

Government of India
Department of Commerce
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties

New Delhi the 8th October, 2000

INITIATION NOTIFICATION

Subject: Initiation of Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of Caustic Soda from Qatar.

No.55/1/2001 M/s Alkali Manufacturers Association of India (AMAI) on behalf of the Domestic industry has filed a petition, in accordance with the customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1995 and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty on dumped articles and for determination of duty) Rules, 1995 before the Designated Authority (hereinafter referred to as the Authority) alleging dumping of Caustic Soda from Qatar (herein after called subject country) and has requested for Anti-Dumping investigation and levy of Anti-Dumping Duties retrospectively from the date of initiation of investigation.

1. Product involved: The product involved in the present petition is SodiumHydroxide Commonly known as Caustic Soda (Also referred to as subject goods hereinafter) originating in or exported from Qatar. It is an inorganic chemical and is soapy, strongly alkaline odorless chemical. Caustic Soda finds application in various field like manufacture of pulp and paper, newsprint, viscose yarn, staple fiber, aluminum, cotton, and laundry soaps, detergent, dyestuff drugs and pharmaceuticals, petroleum refining, etc. Caustic Soda is available in two forms i.e. Lye and solids. The present investigation covers all forms of Caustic soda.

Caustic Soda is classified under chapter 28 of the custom tariff Act, 1975. It is further classified as per International Trade Classification (Based on Harmonize d Commodity Description and Coding System) Under the heading 281511 and 281512. The classification is, however indicative only and is in no way binding on the scope of the present investigation.

2. Domestic Industry standing:

The petition has been filed by the Alkali Manufacturers Association of India representing the Domestic Industry. There are about 40 Domestic manufacturers of Caustic Soda in India. The Association represents most of all the domestic

manufacturers of Caustic Soda in India. The Petition has been expressly supported by five of the domestic producers i.e.

- i. M/s Grasim Industries Limited, Nagda, MP
- ii. Gujarat Alkalis & Chemicals Limited, Vadodara Gujarat
- iii. Search Chem Industries Limited, Mumbai
- iv. DCW Ltd., Mumbai
- v. Indian Rayon and Industries Ltd., Veraval, Gujarat

These petitioner companies represent 33.9 % of the subject goods production and thus have the standing to file the petition on behalf of the domestic industry as per rule 5(a) and (b) of Anti-Dumping Rules.

3. Countries involved: The country involved in the present investigation is Qatar. (here in referred to as subject country).

4. Like articles: The petitioner has claimed that the goods produced by them is a like article to the goods produced, originating in or exported from the subject country as both are used interchangeably. Goods produced by the petitioner are being treated as like articles to the goods imported from the subject country within the meaning of the Rules 2(d)

5. Normal value: The Authority notes that the petitioner has claimed normal value of subject goods in Qatar based on the constructed normal value of Caustic Soda. The constructed normal value has been considered by the Authority for the purpose of initiation.

6. Export Price: The petitioner has claimed export price on the basis of an offer given by a trader in India to the end users of the subject goods in India. The petitioner has claimed adjustments on Ocean Freight, Ocean insurance, Credit, Port expenses, Commission, and inland freight to arrive of the ex-factory export price. The ex-factory price with adjustments as indicated above has been referenced for the purpose of initiation.

7. Dumping margin: There is sufficient prima-facie evidence that the normal value of the subject goods in the subject country is significantly higher than the price at which it has been exported to India indicating prima-facie that the subject goods are being dumped by the exporters from the subject country.

8. Injury and Causal Link : The Authority notes that the installed capacity and availability of sufficiently freely disposable subject goods by exporters in Qatar,

coupled with the prevailing offer price of subject goods in India, pose a threat of material injury to the domestic industry by way of price suppression undercutting

9. Initiation of Anti-Dumping investigation: The authority in view of the foregoing paragraphs initiates anti-dumping investigation into the existence, degree and effect of alleged dumping of the subject goods originating in or exported from the subject country.

10. Period of investigation: The period of investigation for the purpose of present investigation is 1.1.2001 to 30.9.2001.

11. Submission of information: The exporters in the said country and importers in India known to be concerned are being addressed separately to submit relevant information in the form and manner prescribed and make their views known to:-

The Designated Authority

Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Udyog Bhavan
New Delhi-110011.

Any other interested party may also make its submissions relevant to the investigation in the prescribed form and manner within the time limit set out below.

12. Time limit: Any information relating to the present investigation should be sent in writing so as to reach the Authority at the address mentioned above not later than 40 days from the date of publication of this notification. The known exporters and importers who are being addressed separately are however, required to submit the information within 40 days from the date of letter addressed to them separately.

13. All parties must provide a non-confidential summary of any information provided on a confidential basis in terms of Anti-Dumping Rule 7(2). Please, however, note that such information will be subject to acceptance in terms of Anti-Dumping Rule 7(1) and 7(2).

14. INSPECTION OF PUBLIC FILE:

In terms of rule 6(7) any interested party may inspect the public file containing non-confidential versions of the evidence submitted by other interested parties.

15. In case any interested party refuses access to and otherwise does not provide necessary information within a reasonable period, or significantly impedes the investigation, the Authority may record its findings on the basis of the facts available to it and make such recommendations to the Central Governments as deemed fit.

(L V SAPTHARISHI)
Designated Authority