

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 12/18/2018

GAIN Report Number: IN8135

India

Post: New Delhi

Tariff Hike on U.S. Agricultural Products put back to January 31

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News
Tree Nuts
Fresh Fruit
Retail Foods
Fresh Deciduous Fruit
Trade Policy Monitoring
Policy and Program Announcements
Grain and Feed

Approved By:

Mark Wallace

Prepared By:

Shubhi Mishra

Report Highlights:

On December 17, 2018, the Government of India's (GOI) Ministry of Finance (MOF) deferred the enactment date of an increase in the Basic Custom Duty on several U.S. agricultural products (i.e. shelled and in-shell almonds, in-shell walnuts, fresh apples, and pulses) by 45 days, until January 31, 2019.

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: December 17, 2018

Date of Enforcement: January 31, 2019

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

Agency in Charge: Government of India's Ministry of Finance.

On December 17, 2018, the MOF issued notification [80/2018](#) announcing a 45-day delay, from December 17, 2018, to January 31, 2019, for implementation of increases in the effective Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on certain U.S. agricultural imports. If implemented, these tariff increases would apply only to U.S.-origin shelled and in-shell almonds, in-shell walnuts, apples, and pulses.

Background Information:

On June 20, 2018, the MOF issued notifications [48/2018](#) and [49/2018](#) announcing tariff increases on certain U.S.-origin agricultural products, effective August 4. (See GAIN [IN8078](#))

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. (See GAIN [IN8093](#))

On September 17, 2018, the MOF issued notification [62/2018](#) announcing a 45-day delay, from September 18, 2018, to November 2, 2018, for implementation of increases in the effective Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on certain U.S. agricultural imports by another 45 days, until November 2, 2018. (See GAIN [IN8108](#))

On November 2, 2018, the MOF issued notification [77/2018](#) announcing a 45-day delay, from November 2, 2018, to December 17, 2018, for implementation of increases in the effective Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on certain U.S. agricultural imports. (See GAIN: [IN8124](#))

Table 1. India: Products Effected and Effective BCD to be Implemented on Jan 31, 2019

Serial no.	HS Code	Product Description	Existing Basic Custom Duty (BCD)		Notification 80/2018		
			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	Jan 31	INR100/kg	INR120/kg
2.	08021100	Almonds In-Shell	INR35/kg	INR35/kg	Jan 31	INR35/kg	INR42/kg
3.	08023100	Walnuts In-Shell	100%	100%	Jan 31	100%	120%
4.	08081000	Apples Fresh	50%	50%	Jan 31	50%	75%
5.	07132010	Chickpeas	30%	60%	Jan 31	60%	70%
6.	07132020	Bengal Gram (Desichana)	30%	60%	Jan 31	60%	70%
7.	07132090	Chickpeas (Garbanzo)	30%	60%	Jan 31	60%	70%
8.	07134000	Lentils	30%	30%	Jan 31	30%	40%