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DGAD probes dumping of bonded wood, fibre boards

Press Trust of India

New Delhi, Jan. 9: The Government has initiated a probe into alleged dumping of certain types of organic substances — bonded wood and fibre boards — by China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka with a view to protect domestic players from cheap shipments through the levy of anti-dumping duty. Countries initiate anti-dumping probes to check if the domestic industry has been hurt by a surge in cheap imports.

As a counter-measure, they impose duties as permitted under the multilateral WTO regime. The Directorate-General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has initiated the probe into alleged dumping of "resin or other organic substances — bonded wood or ligneous fibre boards of thickness below 6mm, except insulation boards, laminated fibre boards — originating in or exported from China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka," a notification by the Commerce Ministry said.

Sufficient evidence

On finding sufficient evidence of dumping of the product by these countries, the DGAD "hereby initiates an investigation into the alleged dumping, and consequent injury to the domestic industry... to determine the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping and to recommend the amount of anti-dumping measure, which, if levied, would be adequate to remove the injury to the domestic industry," it said. The investigation is focused on the April 2010-June 2011, period, it added.

Balaji Action Buildwell had filed an application for the probe on behalf of the domestic industry. The applicant accounts for more than 50 per cent of total Indian production of bonded wood and ligneous fibre boards.

India has so far initiated 149 anti-dumping cases against China, which account for over half of such actions taken by the country against foreign nations.

Unlike safeguard duties, which are levied in a uniform way, anti-dumping duties vary from product to product and from country to country.

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Indo-Lanka trade agreement talks likely in March

Xinhua

COLOMBO, Jan 16-- Sri Lanka will re-start discussions of a crucial trade agreement with India in March on the sidelines of the island nation's largest export extravaganza, the Industry and Commerce Ministry said in a statement released Monday. India's Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textiles Anand Sharma will discuss CEPA when he lead a delegation to attend the March extravaganza, the statement said. The two countries have been discussing the details of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for over five years but protests from local businesses have delayed its signing. Sri Lankan entrepreneurs have voiced concerns over products from their larger neighbor flooding the market and creating a lopsided trading field. India dismissed the worries as unnecessary. The signing of Indo-Lanka Free Trade Agreement in 1998, the first in the region, marked a milestone in the trade relations between the two nations. Since then two-way trade value had grown from about 650 million U.S. dollars in 2000 to well over 3 billion dollars in 2010.

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