

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4325  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2002  
IMPOSITION OF DUTIES ON INDIAN STEEL BY USA  
ANANTA NAYAK;BASUDEB ACHARIA

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

- (a) whether US Government has recently imposed 30% import duty on various steel imports from India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether increase of import tariff on steel by US Government has affected the Indian Steel industries adversely;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard alongwith the adverse impact on steel exports to USA;
- (e) the actual export of steel to USA during the last three years and actual fall thereof after imposition of import tariff; and
- (f) the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY )

( a ) to ( f ) : US President has on 5th March, 2002 decided to impose safeguard duties of 30% on a broad range of steel products imported into USA. However, the developing countries including India have been excluded from the remedy action as per the Safeguards Agreement, except in the case relating to import of carbon flanges from India. In respect of flanges safeguard duty of 13%, 10% and 7% respectively have been imposed for three years and one day which is applicable from 20th March, 2002. During the course of safeguard investigations, Government of India became an interested party and had made submissions that the US authorities should comply with the provisions of the Agreement on Safeguards, in particular, exemptions relating to `deminimus` imports from the developing countries. Details regarding export of steel and carbon flanges from India to USA during the last three years are as under:

(Quantity in Metric Tons)

Year	Total export of Steel Products to USA from India	Export of carbon flanges to USA	% of export of flanges as compared to export of steel to USA
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1998-1999	309363	2035.41	0.65
1999-2000	678065	4834.6	0.712
2000-2001	499672	9122.57	1.825

(Source: Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta)

It is too early to make a quantitative estimate of the extent of the impact of the Safeguard action.