**To be published in Part-I Section I of the Gazette of India Extraordinary**

**F. No. 7/27/2026-DGTR**
**Government of India**
**Ministry of Commerce and Industry**
**(Directorate General of Trade Remedies)**
**4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,**
**5 Parliament Street, New Delhi -110001**

**Dated: 28 September, 2026**

**INITIATION NOTIFICATION**
**Case No. CVD (SSR) 001/2026**

**Subject: Sunset review of anti-subsidy investigations concerning imports of Copper Tubes and Pipes originating in or exported from Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam**

1. F. No.7/27/2026: M/s Ram Ratna Wires Limited and MetTube Copper India Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as the 'Applicants') have filed an application before the Designated Authority (hereinafter referred to as the 'Authority') under the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act 1975, as amended from time to time (hereinafter also referred to as the "Act") and the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Countervailing Duty on Subsidized Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995 , as amended from time to time (hereinafter also referred to as the "CVD Rules" or the "Rules") seeking sunset review investigations for continuation of countervailing duties imposed on imports of 'Copper Tubes and Pipes' (hereinafter referred to as the "product under consideration" or the "subject goods" or the "PUC") originating in or exported from Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam (hereinafter referred to as the "subject countries").

2. In terms of Section 9 (6) of the Act and Rule 24 (3) of the CVD Rules, the countervailing duties imposed shall, unless revoked earlier, cease to have effect on expiry of five years from the date of such imposition, and the Authority is required to review whether the expiry of the said countervailing duty is likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of subsidisation and injury to the domestic industry. In accordance with the same, the Authority is required to review, on the basis of a duly substantiated request made by or on behalf of the domestic industry as to whether there is a need for the continued imposition of the countervailing duty, and whether the expiry of the duty is likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of subsidisation and injury.

3. In terms of Rule 6(5) and Rule 6A(1) of the CVD Rules and Article 13 of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures ("SCM Agreement"), pre-initiation consultations were held with the representatives of the Governments of Thailand and Vietnam on 31.08.2026 and 07.09.2026 respectively, who also filed written representations. The Government of Malaysia was also invited for pre-initiation consultations; however, no response was received.

4. The Government of Thailand argued that the application does not establish the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of subsidisation and injury, particularly as reliance on findings from other proceedings was misplaced. It also pointed to the decline in imports

from Thailand, the growth of the domestic industry, and the fact that Vietnam accounts for a major share of subject imports. The Government of Vietnam similarly argued that continuation of subsidisation and injury had not been established, noting the decline in imports from Vietnam and the expansion, investment and profitability of the domestic industry. It also challenged the alleged surge in imports and raised concerns regarding increased input costs for downstream industries. However, neither Government has provided evidence demonstrating discontinuation of the countervailed subsidy programmes. The submissions made by the Governments of the subject countries shall be examined

## A. BACKGROUND OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION

5. The original Anti-Subsidy Investigation concerning imports of subject goods from subject countries was initiated on 25.09.2020 by the Designated Authority vide its initiation notification No. 04/10/2020-DGTR. Pursuant to detailed investigation, the Designated Authority recommended imposition of definitive countervailing duties on imports of subject goods from the subject countries vide its final findings notification No. 04/10/2020-DGTR dated 31.01.2022. The recommendations of the Designated Authority were implemented vide Notification No. 2/2022- Customs (CVD) dated 28.04.2022 for a period of five years. The current countervailing duty is valid up to and inclusive of 27.04.2027.

## B. PRODUCT UNDER CONSIDERATION

6. The product under consideration in the present application is "Copper Tubes and Pipes". Copper tubes and pipes are cylindrical profiles having a circular, rectangular, square, oval, or other cross section etc. Copper tubes and pipes can be made of either refined copper or copper alloys. Copper tubes and pipes are largely used in air-conditioning and refrigeration (ACR) systems. More than 90% of the consumption of the product is of refined copper circular cross section tubes and pipes in ACR systems applications.

7. The product under consideration is the same as that defined in the original investigation. Accordingly, the product under consideration excludes the internally grooved copper tubes ("IGT") and related grooved tubes.

8. The product under consideration is classified under Chapter 74 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. It is noted that the subject goods are imported under tariff classification, at the 8-digit level, in the sub-headings 74111000, 74112100, 74112200 and 74112900 as per the import data. Moreover, the custom classification is indicative only and in no way, it is binding upon the product scope of the product under consideration. The product description shall prevail in all circumstances.

9. The applicants have not proposed any Product Control Number(PCN) methodology.

10. However, the parties to the present investigation may provide their comments on the product under consideration and propose PCNs (with justification), if any, within 15 days of circulation of the receipt of intimation of initiation of the investigation. Submissions made without justification will not be considered by the Authority.

## C. LIKE ARTICLE

11. The applicants have stated that there are no significant differences between the article produced by the applicants and the subject goods exported from the subject countries. The article produced by the applicants and subject goods imported from Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam are comparable in terms of physical and chemical characteristics, manufacturing process and technology, functions and uses, product specifications, pricing, distribution and marketing, and tariff classification of the subject goods. The subject goods and the article manufactured by the applicants are technically and commercially substitutable. The applicants have claimed that consumers of the PUC are using the subject goods and the article manufactured by the applicants interchangeably. Thus, for the purposes of initiation of the present investigation, the Authority proposes to hold that the article produced by the applicants is like article to the product being imported from Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

## D. DOMESTIC INDUSTRY & STANDING

12. Rule 2(b) of CVD Rules defines domestic industry as follows:

> *"'domestic industry' means the domestic producers as a whole of the like article or domestic producers whose collective output of the said article constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of that article, except when such producers are related to the exporters or importers of the alleged subsidized article, or are themselves importers thereof, in which case such producers shall be deemed not to form part of domestic industry"*

13. The application has been filed by M/s Ram Ratna Wires Limited (RRWL) and MetTube Copper India Private Limited (MCIPL). Apart from the applicants, there are around 68 other producers in India, who are engaged in the production of the subject goods. Furthermore, post filing of the application, the Authority has received support letters from eight more domestic producers namely M/s Trishul Metal Industries Ltd., Mercure Metals & Alloys Pvt. Ltd., Kutch Copper Tubes Ltd. M/s Star Copper, M/s Jay Banas Metals Pvt. Ltd., New India Extrusions Pvt. Ltd., M/s Metal Gems and Mehta Tubes Limited. After examining all the supporting letters, it is noted that the applicants along with the supporting producers constitute a major proportion of the total domestic production in terms of Rule 2(b) of the CVD Rules.

14. RRWL has certified that they have not imported the subject goods from the subject countries and not related to any importer or exporter of the subject goods. It is noted that MCIPL has a related group entity producer of the PUC, namely MetTube (International) Sdn. Bhd. in Malaysia. MCIPL imported some non-PUC goods from this entity during POI but has not imported subject goods therefrom during the POI.

15. The Authority for the purpose of the initiation is of the opinion that there the Applicants constitute domestic industry as defined under Rule 2(b) of the CVD Rules, 1995 and the application satisfies the requirements of Rule 6(3) of the CVD Rules, 1995.

## E. SUBSIDY PROGRAMS

16. The applicants have alleged that the producers/exporters of the subject goods in the subject countries have benefitted from the actionable subsidies provided at various levels by the Government of the subject countries, including the government of different provinces and Municipalities in which producers/exporters are located, and other 'Public bodies'. The applicants have relied upon the relevant Laws, Rules and Regulations and other Notifications of the relevant Government Agencies and Public Bodies as available in the public domain.

17. The Applicants have relied upon the schemes / programs held to be countervailable by the Authority during the initial investigation and have not proposed any new programs/ schemes in the sunset review application. The prima facie evidence provided by the applicants show that the producers and exporters of the subject goods in Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam continued to benefit from these subsidies granted by the respective Governments of subject countries and/or other public bodies as listed below.

### A. Malaysia

Program No. 1 - The Market Development Grant
Program No. 2 - Science Fund
Program No. 3 - Techno Fund
Program No. 4 - Inno Fund
Program No. 5 - Cradle Investment Program
Program No. 6 - Export Excellence Program
Program No. 7 - Export Credit Refinancing
Program No. 8 - Buyer Credit Guarantee
Program No. 9 - Pioneer Status
Program No. 10 - Investment Tax Policies/Investment Tax Allowance (ITA)
Program No. 11 - Reinvestment Allowance (RA)
Program No. 12 - Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA)
Program No. 13 - Group Relief
Program No. 14 - Tariff Related Incentives/Exemption on import duty from raw materials
Program No. 15 - Allowance Industry Building/Industrial Building Allowance (IBA)
Program No. 17 - Double deduction from taxable profit for promotion of Malaysian brand
Program No. 18 - Incentives for manufacturing and manufacturing related services in East Coast Economic Corridor (ECER)
Program No. 19 - Draw back on import duty, sales tax and excise duty
Program No. 20 - Exemption from Import duty and sales tax for outsourcing manufacturing activities
Program No. 21 - Exemption from Import duty and sales tax on machinery and equipment
Program No. 22 - Exemption from import duty on raw materials/equipment
Program No. 23 - Double deduction from taxable profit for promotion of Exports
Program No. 25 - Incentives for small and medium enterprises
Program No. 26 - Allowance for increased export
Program No. 27 - Tax exemptions for exporters in free trade zones
Program No. 28 - Research and Development Fund

Program No. 29 - Tax incentives for in-house R&D
Program No. 30 - Double deduction for research and development
Program No. 31 - Term Loans
Program No. 32 - Soft Loans to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
Program No. 33 - International Procurement Centre (IPC)
Program No. 34 - Provision of Natural gas/Electricity at Less Than Adequate Remuneration (LTAR)

**B. Thailand**

Program No. 2: Exemption/Reduction of Import Duties on Machinery – Section 28 of Investment Promotion Act
Program No. 3: Income Tax Exemption
Program No. 4: Exemptions with regard to investment promotion zone
Program No. 5: Exemption of Import duty on Raw Material Imported for use in Production for Export
Program No. 6: Reduction of Import Duty for Raw or Essential Materials
Program No. 7: Exemption of Corporate Income Tax for BOI-Promoted Activities
Program No. 8: A 50 Percent Reduction of the Corporate Income tax in Investment Promotion Zones
Program No. 9: Income Tax Double Deduction of the costs of Transportation, Electricity and Water supply in Promoted Zones
Program No. 10: Additional 25 percent Deduction of the Cost of Installation or Construction of Facilities
Program No. 11: Tax and Duty Compensation/Tax coupons
Program No. 12: Exemption of Import/Export duty for Bonded Warehouses
Program No. 13: Incentives for Activities in infrastructure for the Country's development, activities using Advanced Technology to create value added with no or very few existing Investments in Thailand
Program No. 14: Incentives for High Technology Activities which are important to the country's development, with a few Investments already existing in Thailand
Program No. 15: Merit based Incentive for Increase in Competitive Enhancement
Program No. 17: Promotional Privileges
Program No. 18: Duty Drawback under Section 19 of the Customs laws
Program No. 19: Free Trade Zone (FTZ) under Chapter X of the Customer Act.
Program No. 20: Export processing zones (EPZ) under the Industrial Estate Authority Law
Program No.21: Provision for electricity at LTAR

**C. Vietnam**

Program No. 1: Income Tax Preferences under Chapter V of Decree 24 (Implementation of the Law on Enterprise Income Tax)
Program No. 2: Import duty exemption or reimbursement for raw material
Program No. 3: Exemption on corporate income tax for enterprises
Program No. 4: Preferential lending to exporters
Program No. 5: Export Promotion Program
Program No. 6: Export Credits from Vietnam Development Bank
Program No. 7: Export Support Credit
Program No. 8: Preferential lending for investors

Program No. 9: Interest rate of investment credit loans
Program No. 10: On investment support on foreign investors who invested on establishing small and medium scale enterprises
Program No. 11: Financial guarantee by Vietin Bank
Program No. 12: Land preferences for enterprises in encouraged industries or Industrial zones under decree 142
Program No. 13: Government provision of land for less than adequate remuneration and exemptions or reductions from land and water rents
Program No. 14: Provision of Electricity/Coal/Natural Gas at less than adequate remuneration

18. It has been alleged that the above schemes are subsidies since they involve a financial contribution from the Governments of the subject countries or other regional or local governments of such subject countries, including public bodies and confer benefit on the recipient (s). They are also alleged to be limited to certain enterprises or groups of enterprises and/or products and/or regions and therefore specific and countervailable. They are also in some cases alleged to be contingent upon the use of domestic over imported goods and/or contingent upon export performance.

19. The producers/exporters are advised to provide information with respect to any other subsidy scheme that may have been availed by them. The Authority reserves the right to investigate other subsidies/ programs, which may be found to exist and have been availed by the producers and exporters of the subject goods, during the course of the investigation.

## F. LIKELIHOOD OF CONTINUATION / RECURRENCE OF SUBSIDY AND INJURY

20. There exists prima facie evidence indicating a likelihood of continuation or recurrence of subsidization and resultant injury to the domestic industry in the event of expiry of the countervailing duty. This is based on factors such as the adverse price effects of subject imports, including sales below the cost of production of the domestic industry, underutilization of production capacity, declining profitability, reduced return on capital employed, and the likely negative impact on the overall performance and viability of the domestic industry if the current countervailing duties are discontinued.

## G. INITIATION OF THE INVESTIGATION

21. On the basis of the duly substantiated application by or on behalf of the domestic industry, and having satisfied itself, based on the *prima facie* evidence submitted by the applicants, substantiating likelihood of continuation or recurrence of subsidization and injury to the domestic industry, the Authority hereby initiates a sunset review investigation to review the need for continued imposition of countervailing duty on imports of the subject goods from the subject countries and to examine whether the expiry of the existing countervailing duty is likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of subsidy and consequent injury to the domestic industry, in accordance with Section 9 of the Act, read with Rule 24 of the CVD Rules.

## H. SUBJECT COUNTRIES

22. The present investigation is in respect of alleged subsidization of the product under consideration in Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

## I. PERIOD OF INVESTIGATION (POI)

23. The period of investigation for the purpose of the present investigation is 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 (12 months). The injury period covers the POI and 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25.

## J. PROCEDURE

24. The sunset review investigation will cover all aspects of Final Finding published vide Notification No.4/10/2020-DGTR dated 31.01.2022. The Authority will also undertake likelihood analysis of continuation / recurrence of subsidization and injury in the event of expiry of countervailing duty in force.

25. The provisions of Rules 7,8,9,10,11,12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 shall be mutatis mutandis applicable in this present review.

## K. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION

26. All information, questionnaires and submissions for this investigation must be filed through the SETU Portal only, within the deadlines specified in this notification. All communication should be sent to the Designated Authority through SETU Portal only, within the deadlines specified in this and corresponding notifications. The Authority may not consider submissions sent via email or any other mode.

27. In order to participate in the investigation, all interested parties are required to register themselves on the SETU Portal (https://setu.dgtr.gov.in). In case of any difficulty in registering as an interested party, DGTR's SETU Helpdesk may be contacted through the details provided at https://setu.dgtr.gov.in/help-desk. All communications and submissions from the interest parties must be filed through the SETU Portal under the registered name and the corresponding Case ID mentioned above. Interested parties are required to ensure that the narrative part of the submissions is filed in searchable PDF/MS-Word format and data files are in MS-Excel format with properly linked calculations.

28. The known producers/exporters in the subject countries, the Government of the subject countries through its Embassies in India, and the importers and users in India who are known to be associated with the subject goods are being informed separately to enable them to file all the relevant information within the time limits mentioned in this initiation notification. All such information must be filed in the form and manner as prescribed by this initiation notification, the Rules, and the applicable trade notices issued by the Authority.

29. Any other interested party may also make a submission relevant to the present investigation in the form and manner as prescribed by this initiation notification, the

Rules, and the applicable trade notices issued by the Authority within the time limits mentioned in this initiation notification.

30. Any party making any confidential submission before the Authority is required to make a non-confidential version of the same available to the other interested parties.

31. Interested parties are further directed to regularly visit the official website of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (https://www.dgtr.gov.in/) and SETU Portal (https://setu.dgtr.gov.in) to stay updated and apprised with the information as well as further processes related to the investigation and remain informed regarding notices that may be issued from time to time regarding questionnaire formats, PCN methodology, PCN discussions/meeting schedule, notice for oral hearing, disclosure, corrigendum, amendment notifications, final findings and other such information.

## L. TIME LIMIT

32. Any information relating to the present investigation should be uploaded on the SETU portal (https://setu.dgtr.gov.in) under the registered name and corresponding case ID of the interested party, with both the Confidential Version (CV) and the Non-Confidential Version (NCV) of each submission uploaded in the respective designated columns, within 37 days from the date on which the non-confidential version of the application filed by the Applicants is circulated by the Authority or transmitted to the appropriate diplomatic representative of the subject country, in terms of Rule 7(4) of the CVD Rules. If no information is received within the stipulated time limit, or the information received is incomplete, the Authority may record its findings on the basis of the facts available on record, in accordance with the Rules.

33. All interested parties are hereby advised to communicate their interest, including the nature of such interest, in the present matter, and to file their questionnaire responses within the time limit stipulated in this notification, through the SETU portal only.

34. The 15-day period to file comments on the scope of the PUC/PCN methodology shall run concurrently with the time limit mentioned in paragraph 29 above.

35. An extension of time by 15 days shall be granted if the Authority, through a subsequent notice, modifies the PUC or the PCN methodology in a manner not previously proposed or different from this notification, such extension running from the date of the notification of the modified PUC/PCN. This extension is not applicable where there is no change in the PUC or the PCN methodology after initiation. Requests for further extension, beyond the 15-day extension (if granted), will ordinarily not be considered except in exceptional circumstances, in line with Rule 7(4) of the CVD Rules.

36. Any request for extension of time must be submitted by the concerned party through the SETU portal at least one day before the original deadline specified in paragraph 29 above. Requests submitted after such time will not be considered.

## M. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS

37. Where any party to the present investigation makes confidential submissions or provides information on a confidential basis before the Authority, such party is required to

simultaneously submit a non-confidential version of such information in terms of Rule 8 of the CVD Rules and in accordance with the relevant trade notices issued by the Authority in this regard.

38. Such submissions must be clearly marked as “confidential” or “non-confidential” at the top of each page. Any submission that has been made to the Authority without such markings shall be treated as “non- confidential” information by the Authority, and the Authority shall be at liberty to allow other interested parties to inspect such submissions.

39. The confidential version shall contain all information which is, by nature, confidential, and/or other information, which the supplier of such information claims as confidential. For the information which is claimed to be confidential by nature, or the information on which confidentiality is claimed because of other reasons, the supplier of the information is required to provide a good cause statement along with the supplied information as to why such information cannot be disclosed.

40. The non-confidential version of the information filed by the interested parties should be a replica of the confidential version with the confidential information preferably indexed or blanked out (where indexation is not possible) and such information must be appropriately and adequately summarized depending upon the information on which confidentiality is claimed.

41. The non-confidential summary must be insufficient detail to permit a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information furnished on a confidential basis. However, in exceptional circumstances, the party submitting the confidential information may indicate that such information is not susceptible to summary, and a statement of reasons containing a sufficient and adequate explanation in terms of Rule 8 of the Rules, 1995, and appropriate trade notices issued by the Authority, as to why such summarization is not possible, must be provided to the satisfaction of the Authority.

42. The interested parties can offer their comments on the issues of confidentiality claimed by the Applicants within 7 days from the date of circulation of the non-confidential version of the documents filed before the Authority as indicated in this initiation notification.

43. Any submission made without a meaningful non-confidential version there of or a sufficient and adequate cause statement in terms of Rule 8 of the Rules, and appropriate trade notices issued by the Authority, on the confidentiality claim shall not be taken on record by the Authority.

44. The Authority may accept or reject the request for confidentiality on examination of the nature of the information submitted. If the Authority is satisfied that the request for confidentiality is not warranted or if the supplier of the information is either unwilling to make the information public or to authorize its disclosure in generalized or summary form, it may disregard such information.

45. The Authority on being satisfied and accepting the need for confidentiality of the information provided, shall not disclose it to any party without specific authorization of the party providing such information.

46. A list of registered interested parties will be uploaded on the DGTR's website along with the request there in to all of them to email the non-confidential version of their submissions and other information to all other interested parties.

## N. NON-COOPERATION

47. In case any interested party refuses access to or otherwise does not provide necessary information within a reasonable period or within the time stipulated by the Authority in this initiation notification or subsequently time period provided through separate communication, or significantly impedes the investigation, the Authority may declare such interested party as non-cooperative and record its findings based on the facts available and make such recommendations to the Central Government as it deems fit.

Digitally signed by
Amitabh Kumar
Date: 28-09-2026
14:41:24

**(Amitabh Kumar)**
**Designated Authority**