





**Mr. Ravi K Passi, - COA Member-EPCH, Ms. Tammana Chaturvedi, IIFT, Guest Speaker during seminar**

In opening remarks, Dr. Chaturvedi explained that how to evaluate Business Implication - In order to protect exports, commercial goods are subject to customs authorities for both the exporting and importing countries. Legal restrictions and trade barriers are in place internationally to control trade, whether goods are being exported or imported. When legal restrictions and trade barriers are lessened or lifted the producer surplus increases and so does the amount of the goods and services that are exported to other countries.

Dr. Tamana Chaturvedi informed the participants that Regional trade agreements (RTAs) can have positive effects on trade depending on their design and implementation. Analysis in this subject confirms that gains from a preferential trade agreement cannot be taken for granted; moreover, even in agreements with positive impacts on average incomes, not all members are assured of increases. She informed that *Regional trade agreements* (RTAs) cover more than half of international *trade* and operate alongside global *multilateral agreements* under the *World Trade Organization* (WTO). Together, these two elements have yielded highly effective synergies between approaches at the *regional* and *multilateral* levels.



**Participant interacting with the Guest Faculty during above seminar**

She briefed that the interesting policy question then is not whether RTAs are categorically good or bad, but what determines their success? The broader policy context in which an RTA is designed and implemented is beneficial. Agreements that have been designed to complement a general program of economic reform have been most effective in raising trade. When RTAs have tended to be fruitless, it is often because of the lack of a coherent program of reform.

She further explained that lower tariff and non-tariff trade barriers should increase trade and enhance consumer choice. She quoted an example, in the case of the Eurasian Customs Union, the immediate "trade creation" effects would mainly reflect the elimination of administrative barriers as customs checks are removed from internal borders (since most trade between the member countries was already subject to zero customs duties). Improvements in cross-border regional infrastructure might also play an important role. Producers within a regional integration grouping can benefit from increased market size. Market size, in turn, is an important factor facilitating innovation, the fixed costs of which can be spread across a larger customer base.<sup>7</sup> At the same time, consumers will also benefit from greater competition in product markets. These effects crucially depend not just on the creation of a single customs area, but also on the elimination of barriers to market access.





**Guest Faculty sharing her experience during seminar**

**She emphasized that** exporting within a regional area may serve as a first step towards the expansion of exports worldwide – by initially building export capacity taking advantage of low tariff and non-tariff barriers within a union, and then leveraging this capability to achieve competitive advantage in exporting to other countries.



**Ms. Chaturvedi interacting with the participants**

During above seminar, participants raised queries and expert faculty member satisfactorily answered their all queries. The seminar was successfully concluded with a formal vote of thanks.

***We welcome suggestions and feedback to make this initiative more productive. Do write to us at: [focusregion@epch.com](mailto:focusregion@epch.com).***