

India takes US to WTO for failing to drop steel duties

OUR BUREAU

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India has sought consultations with the US under the aegis of the World Trade Organization (WTO) after Washington did not comply with the WTO dispute settlement body's ruling against countervailing duties imposed on Indian steel imports by the US. The last date to comply with the ruling passed last year.

In its representation to the WTO, New Delhi said: "India considers that the measures taken by the US to comply with the recommendations and rulings adopted by the DSB (Dispute Settlement Body) in US - Carbon Steel (India) are not consistent with such adopted recommendations and the covered agreements, and therefore, requests that the US enter into consultations."

On December 19, 2014, the DSB had found that the US imposed countervailing duties on Indian exports of certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products in a manner that breached the obligations of the US under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement). The body recommended that the US bring its measures into conformity with its obligations under the SCM Agreement.

On March 24, 2015, the US and India informed the DSB that they had agreed that the reasonable period of time for the US to implement the DSB recommendations and rulings, would expire on April 18, 2016.

India contends that the US has failed to implement the DSB's recommendations and rulings.