

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2445**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 08<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2018**

**IMPOSITION OF SAFEGUARD DUTY ON IMPORT OF SOLAR CELLS**

2445. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has recommended imposition of safeguard duty for two years on import of solar cells to protect domestic players from steep rise in the inbound shipments of the product;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the increased imports of solar cells whether or not assembled in modules or panels in India have caused serious injury and threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic producers of the product; and
- (d) if so, whether the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has conducted any investigation in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): An application dated 28.11.2017 was filed before the Director General Safegaurds on 05.12.2017 under Rule 5 of the Customs Tariff (Identification and Assessment of Safeguard Duty) Rules, 1997 (hereinafter also referred to as the “said Rules”) by the Indian Solar Manufacturers Association (ISMA) on behalf of five Indian producers, namely(i) M/s Mundra Solar PV Limited, (ii) M/s Indosolar Limited, (iii) M/s Jupiter Solar Power Limited, (iv) M/s Websol Energy Systems Limitedand (v) M/s Helios Photo Voltaic Limitedseeking imposition of Safeguard Duty on imports of “Solar Cells whether or not assembled in modules or panels”.

An examination of the application and the evidence / details / documents submitted under said Rules was undertaken. Thereafter, a Safeguard investigation against imports of the said product into India was initiated vide Notice of Initiation (NOI) dated 19.12.2017.

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) after completing the investigation in accordance with the laid down rules came to the conclusion that increased imports of Solar Cells whether or not assembled in modules or panels into India, have caused serious injury and also threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic producers in India. Therefore, Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) after critically analysing the submissions made by the interested parties during the course of investigation, has recommended imposition of Safeugard Duty on

imports of Solar Cells whether or not assembled in modules or panels for two years vide final findings dated 16.07.2018 as per details given below:-

<b>Year</b>	<b>Safegaurd Duty Recommended</b>
First Year	Safeguard duty @ 25% ad valorem
Second Year (for first 6 months)	Safeguard duty @ 20% ad valorem
Second Year (for next 6 months)	Safeguard duty @ 15% ad valorem

As the imports from developing nations, as listed in Notification No.19/2016- custom(NT) dated 5th February,2016, except China PR and Malaysia do not exceed 3% individually and 9% collectively, the import of product under consideration originating from developing nations except China PR, and Malaysia will not attract Safeguard Duty in terms of proviso to Section 8B (1) of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

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