

Glass industry newscast

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Anti-dumping duty on textured tempered coated and uncoated glass

As per a notification dated, 26th Feb, 2019, Ministry of Finance, GOI has imposed the long awaited anti-dumping duty on textured tempered coated and uncoated glass, originating in or exported from Malaysia for a period of 5 years. The duty amount is USD 114.58/MT.

Textured toughened (tempered) glass means textured toughened (tempered) glass with a minimum of 90.5% transmission having thickness not exceeding` 4.2 mm (including tolerance of 0.2 mm) and where at least one dimension exceeds 1500 mm, whether coated or uncoated.

Earlier, Indian glass manufacturer Gujarat Borosil had filed a petition requesting imposition of anti-dumping duty of Malaysian solar glass, stating that the said goods imported by India were below their normal values and consequently, the domestic industry had suffered material injury.

Likely impact on Indian solar glass industry:

In H2-CY2018, China cut new solar installations by about 30%, which increased global supply and created short term pressure on sales and prices of Indian players. However, the prices could recover in coming months, in view of greater global demand expectations, including China especially for replacement and maintenance purposes.

Drop in solar installations in domestic market in CY2018, mostly due lack of clarity on GST and safeguard duty on the imports, had negatively affected sales of solar glass of Indian players. Total solar power installations in H2-CY2018 were 36% down at 2,743 MW, compared with 4,291 MW in H2-CY2017. As of Jan-19, cumulative solar power installed capacity was 25,212 MW.

GOI is extending policy support to solar power sector by way of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSU) scheme, solar water pumps for agriculture farming and rooftop which is expected to speed activity over the next few years. In Feb-19, GOI announced policy for 12 GW to be installed under this scheme, to be run over 4 years, which translates to 3 GW p.a. This scheme mandates use of domestically made cells and modules, which favours the demand for solar glass as the modules will be Made in India for this purpose.

Concluding remarks:

The domestic players will no longer have to face competition from cheap imports of solar glass from Malaysia. In addition to this,

various policy reforms by GOI to increase usage of solar power will give a boost to Indian glass players, involved in manufacture of solar glass. However, constantly increasing prices of solar power installations may have an adverse impact on the country in coming years.

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