

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 958**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 08<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

**IMPORT OF WELDING EQUIPMENT**

**958. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of India's strong dependence on imports for welding equipment, which is impacting domestic ecosystem and allied industries and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any measures to reduce imports of welding equipment to support domestic manufactures and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is intending to increase import duty on import of welding equipment and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

**(a) to (c):** Data in respect of India's imports of welding equipment and India's total imports for the last three years is as under:

Value in US\$ million

Description/Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Imports of Welding Equipment by India	484.12	379.84	457.65

Source: DGCI&S

The imports of welding equipment by India has decreased by 5.47 % from US\$ 484.12 million in 2019-20 to US\$ 457.65 million in 2021-22.

Imports take place to meet the gap between domestic production and supply, consumer demand and preferences for various products. Many imports are inputs for further manufacturing in India and exports from India. Based on the suggestions from the stakeholders, several measures are taken by Government of India, from time to time to facilitate and provide an enabling environment for reducing imports, which include creating/ enhancing domestic capacity, incentivizing domestic manufacturing through Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, phased manufacturing plans, timely use of trade remedial options, adoption of mandatory technical standards, enforcement of FTA Rules of Origin (RoO). Besides, an 'Import Monitoring Cell' of the Department of Commerce regularly monitors the import surges on monthly basis and sensitizes the concerned Ministries for remedial action. The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) of Department of Commerce recommends restrictions on import of a product by imposition of additional duty or quantitative restrictions (QRs) if Indian industry is 'seriously injured' or 'threatened with injury' on account of surge in imports or unfair trade practices.

Based on an application received from the domestic industry, the DGTR, through notification no. 6/7/2022-DGTR dated 29th September, 2022, have initiated an anti-dumping investigation with reference to imports of "Industrial Laser Machines, used for cutting, marking, or welding operations including Laser Cutting Machines (LCM), Laser Marking Machines (LMM) and Laser Welding Machines (LWM)" from China PR, and the same is in progress.

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