COUNTERVAILING / INITIATION

DGTR initiates anti-subsidy probe on multi-layer paperboard from China and Indonesia

DGTR initiated a countervailing duty investigation on March 20, 2026 into multi-layer paperboard of 140 to 450 GSM from China and Indonesia.

THE DIRECTORATE General of Trade Remedies has initiated a countervailing duty (anti-subsidy) investigation concerning imports of multi-layer paperboard originating in or exported from China and Indonesia. The initiation notification is dated March 20, 2026 (Case No. CVD(OI) 01/2026, SETU ID CVD/OI/001/2026).

KEY FACTS

MEASURE
Countervailing

STAGE
Initiation

COUNTRIES
China, Indonesia

DATED
March 20, 2026

REFERENCES

Case No. CVD(OI) 01/2026

F. No. 6/09/2026-DGTR

CG-DL-E-24032026-271222

HS CODES 36

4805	4810
4805 91 00	4805 92 00
4805 93 00	4810 92 00
4810 99 00	4802 2090
4802 5790	4804 1900
4804 3900	4804 4200
4804 5200	4804 5900
4805 1900	4810 1320
4810 1330	4810 1390
4810 1430	4810 1490
4810 1910	4810 1920

DGTR initiates anti-subsidy probe on multi-layer paperboard from China and Indonesia

Case No. CVD(OI) 01/2026 · Initiation · March 20, 2026

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies has initiated a countervailing duty (anti-subsidy) investigation concerning imports of multi-layer paperboard originating in or exported from China and Indonesia. The initiation notification is dated March 20, 2026 (Case No. CVD(OI) 01/2026, SETU ID CVD/OI/001/2026).

The application was filed by the Indian Paper Manufacturers Association on behalf of the domestic industry, with data from Aditya Birla Real Estate Limited, Emami Papers Mills Limited, ITC Limited, JK Paper Limited and Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited. Two other producers, NR Agarwal Industries Limited and West Coast Paper Mills Limited, support it. Pre-initiation consultations were held with both governments.

The product is multi-layer paperboard of at least 51% white or virgin wood pulp, coated or uncoated, from 140 to 450 GSM, including folding box board, solid bleached sulphate board, cup stock and liquid packaging board. Boards made of more than 49% recycled or brown pulp or fibre, cigarette boards, two-side coated artboard imported for printing, and paperboard of four or more layers for liquid packaging material are excluded. It is classified under headings 4805 and 4810, and is also imported under many other codes; classification is indicative only. The period of investigation is October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

The applicant alleges 62 subsidy programs in China and 23 in Indonesia, including standing timber supplied at less than adequate remuneration and a log export ban in Indonesia. The domestic industry claims that subsidized imports rose at prices below its selling price and cost of sales, and that it lost market share and incurred losses; the Authority finds that this evidence prima facie shows injury caused by the alleged subsidized imports. The investigation will determine the existence, degree and effect of subsidization and the duty, if any, adequate to remove injury.

Interested parties are to file submissions on the SETU portal within 37 days from circulation of the non-confidential version of the application.

Measure	Countervailing
Stage	Initiation
Case number	Case No. CVD(OI) 01/2026
File number	F. No. 6/09/2026-DGTR
Dated	March 20, 2026

Published in the Gazette	March 20, 2026
Put online	March 24, 2026
Gazette ID	CG-DL-E-24032026-271222
Product	Multi-layer Paperboard
What it covers	The product under consideration is "Multi-Layer Paperboard made of at least 51% white / virgin wood pulp, whether coated or uncoated", including Folding Box Board (FBB), Solid Bleached Sulphate Board (SBS), Cup Stock Paper or Board and Liquid Packaging Board, all in the range of 140 to 450 GSM. It excludes paperboards made of more than 49% recycled/brown pulp or fibre, coated/uncoated cigarette boards, two side coated artboard imported for printing purposes, and four and more layered paperboard, coated, uncoated or laminated with plastic, aluminium or other metal, for liquid packaging material.
Customs codes	4805, 4810, 4805 91 00, 4805 92 00, 4805 93 00, 4810 92 00, 4810 99 00, 4802 2090, 4802 5790, 4804 1900, 4804 3900, 4804 4200, 4804 5200, 4804 5900, 4805 1900, 4810 1320, 4810 1330, 4810 1390, 4810 1430, 4810 1490, 4810 1910, 4810 1920, 4810 1990, 4810 2200, 4810 2900, 4810 3100, 4810 3200, 4810 3990, 4811 5110, 4811 5190, 4811 5910, 4811 5990, 4811 9099, 4819 1010, 4819 1090, 4819 2090
Countries	China, Indonesia
Applicant	Indian Paper Manufacturers Association (IPMA), on behalf of the domestic industry, with information from Aditya Birla Real Estate Limited (Formerly known as Century Textiles and Industries), Emami Papers Mills Limited, ITC Limited, JK Paper Limited and Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited
Period of investigation	1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025 (12 months)
Injury period	2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the POI
Findings	• Pre-initiation consultations were held with representatives of the Governments of China and Indonesia under Article 13 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. • The five applicant domestic producers account for a major proportion of Indian production and are treated as the domestic industry; NR Agarwal Industries Limited and West Coast Paper Mills Limited, the other domestic producers, support the application, and ITC Limited's imports from non-subject countries were found negligible.

- The applicant alleges 62 subsidy programs in China, covering goods and services at less than adequate remuneration, tax and VAT incentives, preferential loans, grants, equity infusion, and export financing and export credit.
- The applicant alleges 23 subsidy programs in Indonesia, including provision of standing timber at less than adequate remuneration, a government prohibition on exports of logs, land and electricity at less than adequate remuneration, tax and import duty exemptions, incentives in Special Economic Zones, export incentives and preferential loans from Mandiri Bank.
- The domestic industry claims that subject imports rose in absolute terms and relative to production and consumption, faster than demand, at prices below its selling price and cost of sales, and that it lost market share and suffered losses, cash losses and a negative return on capital employed.

Recommendation

The Authority initiates an anti-subsidy investigation under Section 9 of the Act read with Rule 6 of the Rules to determine the existence, degree and effect of the alleged subsidization and to recommend the anti-subsidy duty that would be adequate to remove injury to the domestic industry.

Time limits

- Interested parties to upload submissions and questionnaire responses (confidential and non-confidential versions) on the SETU portal: within 37 days from the date on which the non-confidential version of the application filed by the domestic industry would be circulated by the Authority or transmitted to the appropriate diplomatic representative of the exporting countries
- Comments on the scope of the product under consideration and the proposed PCNs: within 15 days of the intimation of initiation of the investigation, running concurrently with the 37-day time limit
- Requests for extension of time: at least one day before the original deadline specified in the notification
- Comments on confidentiality claimed by other interested parties: within 7 days from the date of circulation of the non-confidential version of the documents

The notification (PDF, 889 KB)

Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-24032026-271222, published March 20, 2026.

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

IndusDesk

hello@indusdesk.com · +91 11 4141 3939

9th Floor, Hemkunt House, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110008, India

Read online: indusdesk.com/dgtr/tracker/initiates-anti-subsidy-probe-on-multi-layer-paperboard-271222/