

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STEEL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.444**  
FOR ANSWER ON 02/12/2015

**IMPOSITION OF SAFEGUARD DUTY ON IMPORT OF STEEL**

444. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to stop the import of steel from foreign countries by imposing safeguard duty on all imports of steel into the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) what are the other incentives and concessions being given to steel traders to protect the domestic steel industry?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) There is no proposal to stop import of steel from foreign countries. Safeguard duty is a temporary relief allowed to domestic industry within the framework of the World Trade Organization, if it suffers injury from cheap/sudden surge in imports. It is not a mechanism against import from any specific country or in usual course of business. It is imposed on the merit of the petition by the domestic players, who are purportedly suffering from injury.

(b) Government is not giving any incentives or concessions to steel traders. However, in order to protect the domestic steel industry, the Government has taken the following measures:-

- (i) To ensure that only quality steel is imported, Government has notified Steel and Steel Product (Quality Control) Order dated 12.03.12 as last amended on 04.12.14.
- (ii) Peak Customs Duty rate has been enhanced to 15% from 10%.
- (iii) Hiked import duty on ingots & billets, alloy steel (flat & long), stainless steel (long) and non-alloy long products from 5 % to 7.5% and non-alloy and other alloy flat products from 7.5% to 10%. This was further revised in August, 2015 on flat steel from 10% to 12.5%, long steel from 7.5% to 10% and semi-finished steel from 7.5% to 10%.
- (iv) Directed in November 2014 that import of rebars may be strictly as per Steel Product Quality Control Order 2012 to block influx of cheap imports of boron added rebars.
- (v) Imposed in June, 2015, an Anti-Dumping Duty for five years on imports of certain variety of hot-rolled flat products of stainless steel from China (\$ 309 per tonne), Korea (\$ 180 per tonne) and Malaysia (\$ 316 per tonne).
- (vi) Imposed in September 2015, a provisional Safeguard Duty of 20% on hot-rolled flat products of non-alloy and other alloy steel, in coils of a width of 600 mm or more, for a period of 200 days.

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