

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

L/3969  
November 1973  
Limited Distribution

INDIA - AUXILIARY DUTY OF CUSTOMS

Decision of 15 November 1973<sup>1</sup>

Considering that the Government of India has notified the CONTRACTING PARTIES that, with effect from 1 March 1973, it has introduced, on a temporary basis, an auxiliary duty of customs on certain items on which India assumed obligations under Article II and which are included in Schedule XII annexed to the General Agreement;

Considering that these levies have been introduced, due to special circumstances, as one of the measures to mobilize resources to meet compelling development needs, and that they have been limited to the level needed by granting exemptions wherever and to the extent necessary;

Considering that, though there are three differential rates of auxiliary duties, viz 20 per cent, 10 per cent and 5 per cent, almost all the items included in Schedule XII annexed to the General Agreement are subject to either nil or only 5 per cent duty;

Noting that food grains, books, family planning appliances, tallow, raw cotton, machinery items and a few other selected categories of goods have been totally exempted from this duty;

Noting further the assurances of the Government of India that it will, upon request, promptly enter into consultations with any contracting party which considers that serious damage to its interests is caused or imminently threatened by the auxiliary duty of customs;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article XXV of the General Agreement,

Decide to waive, until 31 March 1974, the application of the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article II of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to enable the Government of India to apply the temporary auxiliary duty of customs as notified in document L/3934.

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<sup>1</sup>The Decision was adopted by postal ballot. There were 43 votes in favour and none against.