

India revises proposed retaliatory duties in WTO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 10 July

India has revised its proposal to impose retaliatory duties under the WTO (World Trade Organisation) norms against the US over American tariffs on steel and aluminium in view of the further hike in duty by the Trump administration.

The US first imposed 25 per cent tariffs on imports of aluminium, steel and derivative articles on March 12. Again, on June 3, the taxes were hiked to 50 per cent.

“Without prejudice to its earlier notification to the Council for Trade in goods and the committee on safeguards dated May 12, India reserves its right to adjust the prod-



US first imposed 25% tariffs on imports of aluminium, steel and derivative articles on March 12, that was hiked to 50% again on June 3

ucts and tariff rates. This request is made in response to the increase in the tariff rate by the US from 25 per cent ad valorem to 50 per cent,” the WTO has said in a communication on Wednesday.

This was circulated among WTO members at the request of India.

It said that the proposed suspension of concessions or other obligations can take the form of an

increase in tariffs on selected products originating in the US.

“The safeguard measures would affect \$7.6 billion imports into the United States of the relevant products originating in India, on which the duty collection would be \$3.82 billion,” it said.

Accordingly, India’s proposed suspension of concessions would result in an equivalent amount of duty collected from products originating in America.

In the May 12 communication, the duty collection figure was stated as \$1.91 billion. The first Trump administration, in 2018, imposed a 25 per cent duty on certain steel items and a 10 per cent duty on aluminium products on the grounds of national security.