

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

**F.No. 7/31/2021-DGTR
Government of India, Department of Commerce
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
(Directorate General of Trade Remedies)
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,
5, Parliament Street, New Delhi- 110001**

Dated: 10th February, 2022

INITIATION NOTIFICATION

(Case No. ADD-SSR 25/2021)

Subject: Initiation of sunset review investigation concerning imports of Styrene Butadiene Rubber originating in or exported from European Union, Korea RP and Thailand.

1. M/s Reliance Industries Limited (hereinafter referred to as the “applicant”) has filed an application before the Designated Authority (hereinafter also referred to as the “Authority”) in accordance with Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended from time to time (herein also referred to as the “Act”) and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Antidumping Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995 thereof, as amended from time to time (hereinafter also referred to as the “Rules” or “AD Rules”) for sunset review investigation of antidumping duty on imports of “Styrene Butadiene Rubber” (hereinafter referred to as the “subject goods” or “product under consideration”) originating in or exported from European Union, Korea RP and Thailand (hereinafter referred to as “subject countries”).
2. The applicant has claimed that dumping of subject goods has continued from European Union and Korea RP even after imposition of antidumping duty and there is a likelihood of recurrence of injury to the domestic industry in an event of cessation of anti-dumping duties from European Union, Korea RP and Thailand.

A. Background of previous investigation

3. The original anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of the subject goods from the subject countries was initiated by the Authority vide notification No. 14/10/2015-DGAD on 14th January 2016. In the same matter, the final finding was issued vide notification No. 14/10/2015-DGAD dated 12th July 2017 confirming imposition of definitive anti-dumping duties on imports of the subject goods from the subject countries, which were implemented vide Notification No. 43/2017-Customs (ADD) dated 30th August 2017. The said duties were levied for a period of 5 years and are set to expire on 29th August 2022.

B. Product under Consideration

4. The product under consideration in the present investigation is same as defined in the original investigation which is as follows-

a) The product under consideration in the present investigation is Styrene Butadiene Rubber; (SBR) of 1500 and 1700 series only of synthetic rubbers derived from two monomers styrene and butadiene. These materials have good abrasion resistance and aging stability when protected by additives. Solution SBR grades are outside the scope of investigation.

b) Compared to natural rubber, SBR has better process ability, homogeneity, heat aging and abrasion resistance, but is inferior in terms of elongation, hot tear strength, hysteresis, resilience and tensile strength. The major demand of SBR is in the automotive sector in manufacture of tyres.

c) The product is classified under Customs Tariff heading No. 400219. However, the said Customs classification is indicative only and in no way binding on the scope of the present investigation.

C. Like article

5. The applicant has claimed that the subject goods, which are being dumped into India, are identical to the goods produced by the domestic industry. It has been further stated that there is no significant difference in the subject goods produced by the domestic industry and those exported from the subject countries. The applicant has claimed that subject goods produced by the domestic industry and imported from the subject countries are comparable in terms of physical & chemical characteristics, manufacturing process & technology (there is no other known technology for production world over), functions and uses, product specifications, pricing, distribution & marketing and tariff classification of the goods. The two are technically and commercially substitutable. The consumers have used and are using the two interchangeably. For the purpose of the present investigation, the subject goods produced by the applicant are being treated as “like article” of the subject goods imported from the subject countries.

D. Domestic Industry and Standing

6. The application has been filed by M/s Reliance Industries Limited. There is one more producer of the subject goods namely, M/s Indian Synthetic Rubber Private Limited (ISRPL). The applicant has stated that it is a major producer of the subject goods. The applicant has further claimed that it has not imported the subject goods nor is related to the exporters from the subject countries or importers in India.
7. It is seen from the information on record that the production of applicant constitutes a major proportion in Indian production of the subject goods in India. On the basis of the information available, the Authority notes that the application has been made by or on behalf of the domestic industry in terms of the provisions contained in Rule 2(b) and Rule 5(3) of the Rules.

E. Subject countries

8. The countries involved in the present sunset review investigations are European Union, Korea RP and Thailand.