

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2021

ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009

SAFEGUARD DUTY ON IMPORTED STEEL

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

(a) whether the cheaper imports of steel are hurting the Indian manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Directorate General of Safeguards has recommended the imposition of safeguard duty on steel imports to protect the domestic industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a)&(b): It has been determined in the preliminary findings of the Director General (Safeguards) that the cheaper import of steel, classifiable under Customs tariff heading 7208, is hurting the Indian manufacturers. The notification providing the aforesaid findings was published in the Gazette of India dated 23rd April, 2009.

(c)&(d): The Director General (Safeguards) has recommended the imposition of safeguard duty on import of steel, classifiable under Customs tariff heading 7208, at the rate of 25% for import of said products up to and including the CIF value of US\$ 600 per MT. The recommendations for imposition of safeguard duty were considered by the Standing Board on Safeguards in its meeting held on 11th May, 2009 and it has directed that the Director General (Safeguards) should continue with the investigations, consult all stakeholders as per law, and submit a report to the Board within sixty days. The report submitted by the Director General (Safeguards) on 28th May, 2008 is under consideration before the Standing Board on Safeguards.