Cellular Foam Dressing with Silver, Intrasite Gel (HS Code: 30051090) & Cannister Free Negative Pressure Wound Therapy System (HS Code: 90189091) are not affordable to Indian population and can only be accessed by very small number of patients, despite of being available in the country for almost a decade now.	<p>Diabetes currently affects more than 70Mn people in India. Out of this population, approximately 10% are prone to have Diabetic Foot ulcer, sores and foot infections at some point of their life time. Some reports say that there are 100,000 lower limb amputations happening in India every year because of ulcers and which is considered highly underreported as well. Life expectancy of such patients after lower limb amputation is 2 to 5 years. WHO is also pushing for better preventive foot care to eliminate the need of amputations.</p> <p>New technological products in dressing segment like Hydro Cellular Foam Dressing, Intrasite Gel can play important role in treating different type of foot ulcers and widely used globally as treatment protocol for managing ulcers and saving foot. There have been several studies published on that. These products not only help in saving foot if used at right time but also reduce surgical procedures load on the healthcare system and on the patient.</p> <p>By decreasing duty on these products, government will not lose revenue as their volume is very low at present. With reduced duties, benefit of these products can reach to more patients and government can generate higher revenue because of higher volumes. The said items are currently not manufactured in India and it will take around 4 to 5 years to get this manufactured in India.</p>	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero.
8	Advanced Sterilization Products (HS Code:)	Customs duty on Medical sterilizers 26.43%, Biological Indicator 24.47% & Biopatch is 17.1%.	The Advanced Sterilization Products portfolio enhances patient care by preventing infections in hospitals. This encompasses adopting a trusted role in Operating Rooms, Intensive Care Units, Central Sterile Supplies Departments and Endoscopy units, and by offering a wide range of innovative sterilization and disinfection products.	The customs duty on ASP products should be reduced to 5% to improve quality of



	841920)		Medical sterilizers, Biological indicators, Biopatch products plays vital role in infection prevention. This also helps to improve efficiency of the hospital with better bed turn over while reducing post-surgery complications. The custom duty on these products are very high & may result into compromised solutions because of the cost & intent to pay	medical treatment & patient safety.
9	Neurosurgery (HS Code: 9018)	Customs duty is 18.94% on medical devices used in Neurosurgery Medical devices used in Neurosurgery should be exempted from customs duty considering that these products are used for treating Critical deformities & in lifesaving procedures	Neurosurgery, Neurovascular and Craniomaxillofacial are vast array of products and solutions to treat patients with stroke, aneurysms, traumatic brain injuries, facial trauma & reconstruction, tumors and other abnormalities related to the brain and face. The development of these technologies requires significant research, investment in terms of time (3-5 years), resources to ensure safety, and quality standards are met and patient outcomes are excellent. Hence, these equipments are not manufactured in India. Medical devices like Hydrocephalous shunt, accessories, Cardio-Vascular Clamps, scissors, needle holders, Clips, Applying forceps in Neurosurgery, Diathermy Equipment (Electrosurgical Unit), ICP Monitoring Equipment, Implants for Neurosurgery, Instrument for Neurosurgery (Microsurgery)Craniotomy (Pneumatic Drills) are used in Cardio vascular neurosurgery.	Customs duty for neurosurgery equipment should be made zero.

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10	Anesthesia (HS Code: 90183910)	Seldinger Catheters for Arterial Blood Gas Analysis & Arterial Pressure Monitoring. Customs duty on all catheters is 7.5+6+3+4 which includes 6% CVD and 2+1% Education Cess & 4% SAD.	These arterial catheters are inserted into an artery and are used in intensive care medicine and Anesthesia to obtain samples for arterial blood gas analysis (a vital critical care marker) & monitor blood pressure directly and in real-time. These catheters are imported and these delicate catheters cannot be manufactured in India in a hurry as the technological eco-system to guarantee a consistent quality is still to mature in India. These products currently feature under list 37 from chapter 90183910 of the Indian Custom Tariff Act. The current custom duty on this class is 7.5+6+3+4 i.e. 18.95%. In this 7.5% is the basic duty 6% is CVD 2+1% is educational cess & 4% is SAD. Due to increasing difference in custom duties between India & its surrounding countries these low bulk products now make good candidates for being smuggled in to India. The Government would consequently lose revenue and the patient would be beset with products which are not backed by adequate legal & service guarantees. Since these products are not manufactured in India the Basic duty of 7.5% should be brought down to Zero. Plus the countervailing duty of 6% which is imposed in lieu of Excise duty which is imposed on Indian manufacturers also should be reduced to Zero.	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero.
11	Paediatrics (HS Code: 90183910)	Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICCs) for preterm babies & Neonates. Customs duty on all catheters is 7.5+6+3+4 which includes 6% CVD 2+1% Education Cess & 4% SAD.	PICCs in Neonates & pre terms are lifesaving product meant for long term venous access. The sizes used in India are 1, 2, 3 & 4 French in single & two lumens. None of these catheters for preterm babies e.g. Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters are manufactured in India at present & since these are thin and fine catheters the technology eco system to manufactures these products in India will take years to put into place even if the technology transfer happens. These products currently feature under list 37 from chapter 90183910 of the Indian Custom Tariff Act. The current custom duty on this class is 7.5+6+3+4 i.e 18.95%. In this 7.5% is the basic duty 6% is CVD 2+1% is educational cess & 4% is SAD. Due to increasing difference in custom duties between India & its surrounding countries these low bulk products now make good candidates for being smuggled in to India. The Government would consequently lose revenue and the patient would be beset with products which are not backed by adequate legal & service guarantees. These products have a direct bearing on infant mortality reducing which is an important health	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero



			objective of the government. Since these products are not manufactured in India the Basic duty of 7.5% should be brought down to Zero. Plus the countervailing duty of 6% which is imposed in lieu of Excise duty which is imposed on Indian manufacturers, also should be reduced to Zero.	
12	Paediatrics (HS Code: 90189091)	Tonsillectomies being a most common surgery in paediatric patients should be treated with utmost care. Tonsillectomies are considered to be the most painful surgery among all the ENT Surgeries. There are over 5 lacs Tonsil surgeries performed in India every year. Coblation tonsillectomies can reduce pain and down time	<p>Coblation is Controlled Ablation; is a chemical process and not thermal process; tissue removal is not a heat dependent process. Coblation generates sustained plasma through saline delivery. The technology is an advance Bipolar technique wherein the electrical circuit is fully contained in the wand; all in one hand piece. The amount of energy delivery to the tissue can be adjusted by electrode pressure on the tissue.</p> <p>Coblation Wands has a built-in hemostasis solution with the Coag function, has in-built irrigation & suction properties that provides clear field to the surgeon during surgery. All the built in features in Wands leads to tissue ablation with minimal damage to the surrounding tissue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plasma formed according to the Coblation process breaks down the molecular bonds in the tissue. Tissues are ablated at relatively low temperature, 40° C – 70° C <p>The above features are key for performing Bloodless and Less painful surgery for the Surgeon & Patient. Due to the small numbers sold, the revenue impact to the Government would be minimal. The said market is very limited in India and hence the manufacturing set-up time in India will take around 5 years or more, once the volumes pick-up to support a manufacturing base in India.</p>	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero.

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13	Burns (HS Code: 30051090)	Due to high incidence of custom duties Nano Crystalline Silver Dressing, Hydro Cellular Foam Dressing with Silver & Non-Adherent Hydro Phobic Dressing are not affordable to Indian population and can only be accessed by very small number of patients, despite of being available in the country for almost a decade now. Present Custom Duty on these products is 22%	<p>As per WHO data 1Mn people in India are moderately or severely burnt every year and burns is one of the major reasons of deaths in India.</p> <p>Nano Crystalline Silver Dressing is specifically designed used for Burn patients; In several countries Nano Crystalline Silver Dressing is part of in Burn Treatment protocol because of its efficacy and superior results in Burn patients.</p> <p>Similarly, Hydro Cellular Foam Dressing with Silver plays very crucial role in faster healing in burn patients by protecting them from Infection.</p> <p>These products can help in saving lives of many burns patients specifically children. Burn is mostly treated in Government hospitals. These products help in faster recovery of the patient, which will not only reduce the financial burden on the government hospitals because of shorter hospital stay of the patient but also hospitals can treat more number of patients.</p> <p>By decreasing duty on these products, government will not lose revenue as their volume is very low at present. With reduced duties, benefit of these products can reach to more patients and government can generate higher revenue because of higher volumes. The said items are currently not manufactured in India and it will take around 4 to 5 years to get this manufactured in India.</p>	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero.



<p>14</p>	<p>Eye Care (HS Code: 90213900, 90185090)</p>	<p>Approx. 12 million Indians suffer from preventable blindness and nearly 28 percent of global cataract procedures (6.4 million in 2015) are performed in India.</p> <p>With current CSR, India has now having a huge backlog to do cataract operation.</p> <p>Ophthalmic equipment & devices play a central role in the efficient diagnosis, treatment and management of preventable blindness. Duties for intraocular lenses & ophthalmic accessories are at 12.03% while ophthalmic instruments and accessories are at 18.95%</p>	<p>According to the World Health Organization's 2010 Global Data on Visual Impairments, 20 million individuals or 51 percent of the world's blind population—have vision loss due to cataracts. Approximately 12 million Indians suffer from preventable blindness and nearly 28 percent of global cataract procedures (6.4 million in 2015) are performed in India.</p> <p>The Government has taken cognizance to this issue and has rolled out far-reaching initiatives like National Program for Control of Blindness (NPCB) and had also exempted Sight Saving equipment and devices from any custom duties from March, 1988 till Feb, 2002, this exemption actually helped in bringing down the blindness rate significantly by restoring vision in 6.4 million patients in 2015(as per NPCB data) from 0.9 million cataract surgeries reported in 1995(as per Indian J Ophthalmol. 1998 Mar;46(1):47-50)</p> <p>The number of cataract surgeries per 1,000 people (CSR) which is an access indicator has also increased from 1.3 per 1000 in 1989-1990 to 3.6 per 1000 in 2001 which is the corresponding period of duty free regime on ophthalmic equipment and devices.</p> <p>However, despite the resources and policies focused on these efforts, India has a long way to go as CSR is still low compared to wealthy nations. Still India has an estimated CSR of 5.2 per 1,000, compared with 11.7 per 1,000 people in the US. As a result of which most cataracts in US are treated long before they lead to blindness but due to low CSR, India has now having a huge backlog.</p> <p>As per WHO, India will have 134 million aging population of 60 years and above by 2020, but will be able to reach to an estimated 8.1 million Cataract surgeries per Annum only, as per current trend.</p> <p>India is a signatory to the WHO resolution on Vision 2020: The right to sight. Efforts of all stakeholders have resulted in increased number of cataract surgeries performed in India, but in our pursuit to eliminate avoidable blindness, it's a responsibility of all and government must take a lead and continue to support.</p> <p>High duties on imported sight-saving and sight-enhancing medical devices & equipment would only exacerbate the financial burden on patients and compromise patient access in a country where millions of patients are waiting to get the right to sight. While the domestic medical devices industry is still evolving in India, they have limited capacity to meet patient needs for quality devices due to lack of product know-how and the right technology; therefore, the government should not takes such steps to discourage imports and put the financial burden on finished products in its efforts to just bolster domestic manufacturing. This, in our opinion, will be counterproductive and will only have a negative impact on the patient access to quality treatment.</p> <p>In fact, increasing complexity of sight-saving medical equipment & devices mandates it gets a special status.</p>	<p>Basic Customs Duty on Intra Ocular Lenses, Ophthalmic equipment & Accessories should be made Zero.</p>
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15	Cardiovascular (HS Code: 90183990)	Therapy delivery devices play a central role in the efficient diagnosis, treatment and management of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD). Duties for Balloons, Catheters (Guide, Angio & Aspiration) and Wires (Guide and Angio), Input Devices, Inflation Devices, Sheaths and accessories are at 18.943	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2020, almost 60% of patients with cardiovascular disease worldwide will be Indian We are the diabetic and hypertension capital in the world both of which are major Risk factors of Cardiovascular Diseases Approximately 3-4% of Indians in rural areas and 8-10% in urban areas have CAD Compared to rest of the world, Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) manifests at much younger age (56yr) in Indian patients Less than 60% of CAD patients in India receive reperfusion therapy with fibrinolysis India has the highest burden of (ACS) patients in the world. <p>While a lot has been said and done for stents, there are a whole lot of accessories and therapy delivery products which assists an Interventional cardiologist to treat the CAD patients faster and with better patient outcomes.</p> <p>While the domestic medical devices industry is still evolving in India, they have limited capacity to meet patient needs for quality devices due to lack of product know-how and the right technology; therefore, the government should not take such steps to discourage imports and put the financial burden on finished products in its efforts to just bolster domestic manufacturing. This, in our opinion, will be counterproductive and will only have a negative impact on the patient access to quality treatment.</p>	Basic Customs Duty on Cardiovascular Therapy Delivery devices and accessories to be brought down to 5.15%
16	Cardiology (HS Code: 90183920)	Angioplasty Balloon and Catheters contain extremely sensitive alloy, polymer & technology components that cannot be sourced in India currently. Proposed Custom Duty on these devices is 18.94%.	<p>Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) is one of the leading causes of deaths in India. Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), especially coronary heart disease (CHD), have assumed epidemic proportions worldwide. Globally, CVD led to 17.5 million deaths in 2012. More than 75% of these deaths occurred in developing countries including India. Some striking features of CVD epidemiology in India are high mortality rates, premature CHD, and increasing burden.</p> <p>Earlier custom duty on these devices was 11.64% and revised custom duty is 18.94%. The overall cost increase for the products to be used in procedures ranges between 3.3% to 6.5%.</p> <p>These products being technology dependent, a lot of effort and amount goes into research & development of these products. Indian market if compared to global market size is not big enough to start local manufacturing when global capacities are available and not fully utilized. There are some products which have been categorized as lifesaving products hence nil duty is proposed but accessories which will be used to deploy are not categorized as lifesaving hence attracts more duty. For example Coronary stent is exempt from duty while guide wires which are used for the deployment of stent are not duty free. This anomaly should be removed from the system.</p>	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero since stents are also duty free.
17	Cardiac Surgery (HS Code: 90192010)	Oxygenators contains hollow fiber as a key component, which is not available in India.	<p>Oxygenators are not manufactured locally currently. They are highly technical products, and needs significant technology experience / development time, long validation for local manufacturing.</p> <p>These products are used in complex and expensive surgical procedure including Cardiac Surgery procedures. Hence the duty will create more burden on the patient.</p> <p>Earlier custom duty on these devices was 11.64% and revised custom duty is 18.94%. The overall cost increase for the products to be used in procedures ranges between 3.3% to 6.5%.</p>	Basic Customs Duty should be made zero.