ANTI-DUMPING / INITIATION

DGTR opens anti-dumping investigation on montelukast sodium from China

DGTR initiates an anti-dumping investigation into montelukast sodium from China, an API used in medicines for asthma, rhinitis and allergic disorders.

THE DIRECTORATE General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation, by notification dated September 24, 2026 (SETU Case ID AD/OI/053/2026), concerning imports of Montelukast Sodium originating in or exported from China.

KEY FACTS

MEASURE
Anti-dumping

STAGE
Initiation

COUNTRIES
China

DATED
September 24, 2026

REFERENCES

SETU Case ID – AD/OI/053/2026

F. No. 6/50/2026-DGTR

CG-DL-E-03102026-276769

HS CODES 4

2933 39 90	2933 49 90
2933 99 90	2942 00 90

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SETU Case ID – AD/OI/053/2026 · Initiation · September 24, 2026

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation, by notification dated September 24, 2026 (SETU Case ID AD/OI/053/2026), concerning imports of Montelukast Sodium originating in or exported from China.

The application was filed by Morepen Laboratories Limited, which states that it has not imported the product and is not related to any producer, exporter or importer of it. No other Indian producer has supported or opposed the application, and the Authority finds that the applicant accounts for a major proportion of Indian production whether or not production for captive use is counted. The product is an active pharmaceutical ingredient used in medicines for asthma, rhinitis and allergic disorders, imported under tariff items 2933 39 90, 2933 49 90, 2933 99 90 and 2942 00 90, a classification described as indicative only.

The period of investigation is April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, with an injury period covering 2022-23 to 2024-25 and the period of investigation. The Authority prima facie finds a positive dumping margin above the de minimis level. Imports from China began in 2024-25 and rose sharply in the period of investigation, while the domestic industry's production, sales and market share fell and its profits turned negative. The Authority notes that the imports are prima facie not undercutting the domestic industry's prices and that demand declined, a factor it will examine.

Interested parties must register on the SETU portal and file responses within 37 days from the transmission of the intimation letters, with comments on product scope and PCN methodology due within 15 days. The applicant has not proposed a PCN methodology. Its requests for preliminary findings, provisional duty and retrospective duty are to be considered at the appropriate stage.

Measure	Anti-dumping
Stage	Initiation
Case number	SETU Case ID – AD/OI/053/2026
File number	F. No. 6/50/2026-DGTR
Dated	September 24, 2026
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Product	Montelukast Sodium
What it covers	Montelukast Sodium is the sodium salt of montelukast (molecular formula C35H35ClNNaO3S, CAS No. 151767-02-1), generally supplied as a white to off-white powder and used mainly as an active pharmaceutical ingredient in formulations for respiratory and allergic disorders. The scope includes Montelukast Sodium in all forms, grades, purities, particle sizes and packaging, whatever it is called, provided it has the essential characteristics of Montelukast Sodium. The unit of measurement is kilograms (KG).
Customs codes	2933 39 90, 2933 49 90, 2933 99 90, 2942 00 90
Countries	China
Applicant	Morepen Laboratories Limited
Period of investigation	1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 (12 months)
Injury period	Financial years 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the period of investigation
Findings	• The applicant asks that China be treated as a non-market economy and has constructed normal value from its own weighted average cost of production with a reasonable profit margin; this has been considered for initiation, and the availability of a market economy third country basis and the elements of the constructed normal value are to be examined during the investigation. • The export price was determined from the CIF price in DG Systems transaction-wise import data, with adjustments for ocean freight, marine insurance, bank charges, port expenses, inland freight, and loading and unloading charges. • Comparison at ex-factory level prima facie establishes a positive dumping margin above the de minimis level. • Subject imports were nil in the first two years of the injury period, began in 2024-25 and increased sharply in the period of investigation, in absolute terms and relative to Indian production and demand, while imports from other sources remained negligible. • The landed price of subject imports declined steeply in the period of investigation and stayed below the domestic industry's cost of sales but marginally above its selling price, so the imports are prima facie not undercutting its prices; the price effect is stated to lie in the domestic industry's inability to raise prices to recover its increased cost of sales and in its inability to produce and sell the product to the extent of its capacity.

- The domestic industry's production, capacity utilization, domestic sales and market share declined, its inventories increased, and its profits, cash profits and return on capital employed turned negative in the period of investigation.
- Demand for the product in India declined in the period of investigation; this and other known factors are to be examined so that injury caused by them is not attributed to the dumped imports.
- The Authority prima facie considers that there is sufficient evidence of material injury and of a causal link between the alleged dumping and the injury.

Time limits

- Interested parties to upload confidential and non-confidential versions of information and questionnaire responses on the SETU portal: within 37 days from the date of transmission of the intimation letters, containing the non-confidential version of the application and the questionnaire(s), to the known interested parties and the diplomatic representative(s) of the subject country
- Comments on the scope of the PUC and the PCN methodology: within 15 days from the date of transmission of the intimation letters, running concurrently with the 37-day time limit
- Requests for extension of time: at least one day before the original deadline
- Comments on issues of confidentiality: within 7 days from the date of circulation of the non-confidential version of the documents

What happens next

The Authority is to determine the existence, degree and effect of dumping and recommend the anti-dumping duty, if any, adequate to remove injury. The applicant's requests for preliminary findings, provisional duty and retrospective duty are to be considered at the appropriate stage of the investigation.

The notification (PDF, 930 KB)

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