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India

Post: New Delhi

Import Tariff Rate Increases for Lentils and Chickpeas

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

Agriculture in the Economy

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder

U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

Policy and Program Announcements

Grain and Feed

Agriculture in the News

Approved By:

Adam Branson

Prepared By:

Adam Branson

Report Highlights:

The Ministry of Finance office of the Central Board of Excise and Customs announced a 30 percent tariff on the importation of chickpeas (*Chana*/*Garbanzos*/*Vigna* spp. and *Phaseolus* spp.) and lentils on its website on December 21, 2017. The Ministry announcement cites the measure as in the public's interest and follows a series of recent import tariff increases. The applied tariff rate is now at par with India's bound rate. India's global chickpea and lentil imports are over U.S. \$1.6 billion in 2017.

General Information:

Policy and Regulatory Information

On December 21, 2017, the Government of India (GOI), Ministry of Finance issued [notification No. 93 / 2017 – Customs](#) effectively instituting a 30 percent tariff on chickpeas (*Chana*) and lentils (*Masoor*). This rate is India's committed World Trade Organization (WTO) bound duty rate for chickpeas and lentils. This notification follows a long series of announcements that increase tariff rates on food staples that are a frequently used as vegetarian-based proteins as well as various edible oils consumed by rural and urban Indian residents. India had relaxed the applied tariff rates on many of these agricultural commodities when its domestic crop supply was stressed in 2016.

Previously, on June 30, 2017, the GOI issued [notification No. 50 / 2017 – Customs](#) affording an applied rate of zero percent on agricultural products in harmonized tariff system (HTS) code 0713 "Pulses except Pigeon Pea (*Tur*)". At that time, the GOI applied a ten percent import tariff on lentils (HTS 0713.40.00) and Pigeon Pea/*Tur* (HTS 0713.60.00). Later, on August 5, 2017, and August 21, 2017, the GOI imposed import quota limits on Pigeon Pea as well as Mung (*Moong*) beans. On November 8, 2017, the GOI published [notification No. 84 / 2017 – Customs](#) raising the import tariff on dried peas from zero to fifty percent.

[Chapter Seven of the Indian Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Tariff Notification](#) is below. For a collection of other recent tariff rate notifications and related items affecting food and agricultural products, please refer to Appendix I.

Trade Information

India's global imports of chickpeas (HTS 071360) and lentils (HTS 071340) totaled nearly U.S. \$1.6 billion from January to November 2017 according to Indian Customs data and had been climbing steadily for the past several years. Imports of chickpeas and lentils from the United States were nearly \$52 million during the same period, but were down from previous years.

From January to November 2017, India's largest chickpea providers by value were: Australia (U.S. \$867 million), Myanmar (U.S. \$28 million), Tanzania (U.S. \$14 million), and Sudan (U.S. \$12 million). From January to November 2017, India's largest lentil suppliers by value were: Canada (U.S. \$427 million), Australia (\$155 million), and the United States (U.S. \$41 million).

Table 1. India. Import of Pulses from the United States in Thousand Dollars & Metric Tons

HTS Code	Product	2014		2015		2016		Jan - Nov 2017	
		Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty
		169,151	310,026	131,461	232,585	181,991	321,909	76,972	112,188
71310	Peas Dried, Shelled	87,880	188,333	65,043	150,154	81,892	211,952	22,530	52,113
71320	Chickpeas, Dried	9,385	9,712	4,185	5,185	16,343	15,400	10,707	7,935
71331	Urd,Mung,Black Dried	57	132	0	0	5	2	57	65
71332	Beans, Red, Dried	0	0	0	0	45	46	204	208
71333	Kidney Beans, Dried	2,992	2,508	0	0	165	153	1,747	1,838
71335	Cow peas, Dried	264	184	80	54	175	124	179	126
71339	Beans Dried, Shelled	69	64	0	0	14	29	-	0
71340	Lentils Dried, Shell	68,454	108,960	61,670	76,366	82,906	93,612	40,909	49,180
71360	Pigeon peas, Dried	52	133	0	0	0	0	0	0
71390	Leguminous Vegetable	0	0	482	826	448	590	638	722

Source: GTIS Monthly Data Using GOI Customs Information

Table 2. India. Import of Pulses from the World in Million U.S. Dollars

HTS Code	Product	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Jan - Nov 2016	Jan - Nov 2017
		2,260	2,289	2,681	3,613	4,014	3,503	3,094
71310	Peas Dried, Shelled	672	555	819	808	1,172	1,061	702
71320	Chickpeas, Dried	353	335	199	426	686	543	954
71331	Urd,Mung,Black Dried	387	474	588	689	712	683	361
71332	Beans, Red, Dried	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
71333	Kidney Beans, Dried	89	117	106	98	82	73	73
71335	Cow peas, Dried	0	6	34	54	37	36	32
71339	Beans Dried, Shelled	109	83	64	61	60	60	52
71340	Lentils Dried, Shell	259	427	480	920	609	471	624
71350	Broad Beans, Dried	2	0	0	0	2	1	6
71360	Pigeon peas, Dried	0	238	378	518	617	543	245
71390	Leguminous Vegetable	386	55	12	39	37	33	43

Source: GTIS Monthly Data Using GOI Customs Information

Table 3. India. Import of Pulses from the World in MT

HTS Code	Product	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Jan - Nov 2016	Jan - Nov 2017
		3,814,101	3,800,859	4,517,340	5,414,320	6,186,208	5,361,978	5,208,818
71310	Peas Dried, Shelled	1,497,380	1,230,249	1,964,010	2,144,437	3,062,411	2,752,624	2,041,234
71320	Chickpeas, Dried	471,974	538,329	381,314	688,125	873,542	701,597	1,138,136
71331	Urd,Mung,Black Dried	535,765	655,148	653,395	595,147	577,815	549,563	428,432
71332	Beans, Red, Dried	4,825	795	0	0	46	46	208
71333	Kidney Beans, Dried	77,313	95,597	99,877	120,308	103,716	94,896	70,094
71335	Cow peas, Dried	0	8,017	49,184	81,712	58,949	57,246	44,954
71339	Beans Dried, Shelled	170,158	134,214	87,558	63,390	46,131	45,555	61,375
71340	Lentils Dried, Shell	441,273	679,662	729,759	1,161,911	753,566	569,453	947,904
71350	Broad Beans, Dried	2,184	0	2	0	5,701	2,278	20,632
71360	Pigeon peas, Dried	0	374,487	534,974	519,194	648,617	539,236	398,274
71390	Leguminous Vegetable	613,229	84,361	17,267	40,096	55,714	49,485	57,576

Source: GTIS Monthly Data Using GOI Customs Information

Image 1. India: Notification No. 93 / 2017 – Customs

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRAORDINARY, PART II,
SECTION 3, SUBSECTION (i)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE)
Notification No. 93 /2017-Customs

New Delhi, the 21st December, 2017

G.S.R. (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and sub-section (12) of section 3 of Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), the Central Government being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 50/2017-Customs, dated the 30th June, 2017, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 785(E), dated the 30th June, 2017, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table, at serial number 20, for the entry in column (3) “Pulses [other than Tur, Chickpeas or Masoor (Lentils)]” shall be substituted.

[F.No.354/368/2017 TRU]

(Ruchi Bisht)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Note: The principal notification No.50/2017-Customs, dated the 30th June, 2017 was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 785(E), dated the 30th June, 2017 and last amended vide notification No. 92/2017-Customs, dated the 14th December, 2017, published vide number G.S.R. 1515 (E), dated the 14th December, 2017.

Image 2. India: Notification No. 50 / 2017 – Customs

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRAORDINARY, PART II,
SECTION 3, SUB-SECTION (i)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE)

Notification
No. 50 /2017 –Customs

New Delhi, the 30th June, 2017

G.S.R. (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and sub-section (12) of section 3, of Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 12/2012 -Customs, dated the 17th March, 2017 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 185 (E) dated the 17th March, 2017, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts the goods of the description specified in column (3) of the Table below or column (3) of the said Table read with the relevant List appended hereto, as the case may be, and falling within the Chapter, heading, sub-heading or tariff item of the First Schedule to the said Customs Tariff Act, as are specified in the corresponding entry in column (2) of the said Table, when imported into India, -

S.No.	Chapter or Heading or sub-heading or tariff item	Description of goods	Standard rate	Integrat ed Goods and Services Tax	Condi on No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
20.	0713	Pulses except tur	Nil	-	-
21.	0713 40 00, 0713 60 00	Tur	10%	-	-

Image 3. India: Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Import Tariff Notification on HTS Chapter 7

0713	DRIED LEGUMINOUS VEGETABLES, SHELLED, WHETHER OR NOT SKINNED OR SPLIT			
0713 10 00	- Peas (<i>Pisum sativum</i>)	kg.	50%	40%
0713 20 00	- Chickpeas (<i>garbanzos</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
	- Beans (<i>Vigna spp.</i> , <i>Phaseolus spp.</i>):			
0713 31 00	-- Beans of the species <i>Vigna mungo</i> (L.) <i>Hepper</i> or <i>Vigna radiata</i> (L.) <i>Wilczek</i>	kg.	30%	20%
0713 32 00	-- Small red (Adzuki) beans (<i>Phaseolus</i> or <i>Vigna angularis</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 33 00	-- Kidney beans, including white pea beans (<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 34 00	-- Bambara beans (<i>Vigna subterranea</i> or <i>Voandzeia</i> <i>subterranea</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 35 00	-- Cow peas (<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 39	-- Other :			
0713 39 10	--- Guar seeds	kg.	30%	20%
0713 39 90	--- Other	kg.	30%	20%
0713 40 00	- Lentils	kg.	30%	20%
0713 50 00	- Broad beans (<i>Vicia faba</i> var <i>major</i>) and horse beans (<i>Vicia faba</i> var <i>equina</i> , <i>Vicia faba</i> var <i>minor</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 60 00	- Pigeon peas (<i>Cajanus cajan</i>)	kg.	30%	20%
0713 90	- Other :			
0713 90 10	--- Split	kg.	30%	20%
0713 90 90	--- Other	kg.	30%	20%

Appendix I. India: Select Customs and Directorate General of Foreign Trade Notifications Affecting Agricultural Products

Examples of Indian Interventions in Agricultural Supply and Demand		
Date	Agency	Action
12/21/2017	Customs	Increase Chickpea and Lentil Tariffs to 30%
12/6/2017	DGFT	Establish Minimum Import Price of Rs. 500 on CIF Basis Per Kilogram
11/23/2017	DGFT	Minimum Export Price on Onions Reinstated at \$850 per metric ton
11/22/2017	DGFT	Export Prohibition on All Pulses Lifted
11/17/2017	Customs	Increase Soybean Tariffs from 30% to 45%
11/17/2017	Customs	Increase Customs Duty on Various (e.g., palm, soy, sunflower, canola) Edible Oils of HTS Code 1201
11/8/2017	Customs	Increase Customs Duty on Dried Peas from Nil to 50% and Wheat from 10% to 20% with Immediate Effect
9/15/2017	DGFT	Prohibition on Export of Pigeon Peas, Tur, Moong, and Urad Lifted until further notice
9/15/2017	Customs	Tariff Reference Value Increased for Various Edible Oils in HTS Code 1511
9/7/2017	Customs	Reduce Customs Duty on Sugar under a Tariff Rate Quota allocation
8/21/2017	DGFT	Restrictive Quota Limit issued for import of Moong bean in HTS Code 071331
8/11/2017	Customs	Increase Customs Duty on Various Edible Oils e.g., soybean oil from 12.5% to 17.5%
8/5/2017	DGFT	Restrictive Quota Limit issued for Import of Pigeon Peas/Tur Dal in HTS Code 071360
7/10/2017	Customs	Increase Customs Duty on Certain Raw Sugars with immediate effect from 40% to 50%
6/30/2017	Customs	Expansive List of Revised Tariff Rates on Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Products
4/19/2017	DGFT	Export Ceiling Eliminated or Raised for Organic Wheat, Edible Oil, non-Basmati rice, Sugar, Pulses and Lentils
4/13/2017	Customs	Duty Free Tariff Rate Quota Extension Issued for Raw Sugar until June 30, 2017
4/5/2017	Customs	Duty Free Tariff Rate Quota Extension Issued for Raw Sugar from March 17, 2012 to June 12, 2017
3/31/2017	DGFT	Extension for Onions to Receive 5% Merchandise Exports from India Incentive Scheme Benefits from 8/6/2016 to 6/30/2017
3/28/2017	Customs	Increase Customs Duty on Wheat and Tur Dal each from Nil to 10%