

US imposes 50% preliminary anti-dumping duty on Indian metal pipes

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22 /- The US has announced hefty preliminary anti-dumping duties on metal pipes imported from India, China and four other countries, in an aggressive tactic by the Trump administration to protect the American industry and lower the trade deficit.

Six US pipe manufacturers had filed the anti-dumping complaint with the Commerce Department in January.

Announcing the preliminary determinations in anti-dumping duty investigations of imports of the pipes, the US Department of Commerce yesterday said the six countries were selling the large diameter welded pipe - used to transport oil, gas and other fluids - far below the fair price, and that dumping harms the US industry. India has been slapped with an

anti-dumping duty of 50.55 per cent. US imports of the pipe from India last year totalled USD 294.7 million. The other countries being hit with duties are China (132.63 per cent), Greece (22.51 per cent), Canada (24.38 per cent), South Korea (14.97 to 22.21 per cent) and Turkey (3.45 to 5.29 per cent).

Dumping occurs when a foreign company sells an imported product

at an artificially low price.

The US Customs and Border Protection will collect cash deposits from India and the five other importers, according to a statement by the US Commerce Department.

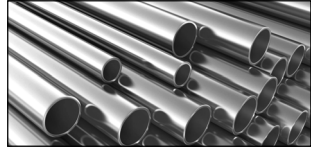
With respect to the India and Turkey investigations, Commerce will adjust the cash deposits rates by the amount of export subsidies found in the companion countervailing duty investigations," it said. "The strict enforcement of US trade law is a primary focus of the Trump

Administration," the statement said.

"Since the beginning of the current Administration, Commerce has initiated 120 new anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations this is a 216 per cent increase from the comparable period in the previous administration," it added. The Commerce Department said it will make a final ruling in November on whether the pipe from India and China is dumped into the US market.

If the independent International Trade Commission finds that US industry was not harmed from the imports, the duties will be refunded.

For the Canada, Greece, Korea, and Turkey investigations, the final ruling will be made by January 2019. (PTI)



No GST on petrol, diesel in near future as Centre, states not in favour

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22 /- Petrol and diesel will not come under the purview of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the immediate future as neither the Central government nor any of the states is in favour of heavy revenue loss, a top source said on Tuesday. When the one-nation-one-tax regime of GST was implemented in July last year, five petroleum products - petrol, diesel, crude oil, natural gas, and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) were kept out of its purview for the time being.



Though there have been talks in the industry and by some ministers, including Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, for the need to bring them under GST at the earliest to deal with volatility in prices, there is no immediate plans on the anvil to do so, the source, who

wished not to be named, said. The Union finance ministry, he said, has not mooted any proposal to bring petrol and diesel or even natural gas under GST but took up the issue at the last GST Council meeting on August 4 based on media reports. "All states were opposed to the idea," he said. If the two fuels are put

under GST, the Centre will have to let go Rs 20,000 crore input tax credit it currently gets by keeping petrol, diesel, natural gas, jet fuel and crude oil out of the GST regime. States, on the other hand, want to keep a revenue tool in their hand to meet any contingency like the floods in Kerala, he said. (PTI)

News in Brief

Spicejet launches 6 new flights

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22 /- Spicejet has announced six new daily direct flights on both domestic and international routes, including the first direct flight on the Guwahati-Patna route, starting from October. Among the international routes, the airline will begin a new daily direct flight on the Hyderabad-Bangkok route from October 10, the Gurgaon-based airline said in a statement. It claimed that it is the first to introduce a daily direct flight on the Guwahati-Patna route. It is also introducing daily direct flights on the Hyderabad-Guwahati.

Markets closed on account of Bakri Id

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22 /- The BSE, NSE, forex, money market, bullion and other major commodity markets remained closed Wednesday on account of Bakri Id. (PTI)

Orient Electric targets 15-20% topline growth

KOLKATA, AUGUST 22 /- C K Birla group company Orient Electric Ltd Wednesday said it was targeting 15-20 per cent topline growth during the current fiscal on the back of strong performance in its core businesses.

"In 2017-18, we grew by 12 per cent to Rs 1,700 crore against industry growth rate of 7-8 per cent. While, in the current fiscal, we hope to maintain strong growth at 15-20 per cent in topline," Orient Electric Senior VP and business head, fans Atul Jain said today at a press conference here. Fans remain the company's mainstay contributing 70 per cent to the total revenue.

First trial run of Ahmedabad metro train to begin in Jan 2019: CM

AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 22 /- The first trial run of the much-awaited Ahmedabad metro train would be conducted in January next year, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said hereon Wednesday. During the trial, the train will ply between Vastral village and Apparel Park on a 6.5-km stretch, called as "priority reach", in east Ahmedabad.

The above stretch is part of the 20.78-km long East-West Corridor of the ambitious Metro Rail Project that proposes to connect Vastral area in east Ahmedabad with the western suburb of Thaltej. "The trial run (of the Metro train) on the 'priority reach' between Vastral village and Apparel park would begin in January 2019. The work is going on in full swing. I have instructed the officials to make sure that the ongoing works do not cause any trouble to the people," Rupani told reporters.

India among top 10 destinations for Chinese travellers in Asia

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22 /- India ranks among the top 10 popular destinations for Chinese travellers in Asia, especially for social media influence millennials, according to a report.

As per the India Tourism Statistics 2017, the country had welcomed over 2 lakh Chinese tourists in 2017.

In India, Mumbai (69 per cent) and Delhi (51 per cent) emerged as the top visited cities, as per the Hotels.com Chinese International Travel Monitor 2018.

For this report, Hotels.com engaged market research firm Ipsos to conduct interviews during May 2018 with 3,047 Chinese residents, aged 18-58 years, who had travelled overseas in the past 12 months.

It said, star-struck by

global pop-culture, film and television (62 per cent) are now the main sources of inspiration for Chinese millennial travellers, it said.

Out of the 59 per cent

favourite television series or film location as well, it said.

Interestingly, 26 per cent added Taj Mahal to their bucket-list after seeing their favourite

Hotels.com brand general manager, Asia Pacific, Nelson Allen said.

About 52 per cent of Chinese travellers were wooed by the news feed, and a third of the older generation reported their travel decisions and behavior were influenced by their digitally-connected children, he added.

Travel brag moments and selfies were a huge part of the Chinese millennial travel experience in 2017, with 63 per cent using the reverse camera angle to boost those likes and build their social brand.

India's picturesque towns with natural beauty (62 per cent), indigenous local food (49 per cent) and vibrant local culture (40 per cent) were popular for self-worth by moments for Chinese travellers when exploring India.



Adani Power restores 2k-mw supply to Gujarat discom

VADODARA, AUGUST 22 /- In a major relief to state-run power utility Gujarat Urja Vidut Nigam (GUVNL), Adani Power has restored the supply of 2,000 megawatt (MW) since the past 15 days, a senior government official said.

GUVNL has power purchase agreements (PPAs) of 2,000 MW with Adani Power, 1,000 MW with Essar Power Gujarat and 1,805 MW with Tata Power.

Essar discontinued supply from December 15 last year, while Adani stopped supply from January 20 this year without any prior notice to GUVNL or the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Authority (GERC).

"APL has restored 2,000 MW power supply to GUVNL since the last 15 days, which is as per the PPA signed with it," the official told PTI on Wednesday.

Essar, however, has not restored its supply.

"It's a great relief for GUVNL with APL resuming supply of 2,000 MW. Because of



the discontinuation of supply by these private sector companies, we were forced to procure power at different rates from open market to meet ever growing demand during the peak summer months," the official said.

The electricity demand had shot up to more than 16,000 MW before the state received good rain fall in July, raising concerns about meeting the rising gap.

"This resulted in higher demand for power from the agriculture sector. To meet that demand, we have to increase the hours of supply to 10 hours from the earlier eight," he said.

CCL's 17 coal mining projects facing delays

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22 /- Coal India arm CCL says its 17 out of the 21 ongoing mining projects worth Rs 4,095.5 crore are facing delays due to various reasons including non-grant of green clearances. Of the 21 projects, Parej East and Hurling projects could not be started due to non-grant of environment and forest clearances.

Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL) said in its Annual Report 2017-18.

Kalyani open cast project, one of the ongoing projects, will be started after green clearances, it said. "Of the remaining 18 projects, Amrapali OCP is on schedule and other 17 are delayed due to problems which are broadly classified as authentication of land, forestry clearance and site hand over, environmental, coal evacuation problem, R&R (rehabilitation and resettlement) issues and safety reasons," the report said. As on March 31, 2018 there are 21 ongoing and 34 completed mining projects under CCL with sanctioned capacity of 112.85 million tonne (MT), it said.

Malala Fund suspends grant to Sakhi, Nari Gunjan named in TISS audit report

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22 /- The Malala Fund Wednesday said it is suspending its grants to Sakhi and Nari Gunjan, two organisations named in the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) social audit report of short stay homes across Bihar with immediate effect. TISS which had conducted the social audit had found that sexual abuse of varying forms and degree of intensity was prevalent in almost all shelter homes in Bihar. "After reading the disturbing allegations of child abuse in the TISS report to the government of Bihar, Malala Fund is immediately suspending its grants to Sakhi and Nari Gunjan, two organisations named in the report, pending further investigation," Malala Fund's Chief Communications Officer Taylor Royle said in a statement.

Royale further said "Malala Fund's child protection policy, which both organisations signed, explicitly prohibits any harm or exploitation of children". The state government had commissioned audit by TISS in 2017 and the report was submitted to the Social Welfare Department in April this year. As per the report, inmates of a home run by 'Sakhi' reported physical violence especially against women and girls suffering from mental illness.

The TISS report further noted that three specialised adoption agencies - 'Nari Gunjan' at Patna, 'RVESK' at Madhubani and 'Gyan Bharti' at Kaimur were found "rumoring in a condition that is likely to be life-threatening".

"Malala Fund is working for a world where every girl receives 12 years of safe, free, quality education. We are dedicated to our work in India and will continue our support for organisations who meet our standards," Royle said. Malala and Ziauddin Yousafzai founded Malala Fund in 2013 to champion every girl's right to 12 years of free, safe, quality education.

Malala Fund works in regions where the most girls miss out on secondary education. Our priority countries are Afghanistan, Brazil, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey.

Weather Report

	MinTemp.	MaxTemp.	Weather
Gangtok			
23-Aug, 2018	18.0	22.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	18.0	22.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	18.0	22.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	18.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	18.0	24.0	Rain or Thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	18.0	24.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Gyalshing			
23-Aug, 2018	18.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	19.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	19.0	25.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	19.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	19.0	27.0	Rain or Thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	19.0	27.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Mangan			
23-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	21.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	20.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	20.0	28.0	Rain or Thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	21.0	28.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Namchi			
23-Aug, 2018	19.0	24.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	20.0	23.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	24.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Rain or Thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	20.0	26.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Tadong			
23-Aug, 2018	21.0	26.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	21.0	27.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
25-Aug, 2018	20.0	28.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	20.0	28.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	20.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
28-Aug, 2018	20.0	29.0	Rain or Thundershowers
Darjeeling			
23-Aug, 2018	15.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
24-Aug, 2018	14.0	18.0	Generally cloudy sky with Heavy rain
25-Aug, 2018	15.0	19.0	Generally cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers
26-Aug, 2018	16.0	20.0	Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers
27-Aug, 2018	15.0	21.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thundersorm
28-Aug, 2018	15.0	20.0	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of rain or Thundersorm

Source: IMD