

# US DUTY ON STEEL INCONSISTENT WITH GLOBAL NORMS: WTO PANEL

A dispute panel of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has ruled that the US decision to impose customs duties on certain steel and aluminium products is inconsistent with the global trade norms. This ruling was given in the cases brought by China, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey against these duties. The WTO report assumes significance for India also, as it had in 2018 approached the WTO against the US move to impose these duties. According to sources, this ruling will help strengthen the Indian case. In 2018, the US imposed 25 per cent and 10 per cent import duties on certain steel and aluminium products, respectively, on the grounds of national security. In retaliation, India had increased customs duty on a number of American products such as almonds, walnut, iron and steel items.

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