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POLICY

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India

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Tariff Increases on U.S. Agricultural Products Delayed Until Sept 18

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News
Tree Nuts
Fresh Fruit
Food Processing Ingredients
Retail Foods
Fresh Deciduous Fruit
Trade Policy Monitoring
Policy and Program Announcements

Approved By:

Adam Klein

Prepared By:

Dr. Santosh K. Singh and Shubhi Mishra

Report Highlights:

On August 3, 2018, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) issued a notification delaying the implementation date of tariff increases on several U.S. agricultural products (i.e. shelled and in-shell almonds, in-shell walnuts, fresh apples, and pulses) by another 45 days until September 18, 2018.

General Information:

Disclaimer: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the MOF's [website](#). The Office of Agricultural Affairs and the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

Date of Announcement: August 3, 2018

Date of Enforcement: September 18, 2018

Products Effected: Shelled almonds, in-shell almonds, in-shell walnuts, fresh apples, and pulses

Agency in Charge: Government of India's MOF

GOI Delays Implementation Date of Tariff Increases on U.S. Agricultural Products

On August 3, 2018, the Department of Revenue under the MOF issued notification [56/2018](#) that announced a 45-day delay, from August 4, 2018 to September 18, 2018, for tariff increases on certain U.S. agricultural imports to go into effect. If implemented, these tariff increases would apply only to U.S.-origin shelled and in-shell almonds, in-shell walnuts, apples, and pulses, and could give advantage to U.S. competitors and possibly result in a significant negative impact on U.S. exports to India.

On June 20, 2018, the MOF issued notifications [48/2018](#) and [49/2018](#) that announced tariff increases on certain U.S.-origin agricultural products, effective August 4.

Table 1. India: Products Effected and Effective BCD to be Implemented on Sept 18, 2018

S. no	HS Code	Product Description	Existing Basic Custom Duty (BCD)		Notification 56/2018		
			Standard BCD	Effective BCD	Effect Date	Effective BCD on Other origins	Effective BCD on U.S. Origin
1.	08021200	Almonds Shell	INR100/kg	INR100/kg	Sep-18	INR100/kg	INR120/kg
2.	08021100	Almonds In-Shell	INR35/kg	INR35/kg	Sep-18	INR35/kg	INR42/kg
3.	08023100	Walnuts In-Shell	100%	100%	Sep-18	100%	120%
4.	08081000	Apples Fresh	50%	50%	Sep-18	50%	75%
5.	07132010	Chickpeas	30%	60%	Sep-18	60%	70%
6.	07132020	Bengal Gram (Desichana)	30%	60%	Sep-18	60%	70%
7.	07132090	Chickpeas (Garbanzo)	30%	60%	Sep-18	60%	70%
8.	07134000	Lentils	30%	30%	Sep-18	30%	40%

[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. 56/2018-Customs

New Delhi, the 3rd August, 2018

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 the 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, 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, with effect from the 4th day of August, 2018 the following proviso shall be inserted after the second proviso, namely:-

“Provided also that the.-

- (a) entries against serial number 14A, and
 - (b) the second proviso,
- shall come into effect from the 18th day of September, 2018”.

[F.No. 341/15/2018- TRU]

(MohitTewari)
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. 54/2018 -Customs, dated the 20th July, 2018, published, *vide*, number G.S.R.667 (E), dated the 20th July, 2018.

