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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

TARIFF COMMISSION

REPORT ON
The Continuance of Protection to the Antimony Industry

BOMBAY, 1957

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SHRI B. N. ADARKAR, M.A. (CANTAB.)	*Member*
SHRI C. RAMASUBBAN	*Member*
DR. S. K. MURANJAN, D.Sc. (LONDON)	*Member*
SHRI J. N. DUTTA	*Member*

PERSONNEL OF THE PANEL WHICH HEARD THE CASE

SHRI K. R. DAMLE

SHRI B. N. ADARKAR

DR. S. K. MURANJAN

SECRETARY

SHRI S. K. BOSE, M.A., I.A.S.

1—11 T. C. Bombay/56.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES)

New Delhi, the 1*st June,* 1957.

RESOLUTION

TARIFFS

No. 4(2)TB/56.—The Tariff Commission has submitted its Report on the continuance of protection to the Antimony Industry on the basis of an inquiry undertaken by it under Sections 11(e) and 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. Its recommendations are as follows :—

(1) Imports of antimony should be canalised through the State Trading Corporation which should set the targets for production and imports according to circumstances from time to time. The Corporation should also endeavour to secure imports of ore or crude antimony from foreign sources at economic prices. This arrangement may be reviewed when supplies of ore are available locally or from the traditional sources at competitive prices. If this recommendation is adopted, the domestic industry will be duly protected and no further protection need be granted to the industry by way of customs duty.

(2) If the above recommendation is found unacceptable on account of any practical difficulties,

(a) the protective duty on antimony, other than crude antimony, should be raised to 60% *ad valorem,*

(b) the protective duty on crude antimony should be retained at 21 per cent. *ad valorem,* but this duty should be removed. if it is found to act as a hindrance to crude antimony being imported as raw material for production of antimoney,

(c) imports of antimony should be licensed liberally so as to ensure adequacy of supplies, and

(d) protection to this industry should be extended up to 31st December, 1958.

(3) Antimony should no longer be subject to import control in its present form, except to the extent necessary for balance of payments reasons.

(4) The Geological Survey of India should make more vigorous efforts to locate deposits of antimony ore within the country.

(5) As the revised protective duty on antimony metal has been fixed on the basis of the landed costs from the cheapest source, the Star Metal Refinery should be required to fix its selling prices on the basis of such landed costs in future.

2. Recommendation (1) has been considered carefully by Government, but it has not been found acceptable on financial, administrative, and other considerations. Government have, accordingly considered and accepted the alternative recommendations (2) (a), (b) and (d) in principle. The duty on crude antimony has recently been rounded off to 25 per cent. *ad valorem* under the Finance (No. 2) Bill 1957. However, reduction or abolition of this duty will be considered if and when the circumstances warrant such a step. Steps are being taken to bring into force immediately the higher protective duty of 60% *ad valorem* on 'Antimony other than crude antimony' assessable under I.C.T. No. 70(3).

3. Recommendations (2)(c) and (3) have been noted and will be taken into consideration along with other relevant factors while formulating import policy from time to time.

4. Recommendation (4) has also been noted and suitable action will be taken to implement it as far as possible.

5. Government have taken note of recommendation (5). The attention of the Star Metal Refinery is invited to the latter part of the recommendation.

ORDER

ORDERED that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all concerned and it be published in the Gazette of India.

S. RANGANATHAN,
Secretary to the Government of India.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES)

NOTIFICATION

TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 1st June, 1957.

No. 4(2)-T.B./56.—WHEREAS the Central Government is satisfied after due inquiry that the duty chargeable under the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), in respect of the article specified in Item No. 70 (3) of the First Schedule to the said Act, and characterised as protective in the third column thereof, has become ineffective for the purpose of securing the protection intended to be afforded by it to similar articles manufactured in India;

Now, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 4 of the said Act, as in force in India and as applied to the State of Pondicherry, the Central Government hereby increases, with effect from the 1st June, 1957, the duty of customs on the said article so that the duty chargeable shall from the said date be as specified in column 3 of the table annexed hereto.

TABLE

Item No. of Tariff	Name of article	Rate of duty
1	2	3
70 (3)	Antimony, other than crude antimony	60 per cent *ad valorem*

S. RANGANATHAN,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

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REPORT ON THE CONTINUANCE OF PROTECTION TO THE ANTIMONY INDUSTRY

Origin of the case

1.1. The antimony industry was granted protection after a Tariff Board inquiry, by the Government of India, Department of Commerce, Resolution No. 218-T(20)/47 dated 22nd March, 1947, by converting the then existing revenue duty of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* on antimony into a protective duty at the same rate. Simultaneously, a protective duty of 20 per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on crude antimony. The duration of these protective duties which was initially fixed upto 31st March, 1949 was subsequently extended upto 31st March, 1950. The second tariff inquiry was held in 1949 and on the recommendation of the Tariff Board, the protective duties on antimony and crude antimony were continued upto 31st December, 1952, by the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce, Resolution No. 4(1) T. B./49, dated 7th October, 1949. Under the Finance Act of 1951, a surcharge of 5 per cent. was levied on both antimony and crude antimony with effect from 1st April, 1951. The rates of protective duties were thus raised to 31½ per cent. and 21 per cent. *ad valorem* on antimony and crude antimony respectively. The period of protection was extended upto 31st December, 1953, by the Indian Tariff (Fourth Amendment) Act, 1952, and upto 31st December, 1954, by the Indian Tariff (Third Amendment) Act, 1953. The third inquiry into this industry was held in 1954 and on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission, the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, by their Resolution No. 4(1) T. B./54 dated 4th September, 1954, continued protection to this industry upto 31st December, 1956, at the rates of 31½ per cent. and 21 per cent. *ad valorem* on antimony and crude antimony respectively. Under the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1956, which has been introduced in Parliament, it is proposed to extend the duration of these protective duties further by one year, *i.e.* upto 31st December, 1957.

1.2. The present inquiry is held under Section 11(e) read with Section 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, under which the Commission has been empowered to inquire into and report on any further action required in relation to the protection granted to an industry, with a view to its increase, decrease, modification or abolition according to the circumstances of the case.

Method of inquiry

2.1. On 3rd April, 1956, questionnaires were issued to the Star Metal Refinery Private Ltd., Bombay, and to the principal importers and consumers of antimony. A press note was issued on 9th April, 1956, inviting parties interested in this industry to obtain copies of the relevant questionnaires from the Office of the Commission and to submit replies thereto. The Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Association, the Chief Industrial Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, and the Director of Industries with the Government of Bombay were requested to furnish memoranda on the present position of this industry. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research was consulted to ascertain the steps taken by the Geological Survey of India to locate antimony ore deposits in the country. The Director-General of

Supplies and Disposals was requested to inform the Commission of his views regarding the prices and quality of indigenous antimony. Information regarding the c.i.f. prices and landed costs of imported antimony was obtained from the Collectors of Customs and that regarding imports of antimony from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. A list of those to whom the Commission's questionnaires were issued and from whom replies or memoranda were received is given in Appendix I.

2.2. Shri K. R. Damle, Chairman, and Shri B. N. Adarkar and Dr. S. K. Muranjan, Members, visited the factory of the Star Metal Refinery Private Ltd., at Vikhroli near Bombay, on 24th October, 1956. On 19th September, 1956, Shri S. V. Rajan, Cost Accounts Officer, visited the same factory and examined its cost of production. A public inquiry into this industry was held at the Commission's office on 18th October, 1955. A list of those who attended the inquiry and gave evidence is given in Appendix II.

Implementation of Commission's recommendations on matters other than tariffs

3.1. In its 1954 Report, the Commission had recommended that Government might examine the desirability of extending the ban on exports of non-ferrous scrap to metallic residue and dross. The Chief Controller of Imports and Exports has informed us that in order to eliminate the possibility of non-ferrous scrap being exported in the guise of metallic residue and dross, the Export Instructions have been amended so as to permit free licensing of exports of only the following, namely, (a) ashes, drosses, skimmings of all non-ferrous metals and alloys, (b) zinc concentrates, (c) mixed residues containing a small percentage of gold and silver, commonly known as "tambadi" and (d) gilt copper thread waste containing small amount of gold or silver. Exports of these are licensed freely subject to the production of a certificate from a recognised chemical analyst in regard to the physical state and chemical composition. Applications for exports of metallic residues not covered by (a) and (c) above are considered on merits.

3.2. The Commission considered that the future stability of this industry would not be assured until a local source of antimony ore was discovered and had, therefore, recommended that the Geological Survey of India should intensify their efforts to locate deposits of this ore within the country. We understand from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research that a preliminary investigation made by the Geological Survey of India during the field season 1955-56 into the reported occurrence of antimony at Kolari (20°49′ : 79°31′), Umret Tehsil, Nagpur District, has revealed prospects and that it is proposed to carry out detailed prospecting in that area in the next field season. A team of the Geological Survey is also reported to have discovered antimony deposits in the Himalayan ranges near the Bara-Shigri Glacier, at an altitude of 14,800 ft. above sea level, in the Kulu sub-division of the Punjab, but the team has not yet submitted its Report.

3.3. In view of the difficulties caused by wide fluctuations in the demands from Government, the Commission had recommended that Government orders for antimony and antimonial alloys should be planned in an even manner. The Director-General of

Supplies and Disposals, however, has informed us that demands from indentors are not received on a regular basis and that the heavy demand received by his Office for antimony and antimony alloys like anti-friction bearing metal could not be anticipated earlier. The Director-General has suggested that in order to meet unforeseen demands, the producer should be required to maintain a reserve stock of at least 75 tons, as recommended by the Commission in its last Report.

3.4. The Commission had recommended that the industry should be given assistance in securing its requirements of soda ash. The industry, however, is now receiving adequate supplies of this material. The Commission had made three other recommendations, namely, that the import control policy regarding antimony should be sufficiently flexible to avoid inconvenience to consumers, that the Star Metal Refinery should try to maintain a reserve stock of at least 75 tons of antimony metal and that they should also fix their selling prices on the basis of the current landed costs of imported antimony. The action taken with regard to these three recommendations is discussed in paragraphs 8.2, 9.1, to 9.3 and 15 respectively.

Domestic demand

4.1. At the last inquiry held in 1954, the domestic demand for antimony for the next three years was estimated by the Commission at about 550 tons per annum, made up as follows: 125 tons for the storage battery industry, 275 tons for the type metal and anti-friction bearing metal industries and 150 tons for Government departments, including Ordnance Factories. The estimates received from various parties at the present inquiry vary from 550 tons to 1,000 tons for the current demand and 700 tons to 1,200 tons for the future demand. The following table shows the estimates of future demand received from the Development Wing and the Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Association and the figures of actual deliveries by the Star Metal Refinery during the years (November-October) 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55 :—

(Figures in tons)

Class of Consumers	Estimates of future demand received from		Deliveries by the Star Metal Refinery		
	Development Wing	Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Assn.	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Storage battery industry . .	250	250	37	62	83
Alloy makers (*i.e.* manufacturers of type metal and antifriction bearing metal)	100	350	28	150	150
Railways and other Government departments, including Ordnance Factories	320	505	88	148	299
Miscellaneous	30	95	27	77	81
Total .	700	1200	180	437	613

4.2. On the basis of the above statistics of actual deliveries and the inquiries made by them from consumers, the Star Metal Refinery estimate the current demand at 700 tons and expect that it will rise by 15 to 20 per cent. per year during the next three years. At the public inquiry, the representative of the Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Association explained that the Association's estimates of demand for the storage battery industry and alloy makers related to consumption of antimony in the form of scrap as well as virgin metal and that the Association had not been able to frame separate estimates for virgin metal alone. The representative of the Association quoted figures obtained from ten leading manufacturers of antimony alloys regarding their requirements of antimony and these added up to 356 tons. In addition, a new demand for about 25 tons per annum from Hindustan Cable Company is expected. From the opinions expressed at the public inquiry, it appears that about 40 to 50 per cent. of antimony consumed by alloy makers is in the form of scrap. On this basis, the future demand for virgin antimony for alloy making may be estimated at not less than 200 tons. There is, however, a possibility of some over-lap between the demands indicated by alloy makers and the manufacturers of storage batteries, because some battery manufacturers buy antimonial lead from alloy makers, instead of virgin antimony. Among the battery manufacturers, Standard Batteries alone account for the bulk of antimony sold by the Star Metal Refinery directly to this industry; in 1955 they purchased 67 tons of virgin antimony and their requirements are expected to increase to 90 tons in future. Taking into account the requirements of other manufacturers, the future demand for the storage battery industry may be estimated at 200 tons. As regards the requirements of Railways and other Government departments including Ordnance Factories, the figures of deliveries given above show a steeply rising trend during the last three years. The Star Metal Refinery have explained that the figure for 1954-55 includes a quantity of 120 tons which was indented for 1953-54 but was actually delivered in 1954-55. Even so, the average for the two years comes to 225 tons per annum, as against the estimate of 150 tons adopted at the last inquiry. The Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Association has informed us that the estimate of 500 tons given by it for the future demand from Government departments was actually furnished by the Director General of Supplies and Disposals last year and that the estimate of 5 tons for the Ordnance Factories has been obtained from the Director General of Ordnance Factories. In view of the growing requirements of Indian Railways, we consider it very likely that the demand for virgin antimony from Government departments may increase to 500 tons during the next three years. The demand from miscellaneous users, actual deliveries to whom by the Star Metal Refinery amounted to 81 tons in 1954-55 may be expected to increase to about 100 tons during the next three years.

4.3. The following table shows the actual consumption of antimony during the three years from 1953 to 1955 as estimated from the statistics of production, imports and stocks held by the Star Metal Refinery;

(Figures in tons)

Year	Stock at the begin-ning of the year	Production during the year	Stocks at the end of the year	Imports	Total 2+3+5−4
1	2	3	4	5	6
1953	68·89	130·18	0·36	4·00	202·71
1954	0·36	539·07	14·79	54·00	578·64
1955	14·79	504·00	12·00	45·00	551·79
TOTAL	84·04	1173·25	27·15	103·00	1333·14

It would not be correct to place excessive reliance on the above estimates of actual consumption, since domestic production in 1953 and 1955 was affected by extraordinary circumstances and imports have throughout been subject to a system of control. The international prices for antimony ore were at times so high that the Star Metal Refinery considered it prudent to restrict or defer their purchases of ore and this affected their production of the metal. In November and the first half of December 1955, the Refinery had to close their plant for reconditioning. But for these special factors, the actual consumption of antimony would have been higher than is indicated by the above figures.

4.4. After a careful examination of the data summarised above, we estimate that the domestic demand for virgin antimony is in the neighbourhood of 700 tons at present and that it is likely to increase to about 1,000 tons during the course of the next three years. At the time of the public inquiry, the demand for antimony had slackened to some extent, but this cannot be taken as a definite indication of the future trend. Undue conservatism in estimating domestic demand has created difficulties in the past for the consumer as well as the producer. The Star Metal Refinery have stated that their inability to maintain a stock of 75 tons in 1955 was due to the fact that their production plans were based on the estimate of demand adopted at the last inquiry, whereas the actual demand proved to be much higher. A high estimate of demand may lead to larger imports being licensed, but we consider that at a time when the international prices of this strategic material have fallen to an abnormally low level, it will probably do no harm to the economy of the country to hold larger stocks of imported antimony. The estimate adopted by us was originally suggested by the producer himself and was accepted by the representatives of both consumers and importers who attended the public inquiry.

Rated capacity and production

5. At the previous inquiry, the rated capacity of the Star Metal Refinery was stated to be 600 tons on triple shift basis. This was on the assumption that the Refinery would be utilising only two precipitation furnances. The Company has five precipitation furnaces, of

which two are intended as a stand-by equipment, and one starring furnace. Based on the utilisation of three precipitation furnaces at a time, the rated capacity of the Company is now estimated at 1,000 tons per annum. The actual production of antimony was 130·18 tons in 1953, 539·07 tons in 1954, 504 tons in 1955 and 430·7 tons in January-September, 1956. Production in 1955 and the current year would have been higher but for the closure of the plant towards the end of 1955 for reconditioning, and the disturbances in Bombay in the first few months of 1956 which affected clearances from the docks as well as the working of the factory.

Supplies of antimony ore

6.1. The Star Metal Refinery were using Bolivian and Iranian ore at the time of the last inquiry. Imports of Iranian ore have now completely ceased. Meanwhile, the Company has located a new source of supply in Turkey and supplies from this source have been tried and found satisfactory. Antimony ore from Turkey is also cheaper, being priced at Rs. 1,240 per long ton of 65 per cent. grade, c.i.f. Bombay, as compared with Rs. 1,339 per ton for Bolivian ore of 64 per cent. grade. The Company hopes to obtain about 50 per cent. of its requirements from Turkey.

6.2. In the matter of ore supplies, India is at a serious disadvantage as compared with other countries. Apart from Turkey which is a new source of supply, regular supplies of ore have hitherto been available only from the Latin American countries, and the prices quoted have been much higher than those at which countries like Belgium and U. K. are able to obtain their requirements.

Whereas, at the current prices of Bolivian and Turkish ore, the cost of ore incurred by the Star Metal Refinery (at 1·817 tons of ore per ton of metal and assuming equal supplies from the two sources) comes to Rs. 119·25 per cwt., the c.i.f. price of refined metal from Belgium is Rs. 133·31 per cwt., a difference of only Rs. 14·06 per cwt. which is probably due to the fact that Belgium is able to obtain its requirements of ore from Belgian Congo at much lower prices. U. K. obtains about 95 per cent. of her requirements of ore from South Africa at a price of Rs. 960 per ton as compared with Rs. 1,339 per ton paid by the Star Metal Refinery for Bolivian ore. Recently, China and Russia have entered the world market as large suppliers of antimony and are offering the refined metal at a price which is lower than what the ore itself costs to India at the prices quoted by Bolivia and Turkey. The current c.i.f. price of antimony metal from both China and Russia is as low as £ 156·7 per ton or Rs. 105/5/- per cwt., whereas as stated above, the c.i.f. cost of ore incurred by the Star Metal Refinery per cwt. of metal is Rs. 119. China has large deposits of antimony ore and was an important supplier of antimony to India before the Second World War. However, her current prices of antimony are out of parity with the world prices of both the metal and the ore. In view of the low prices quoted by China for antimony metal, it would definitely be of advantage to India to obtain antimony ore from that country, but hitherto all efforts of the Star Metal Refinery in this direction have been in vain. The Refinery have supplied us with copies of their correspondence with the China National Minerals Corporation on this subject, which show that the Corporation is at present prepared to sell only crude antimony with 70 per cent. metal content at a c.i.f. price if £130 per ton *i.e.*, Rs. 1,733 per ton. (At the public inquiry, and importing firm claimed to have received a quotation of £125 per ton for crude antimony from the same source.) At this price it is uneconomical to import crude antimony from China, because Bolivian ore of corresponding metal content is available nearly Rs. 200 per ton cheaper. Besides, crude antimony is subject to an import duty of 21 per cent. *ad valorem* while antimony ore is free of duty.

6.3. Although both China and Russia have been offering their antimony metal at the abnormally low prices referred to above for several months past, neither the prices of the metal from Belgium, U. K. or U.S.A. nor those of the ore from Bolivia or Turkey seem to be affected by this competition. We understand that the present disparities in prices of antimony ore from different sources are due to the fact that certain important markets are insulated from world competition by agreements or other special arrangements. As stated earlier, South Africa and Belgian Congo sell the bulk of their output of antimony ore to U. K. and Belgium respectively. while the ore from the Latin American countries finds its natural market in the United States. There is, however, considerable competition among the suppliers of antimony metal and it is, therefore, surprising that the prices of antimony metal from U. K., Belgium or U.S.A. should not have been affected as yet by the Chinese competition. Any readjustment in the prices of metal from various sources must affect the prices of ore also. On the whole, the present international situation in regard to the prices of antimony ore as well as of antimony metal is inherently unstable. So long as this situation persists, it is obviously desirable that every effort should be made to secure supplies of antimony ore from China or Russia and advantage should also be taken of the current favourable prices of antimony metal to build reasonable stocks of this essential material. We consider that the State Trading Corporation could play a useful role in both these respects. (*See* paragraph 14.4). The possibility of crude antimony becoming available from China at an economic price cannot be ruled out and we are of opinion that if the price of Chinese crude antimony declines to such a level that the present import duty of 21 per cent. becomes a hindrance to its imports, the duty should be removed. The output of antimony ore in China is estimated at 8,000 tons (in terms of antimony) per annum, while the annual production of antimony in that country is believed to be of the order of 4,000 tons. China's annual exportable surplus of antimony ore (in terms of metal) may thus be estimated at 4,000 tons. Since the consumption of antimony in India is expected to increase to 1,000 tons per annum during the next three years, India can offer an important market for Chinese antimony ore. We would also reiterate our previous recommendations that in order to make the country independent of foreign supplies, the Geological Survey of India should make more vigorous efforts to locate deposits of antimony ore within the country.

7.1. The Star Metal Refinery have stated that their product conforms to Grade C in the tentative standard specifications published by the Indian Standards Institution in 1950, namely IR:SS N-9-50 and IS-211-50. Most of the metal consumed in India is of Grade C quality. Occasionally, there are orders for Grade B, and the Company is able to comply with them also. The Company also claims to have arrangements to produce antimony to Grade A standard. The Company maintains that for several years past it has received no complaint from Government in regard to the quality of the metal supplied by it. We understand from the Indian Standards Institution that the work of revising the tentative standard has been taken in hand and that the revised standard will be circulated by the end of this year.

Quality of indigenous antimony

7.2. Most of the consumers who have replied to our questionnaire have expressed satisfaction with the quality of the indigenous product. The Central Railway and Standard Batteries have furnished us with copies of test reports which confirm the producer's claim that the product conforms to the ISI specifications. Only two manufacturers of type metal have complained that sometimes indigenous antimony, when heated, turns into 'ashes' or forms black lumps. These manufacturers, however, have not furnished any test reports to show in what respects the indigenous product fails to conform to the standard specifications.

Imports and import control policy

8.1. Imports of antimony are not published in the Accounts relating to the Foreign Trade and Navigation of India. Such imports, however, are recorded by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, who has supplied us with the following statistics for the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 and for April, 1956:

	1953-54		1954-55		1955-56		April, 1956.	
	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.
U.K.	4	12,671	21	91,689	..	..	..	..
Belgium	8	21,977	21	54,493	10	26,799	..	..
China	..	..	15	38,959	33	73,565	5	11,425
Japan	..	..	..	..	..	27	..	..
	12	34,648	57	1,85,141	43	1,00,391	5	11,425

8.2. The import control policy in respect of antimony during the licensing periods January-June 1954 to July-December, 1956 was as follows :

(i) *January-June,* 1954.—No licences were granted.

(ii) *July-December,* 1954 *and January-June,* 1955.—No licences were granted to established importers but applications from actual users were considered *ad hoc* on production of a certificate that their requirements could not be met in part or in full from indigenous sources.

(iii) *July-December* 1955 *to July-December* 1956.—Licences were granted to established importers up to 10 per cent. of one-half of their best year's imports and applications from actual users were considered *ad hoc* in consultation with the Development Wing.

8.3. The working of the import control policy has to be assessed in the light of the industry's performance in regard to stocks and deliveries which is discussed in the following paragraph.

Stocks and deliveries

9.1. In paragraph 13 of its 1954 Report, the Commission had recommended that the Star Metal Refinery should try to maintain a reserve stock of 75 tons of metal. The following table shows the stocks of antimony held by the Company at the end of each month from October, 1954 to September, 1956.

Statement showing the stocks of antimony metal held by the Star Metal Refinery at the end of each month from October, 1954 *to September,* 1956

	In tons
1954	
October	38.39
November	7.53
December	14.79
1955	
January	4.04
February	21.83
March	7.29
April	18.88
May	69.68
June	85.43
July	74.13
August	45.43
September	52.38
October	17.09
November	9.25
December	12.00
1956	
January	4.25
February	1.10
March	5.73
April	10.45
May	25.30
June	40.08
July	51.13
August	70.18
September	100.87

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It will be seen from the above statement that during the period of two years from October, 1954 to September, 1956, stocks of antimony with the Star Metal Refinery were higher than 75 tons on two occasions only. On both these occasions, the increase in stocks was caused mainly by a decline in sales. The Company has explained that its inability to maintain an average stock of 75 tons during 1954-55 was due to the sudden spurt in demand in that year. During 1954-55, while the Company's production increased to 591 tons, its deliveries to consumers amounted to 613 tons and this was responsible for depletion of its stocks. During the early months of 1956, receipts of ore from abroad were delayed and clearances from the Bombay docks were also affected by disturbances in the city and consequently, delays occurred in deliveries to certain consumers.

9.2. While the failure of this Company to maintain adequate reserve stocks is partly due to circumstances beyond its control, the fact remains that the consumers have had to be content with hand-to-mouth stocks in respect of this essential material. The evidence received by us shows that as a result of delays in deliveries from the Star Metal Refinery, important consumers, particularly in distant centres like Calcutta, were at times left with only one week's stocks and were threatened with the prospect of having to curtail their production. The Director General of Supplies and Disposals has stated: "We have placed large orders with the Star Metal Refinery for antimony ingots and they have not been able to keep up with the deliveries. In the case of tenders for the supply of anti-friction metal, one of the clauses stipulated by the tenderers is 'subject to the receipt of antimony'. This is a clear indication that the Star Metal Refinery cannot cope with the demand." The Star Metal Refinery themselves have admitted in their reply to the Commission's questionnaire that out of 299 tons delivered by them to India Railways during 1954-55 (November-October), 120 tons had been intended for delivery in 1953-54 but were actually delivered in 1954-55. Messrs. Binani Metal Works Private Ltd., who have otherwise given an excellent opinion about the performance of the domestic industry have stated: "The only complaint is the irregularity in supplies which naturally affects production of the consumer and sometimes forces the consumer to resort to *ad hoc* imports"

9.3. In its previous Report (paragraph 13), the Commission had recommended that the import control policy, while duly safeguarding the interests of the domestic industry, should be sufficiently flexible to avoid inconvenience to consumers. The evidence given above shows that the Star Metal Refinery have failed on several occasions to effect regular deliveries and to maintain adequate stocks to meet unforeseen increases in demand. A review of the present import control policy is, therefore, urgently called for, in order to safeguard the interests of the consumer. Under the present import control policy, imports of antimony have been reduced to a few tons (only 43 tons in 1955-56) and no licences are granted to actual users unless they satisfy the Development Wing that their requirements cannot be met from domestic sources. We have received no evidence that there is any prejudice on the part of the consumers against indigenous antimony and hence a rigid system of import control of the kind which exists at present cannot strictly be regarded as necessary to protect this industry when it is also enjoying the benefit of a protective duty. The industry consists of a single unit which is wholly dependent on foreign sources for its supplies of raw material and the cost of the imported material makes more than three quarters of its total cost. Moreover, the raw material has to be obtained from distant sources like Bolivia or Turkey. Consequently, the supply of antimony available to consumers at any time and its price depends on the decisions taken by a single unit with regard to purchases of ore. Past experience shows that the production targets of this unit have often gone wrong, and this is only natural, since no single unit can be depended upon always to judge the market trends accurately. The failure of the Star Metal Refinery during 1954-55 to maintain a reserve stock of 75 tons is understandable for the same reason. Sometimes the prices of ore in the international market have been so high that the producer has had to keep off the market, but while this may benefit the consuming industries so far as the price is concerned, the resulting irregularity in supply may put them to loss by causing interruptions in their production. As pointed out earlier, the world situation in regard to the prices of antimony ore is at present so uncertain that it may not be prudent for the domestic producer to go in for forward purchases of this ore on a large scale, and yet it will be obligatory on him to make such large purchases, if he is to be able to meet readily the growing domestic demand for antimony metal and also to maintain an adequate reserve stock. We feel that the industry is at present so situated that it is unwise to impose on it this obligation to meet the entire domestic demand. Exclusive reliance on a single unit has also been shown by past experience to be undesirable from the point of view of the consumer. Nor is this product subject to any consumer's prejudice to warrant direct protection by import control, besides protection by import duty. Under the circumstances, we recommend that the present policy of relying almost exclusively on a single unit to meet the entire domestic demand for antimony should be discontinued and that antimony should no longer be subject to import control in its present form except to the extent necessary for balance of payments reasons. (*See* paragraph 14.4).

Existing rates of duty

10. Item 70(2) Crude antimony and item 70(3) antimony other than crude antimony in the First Schedule to the Indian Customs Tariff are at present subject to protective duties at the standard rates of 21 per cent. and 31½ per cent. *ad valorem* respectively. The present duration of these duties is upto 31st December, 1956. (*See* also paragraph 1.1.)

Cost of production and fair selling price of indigenous antimony

11.1. We have examined the data compiled by our Cost Accounts Officer regarding the cost of production of antimony at the factory of the Star Metal Refinery and have also discussed them with the representatives of the Company. The Cost Accounts Officer has ascertained the actual costs of production during the year ended 31st October, 1955 and the eight months ended 30th June, 1956 and prepared estimates of future costs on the basis of the data for these periods. In estimating the future costs, the annual output has been taken at 600 tons, which is equal to 60 per cent. of the rated capacity of the Company and the cost of antimony ore has been calculated by taking the latest available quotations for Bolivian and Turkish ore and assuming that the Company will obtain its requirements equally from these two sources. Bolivian ore of 64% average Sb content is priced at Rs. 1,339·4 per ton c. i. f. Bombay, and Turkish ore of approximately the same Sb content at Rs. 1,240 per ton. Clearing, transport and other charges are estimated at Rs. 22.8 per ton. The cost of Bolivian ore delivered at the factory comes to Rs. 1,362·2 per ton and that of Turkish ore to Rs. 1,262·8 per ton. On the basis of the recorded data for 1954-55 and the first eight months of 1955-56, the average recovery efficiency has been determined to be 86% and since the average metal content of the ore is about 64 per cent, the quantity of ore required per ton of metal works out to 1·817 tons. Taking into account the Company's dependence on imported ore and its obligation to maintain adequate stocks of both the ore and the metal, its requirements of working capital have been estimated at Rs. 7 lakhs and interest has been allowed thereon at 4½ per cent per annum. The original value of the block utilised for the production of antimony is Rs. 4·37 lakhs and its written down value Rs. 1·8 lakhs. Depreciation has been allowed at Income Tax rates on the written down value and return at 10 per cent on the original value. Since the Company has to sell its antimony at a uniform price in Bombay and Calcutta, an allowance of Rs. 2 per cwt. for the average freight disadvantage has been added.

11.2. The cost of production and fair selling price of antimony, as estimated by us for the future on the basis indicated above are shown in the following statement :

	(Rs. per cwt.)
Cost of ore @ 1.817 cwt. per cwt. of metal 50% Bolivian Rs. 68·14 per cwt.	119.25
Cost of other materials	8.79
Total materials	128.04
Power and fuel	7.71
Other conversion charges (labour, repairs and maintenance, consumable stores, establishment, depreciation and other overheads and packing)	23.50
Total	159.25
Less credit	1.50
	157·75
Interest on working capital 4½% on Rs. 7 lakhs	2·63
Return 10% on Rs. 4·37 lakhs	3·64
Fair ex-works price	164·02
Average freight disadvantage	2·00
Fair selling price in Bombay and Calcutta	166·02

The fair selling price of Rs. 166 per cwt. given above is exclusive of selling expenses.

C.i.f. price and landed cost of imported antimony

12. A statement in Appendix III shows the data furnished by the Collectors of Customs and certain importing firms regarding the c.i.f. prices and landed costs of imported antimony. After discussion with the interests concerned, we have adopted the latest c. i. f. price

of Antimony Regulus 99·55 per cent. from China which is Rs. 105-5-0 per cwt. The corresponding landed costs is as follows :

	(per cwt.) Rs. a. p.
C.I.F. price of Chinese antimony	105 5 0
Clearing charges	0 8 0
Landed cost without duty	105 13 0
Customs duty 31½%	33 3 0
Landed cost with duty	139 0 0

13.1. The fair selling price of indigenous antimony given in paragraph 11 is compared below with the landed cost ex-duty of imported antimony:

Comparison of fair Selling price with landed cost ex-duty

	(per cwt.) Rs. a. p.
[1] Fair selling price of indigenous antimony.	166-0-0
[2] C. i. f. price of Chinese antimony	105-5-0
[3] Landed cost ex-duty	105-13-0
[4] Difference between [1] and [3]	60-3-0
[5] Difference [4] expressed as a percentage of c. i. f. price [2]	57·2%
[6] Existing duty	3·5%

13.2. Thus, a duty of 57·2 per cent. would seems to be necessary to place indigenous antimony on par with Chinese antimony. Allowing for contingencies, a duty of 60 per cent. would seem to be indicated. The duty would work out to a much lower figure if Belgian antimony were adopted as the basis of comparison, but this would be quite unrealistic, since there is no possibility of any appreciable imports from Belgium so long as the Chinese metal is so much cheaper.

Scheme of protection or assistance

14.1. We have to examine whether the duty on antimony should be raised from the existing level of 31½ per cent. to 60% as indicated in the preceding paragraph. It will be seen that so long as the c.i.f. price of imported antimony remains at Rs. 105-5-0 per cwt. and the fair selling price of indigenous antimony at Rs. 166 per cwt., continued protection to the domestic industry will impose on the consumer a sacrifice of over Rs. 60 for every cwt. of antimony produced in the country. Of this amount, about Rs. 12 per cwt. is represented by the extra expenditure of foreign exchange involved in importing ore from abroad instead of the finished metal. It will be seen from the details of the cost given in paragraph 11·2 above that while the consumer's sacrifice is Rs. 60 per cwt., the value added by manufacture, which might be taken to represent the gain to the economy from the working of this industry, is not more than Rs. 30 per cwt., the balance of Rs. 30 being represented by the excess of the cost of materials, power and fuel over the price of imported metal. Thus, on an output of 600 tons per annum, while the aggregate sacrifice imposed on the consumer is Rs. 7·2 lakhs, the aggregate value added by manufacture is only Rs. 3·6 lakhs. It is true that in the case of certain other industries which are considered worthy of protection, a similar disparity between the sacrifice borne by the consumer and the value added by manufacture is found to exist, but in such cases an expansion of output under the aegis of protection affords the hope of the disparity being steadily reduced and eventually the value added by manufacture being substantially higher than the burden imposed on the consumer. In this case, however, so long as the cost of the materials, power and fuel is higher than the c.i.f. price of the metal, the burden on the consumer will always be higher than the value added by manufacture and the aggregate burden will go on increasing as the output expands.

14.2. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that the present situation with regard to the international prices of both the metal and the ore is highly unstable and it is not unlikely that the normal price relationship between the metal and the ore may be restored in the near future (Paragraph 6·3). In any case, the Star Metal Refinery are making continuous efforts to obtain ore from cheaper sources. Moreover, the Geological Survey may succeed before long in locating deposits of ore in the country and it is necessary to keep this industry in existence in the meanwhile. This important industry which has been built up with so much effort and sacrifice should not be allowed to suffer losses merely on account of certain external factors which, after all, may not last long. All these considerations, however, would justify only such measure of protection or assistance to the industry as would enable it to carry on its operations on a reasonable scale, but not such as would permit an expansion of production, so long as such expansion involves a higher expenditure on materials as compared with the cost of importing the finished product. We recognise that the present situation may prove to be temporary, but while it continues, the benefits accruing to the economy from a further expansion of output will not be commensurate with the additional sacrifice which it will involve for the consumer. We are of opinion, therefore, that under the present conditions, the scheme of protection or assistance should be such as would enable the output of the domestic industry to be maintained at a reasonable level and the balance of the requirements to be imported from the cheapest source.

14.3. We have considered whether this dual objective of maintaining the output of the domestic industry at such a level as would enable it to earn reasonable profits and of importing the balance of the requirements from the cheapest source could be achieved by increasing the import duty from 31½ per cent. to 60 per cent. as indicated in paragraph 13·2 above. We feel that once the duty is increased to the level indicated by the fair selling price based on the present prices of ore, it would pay the manufacturer to expand his output by increased imports of ore at the present prices, but, as stated above, it is not desirable that such expansion of output should take place. An increase in duty may discourage imports through private channels, and even if import licences are granted liberally, sufficient imports may not take place. So long as the future outlook about prices of ore is so uncertain, the manufacturer may find it necessary in his own interest to restrict his imports of ore and it is, therefore, necessary that sufficient stocks of imported metal should be available in the country to meet any temporary shortage that may arise. On the other hand, if, in order to encourage imports, the duty is maintained at the present level, the domestic industry may lose heavily in competition with imports. A combination of a low import duty with import control may help to protect the domestic industry, but this is too cumbrous a device for achieving the dual objective mentioned above and is likely to be ineffective. Moreover, we have already expressed the view in paragraph 9·3 above that it is in principle desirable that imports of antimony should no longer be subject to import control in the present form.

14.4 We consider that State Trading affords a more suitable device for dealing with this problem. As a means of ensuring larger imports so as to secure for the country the benefit of the low prices at which this essential material is at present available from abroad and thus to reduce the quantum of sacrifice required for protecting the domestic industry, State Trading is distinctly superior to import control, because it is more definite in its results. It is preferable to a high protective duty, even when the latter is combined with liberalisation of import control, because from the point of view of ensuring adequacy of supplies, free licensing of imports may not sufficiently neutralise the effect of the higher import costs resulting from the higher duty. State Trading is also a more flexible instrument than import control and is, therefore, free from the difficulties which arise when the product of a single unit industry dependent on outside sources for its essential raw material is protected by a rigid system of import regulation (*see* paragraph 9.3.) State Trading is desirable on other grounds also. More than 50 per cent. of the total supply of antimony is consumed by Government and a large part of the business handled by the State Trading Corporation will, therefore, be directly on Government account. Secondly, although imports of antimony are in the hands of several importers, the entire import trade in antimony ore which accounts for more than 75 per cent. of the total cost of antimony and the entire distribution of the domestically produced antimony are being managed by a single organisation even at present, and there can, therefore, be no great objection to foregoing the advantages of the competitive system with regard to imports of antimony metal. Thirdly, with regard to that part of imports which is intended for building up reserve stocks, the State Trading Corporation is obviously the appropriate agency, because it is not advisable to leave the reserve stocks in the hands of private traders. Fourthly, since the difficulties of the domestic industry spring mainly from the high cost of imported ore, a system of protection which is likely to give the country some chance to influence the cost of ore is preferable to one which has practically no bearing on the cost of ore; State Trading as a form of protection belongs to the former category, while both tariff protection and import control belong to the latter. The present production target of the domestic industry is 600 tons, while the domestic demand is 700 tons at present and expected to increase to 1,000 tons in three years. To the import requirements indicated by these figures, an addition has to be made for reserve stocks. The country's bargaining capacity with respect to the prices of antimony and the prices and supplies of antimony ore or of crude antimony (which can serve as a substitute for ore) would be much better if imports were handled by a single organisation than by a number of competing firms. At the public inquiry, opinion was unanimous that every effort must be made to obtain antimony ore or crude antimony at economic prices from China. The State Trading Corporation is in the best position to make such effort and the Indian market, with its potential demand for 1,000 tons (in terms of metal) can offer an important outlet for Chinese ore the total exportable surplus of which is estimated at 4,000 tons (in terms of metal) (*see* paragraph 6.3). For these reasons, we recommend that imports of antimony should be canalised through the State Trading Corporation which should set the targets for production and imports according to circumstances from time to time. The Corporation should also endeavour to secure imports of ore or crude antimony from China or Soviet Russia at economic prices. This arrangement may be reviewed when supplies of ore are available locally or from the traditional sources at competitive prices. If this recommendation is adopted, the domestic industry will be duly protected and no further protection need be granted to the industry by way of customs duty.

14.5. If, however, the above proposal is found unacceptable on account of any practical difficulties we recommend (a) that the protective duty on antimony other than crude antimony should be raised to 60 per cent *ad valorem*, (b) that the protective duty on crude antimony should be retained at 21 per cent *ad valorem* but that this duty should be removed, if it is found to act as a hindrance to crude antimony being imported as raw material for production of antimony, (c) that imports of antimony should be licensed liberally so as to ensure adequacy of supplies and (d) that protection to this industry should be extended upto 31st December, 1958.

Selling prices

15. One of the conditions imposed on the Star Metal Refinery at the last inquiry was that they should fix their selling prices on the basis of the current landed costs of imported antimony. The selling prices of antimony Star Metal produced by the Company are shown in the following statement :

	Price in Rs. per cwt. ex-works Bombay or c.i.f. Calcutta.
30th September 1954	180 0 0
31st December 1954	180 0 0
31st March 1955	167 8 0
30th June 1955	167 8 0
30th September 1955	162 8 0
31st December 1955	162 8 0
31st March 1956	162 8 0
30th June 1956	162 8 0
30th September 1956	162 8 0

We find that these prices were in fair relation to the landed costs of antimony metal imported from Belgium, U. K. or any important source other than China or Russia. The price quoted by China or Russia is completely out of parity with the price at which antimony ore has been vailable to India. Moreover, this is entirely a new development and one which was not taken into account in fixing the existing protective duty on antimony. The duty was based on the landed cost of imports from European sources and hence it is only fair that the selling prices charged by the Company should also be judged by the same standard. If, however, the rate of protective duty is adjusted on the basis of the landed costs of Chinese antimony (paragraph 14.5 above), the Company should be required to fix its selling prices on the basis of such landed costs in future.

16. Our conclusions and recommendations are summarised below:

Summary of conclusions and recommendations

(i) The annual domestic demand for antimony is about 700 tons at present and is expected to increase to about 1,000 tons during the course of the next three years.

[Paragraph 4.4]

(ii) The annual rated capacity of the Star Metal Refinery is estimated at 1,000 tons on triple shift basis. Production of antimony was 130·18 tons in 1953, 539·07 tons in 1954, 504 tons in 1955 and 430·7 tons in January-September, 1956.

[Paragraph 5.]

(iii) The Geological Survey of India should make more vigorous efforts to locate deposits of antimony ore within the country.

[Paragraph 6.3.]

(iv) Antimony should no longer be subject to import control in its present form, except to the extent necessary for balance of payments reasons.

[Paragraph 9.3.]

(v) Imports of antimony should be canalised through the State Trading Corporation which should set the targets for production and imports according to circumstances from time to time. The Corporation should also endeavour to secure imports of ore or crude antimony from China or Soviet Russia at economic prices. This arrangement may be reviewed when supplies of ore are available locally or from the traditional sources at competitive prices. If this recommendation is adopted, the domestic industry will be duly protected and no further protection need be granted to the industry by way of customs duty.

[Paragraph 14.4.]

(vi) If the above recommendation is found unacceptable on account of any practical difficulties, (a) the protective duty on antimony, other than crude antimony, should be raised to 60 per cent.

ad valorem, (b) the protective duty on crude antimony should be retained at 21 per cent. *ad valorem,* but this duty should be removed, if it is found to act as a hindrance to crude antimony being imported as raw material for production of antimony, (c) imports of antimony should be licensed liberally so as to ensure adequacy of supplies and (d) protection to this industry should be extended upto 31st December, 1958.

[Paragraph 14.5.]

(vii) Judged in relation to the landed costs of antimony from Belgium, U. K. or any important source other than China or Russia, the selling prices charged by the Star Metal Refinery are reasonable. Since the existing protective duty was based on the landed costs of imports from European sources, the prices charged by the Company should be judged by the same standard. If, however, the rate of protective duty is adjusted on the basis of the landed costs of Chinese antimony, the Company should be required to fix its selling prices on the basis of such landed costs in future.

[Paragraph 15.]

Acknowledgements

17. We wish to acknowledge the co-operation received by us from the Star Metal Refinery Private Ltd., the Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers' Association and the representatives of importers and consumers. Our thanks are also due to Shri C. J. Shah, Development Officer (Metals), Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India for his assistance in connection with this inquiry.

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K. R. DAMLE,
Chairman.

B. N. ADARKAR,
Member.

S. K. MURANJAN,
Member.

S. K. BOSE,
Secretary,

BOMBAY,
The 16th November, 1956.

APPENDIX I

(*Vide* Paragraph 2.1)

List of persons or bodies to whom the Commission's Questionnaires or letters were issued and from whom replies or memoranda were received.

*Indicates those who have replied or sent memoranda.

A. *PRODUCER:*

*1. Star Metal Refinery Private Ltd., 361, Dr. Dadabhoy Naoroji Road, 4th Floor, Fort, Bombay—1.

B. *IMPORTERS:*

*1. East Asiatic Company (India) Private Ltd., Wavell House, Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay—1.

2. Kodarlal Chandulal Parikh, Gulabawadi, Bombay.

3. Mathuradas Goverdhandas, 38, Strand Road, Calcutta—1.

4. M. Gulamally & Co., Kolsa Mohalla, Pydhonie, Bombay.

*5. Pragdas Mathuradas (Bombay) Private Ltd., 28/30, Anantwadi, Bombay—2.

*6. Pragdas Mathuradas, 43, Strand Road, Calcutta—7.

7. Parsotamdas Narsingdas, 53, 2nd Bhoiwada Lane, Bombay—2.

8. Parsotamdas Narsingdas, 43, Strand Road, Calcutta—7.

*9. Metal Distributors Private Ltd., Binani Bldgs., 38, Strand Road, Calcutta—1.

10. Surchand Kevaldas, Thambakota, Bombay.

C. *CONSUMERS:*

*1. Associated Battery Makers (Eastern) Ltd., Barlow House, 59-C, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta—20.

2. Bengal Wire-nails Co. Ltd., Park Circus, Calcutta.

*3. Bombay Metal and Alloys Mfg. Co. Private Ltd., Post Bag No. 6210, Mazagaon Bombay—10.

*4. Bharat Battery Manufacturing Co. Ltd., P/1A, Rash Behari Avenue, Ballygunge Calcutta—19.

*5. The Controller of Stores Central Railway, Victoria Terminus, Bombay.

*6. Director General, Ordnance Factories, 6, Esplanade East, Calcutta—1.

*7. Eastern Accumulator Co., 3/1, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta.

8. Electrical Storage Co., 112, Nar Koldanga Main Road, Calcutta.

*9. Estrela Batteries Ltd., Yusuf Building, Churchgate Street, Fort, Bombay.

*10. Eyre Smelting Ltd., 5, Hyde Road, Kidderpore, Calcutta-23.

*11. Gujarati Type Foundary, Gaiwadi, Girgaon, Bombay—4.

*12. Himco (India) Ltd., Kurla Road, Andheri, Bombay.

*13. Indian Smelting & Refining Co, Ltd., Industry House, Churchagate Reclamation, Bombay—1.

14. Indian Standard Metal Co, Ltd., Chinchpokli Cross Lane, Bombay—27.

*15. Kamani Metals & Alloys Ltd., Kamani Chambers, Nicol Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay.

16. Madras Type Foundry, 33, Jams Street, G.T. Madras.

*17. Oldham & Son (India) Private Ltd., 5, Mclearn Street, Madras—1.

*18. Rashtriya Metal Industries Ltd., Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Bombay—41.

*19. Saru Smelting & Refining Corpn. Ltd., Sardhana Road, Near Cantt. Railway Station, Meerut, U.P.

*20. Standard Batteries Ltd., 43., Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay.

*21. Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., Jamshedpur.

*22. Waldies Industries Private Ltd., Clive Buildings, Post Box 174, Calcutta—1.

23. Mathuradas Bros and Co., 76, Thakurdwar Road, Bombay—2.

24. Norten and Co., 1-16, Baker Thiruvengata Mudali St., Choolai, Madras—7.

*25. The Binani Commercial Co. Private Ltd., 28/30, Anantwadi, Bombay—2.

*26. Binai Metal Works Ltd., 38, Strand Road, Calcutta.

D, *ASSOCIATION:*

*1. Indian Non-ferrous Metal Manufacturers Association, 23-B, Netaji Subahas Road, Calcutta—1.

E. *GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS:*

*1. The Chief Industrial Adviser, Ministry of Heavy Industries, Development Wing, Government of India, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.

*2. The Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Natural Resources & Scientific Research, New Delhi.

*3. The Director of Industries, Government of Bombay. Old Customs House Yard, Bombay—1.

4. The Director General of Supplies & Disposals, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.

*5. The Director, Indian Standards Institution, 19, University Road, Civil Lines, Delhi—8.

*6. The Collector of Customs, Bombay.

*7. The Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

8. The Collector of Customs, Madras.

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APPENDIX II

(*Vide* Paragraph 2.2)

List of persons who attended the Commission's public inquiry on 18 *October*, 1956

Producer :—

1. Shri Ramanlal Parikh 2. Shri Jaswantlal C. Shah 3. Shri R.K. Bagri	Representing	Star Metal Refinery Private Ltd., 361, Dr. Dadabhoy Naoroji Road, 4th Floor, Fort, Bombay-1.

B. *Association* :—

1. Dr. F.R. Goldschmidt 2. Shri C.D. Chandrasekhar	Representing.	Indian Non-ferrous Metal Mfrs. Association, 23-B, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta—1. & Eyre Smelting Ltd., 5, Hyde Road, Kidderpore, Calcutta—23.

C. *Importers* :—

1. Shri Bhawanidas Binani	Representing	Pragdas Mathurdas (Bombay) Ltd., 28-30, Anantwadi, Bombay—2.
2. Shri Ram Ratan Daga	Representing	Pragdas Mathurdas, 43, Strand Road, Calcutta—7.
3. Shri L.C. Lukhi	Representing	East Asiatic Co. (India) Private Ltd., Wavell House, Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay-1
4. Shri R.K. Bagri	Representing	Metal Distributors Private Ltd Binani Building, 38, Strand Road Calcutta—1.

D. *Consumers* :—

1. Shri Ghanshyamdas Binani	Representing	Binani Metal Works Ltd., 38 Strand Road, Calcutta.
2. Shri Dharamdas Shah	Representing	Estrela Batteries Ltd., Yusuf Bldg., Churchgate Street, Fort, Bombay.
3. Shri N. Subramanian 4. Shri K. Chidambaram	Representing.	Standard Batteries Ltd., 43, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay.
5. Shri D.D. Lulla	Representing	The Binani Commercial Co. Private Ltd., 28/30, Anantwadi, Bombay—2.
6. Shri K.S. Rao	Representing	Rashtriya Metal Industries Ltd. Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Bombay—41.
7. Shri M.C. Modi	Representing	Gujarati Type Eoundry, Gaiwadi, Girgaon, Bombay—4.
8. Shri B.K. Nevatia 9. Shri H.C. Goyal	Representing.	Indian Smetling & Refining Co. Ltd., Industry House, Churchgate Reclamation, Bombay—1.
10. Shri D. Solomon	Representing	The Controller of Stores Central Railway, Bombay V.T.

E. *Government Departments* :—

1. Shri C.J. Shah	Representing	The Chief Industrial Adviser, Development Wing, Govt. of India, Ministry of Heavy Industries, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.
2. Shri P.L. Chopra	Representing	The Director General of Supplies & Disposals Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.
3. Shri P.S. Nadkarni	Representing	Director of Industries, Govt. of Bombay, Old Custom House Yard, Fort, Bombay.
4. Shri V.D. Singh	Representing	Collector of Customs, Custom House, Ballard Estate, Bombay—1.

3—IIT. C. Bom./56.

APPENDIX III

(*Vide* Paragraph 12)

Statement showing the data furnished by the Collectors of Customs and certain importing firms regarding the c. i. f. Prices and landed costs of imported antimony

(In Rs. as. ps. per cwt.)

Sl.No.	Source of information	Origin of Import	Date of import	Type and Specification	C.i.f. Price	Customs duty (31½%)	Clearing charges	Landed cost
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	The Collector of Customs, Bombay.	China	1956	Antimony Regulus 99.6%	112 0 0	35 4 6	5 13 4	153 1 10
2	The Collector of Customs, Calcutta	Belgium	April, 1955	* Antimony Ingots Regulus	133 5 0	42 3 0	0 2 0	175 10 0
	Do.	China	Dec., 1955	Do.	110 0 0	34 13 0	0 2 0	144 15 0
	Do.	Do.	Feb., 1956	Do.	115 0 0	36 6 0	0 2 0	151 8 0
	Do.	Do.	April, 1956	Do.	108 0 0	34 4 0	0 2 0	142 6 0
	Do.	Do.	July, 1956	Do.	108 0 0	34 4 0	0 2 0	142 6 0
	Do.	Do.	July, 1956	Do.	105 5 0	33 5 0	0 2 0	138 12 0
3	The East Asiatic Co. (I) Private Ltd., Bombay.	China	23-11-1955	Chinese Antimony Regulus, Sb. 99.5% min. As. 0.25% max.	117 9 0	37 0 6	0 8 0	155 1 6
4	Pragadas Mathuradas (Bombay) Private Ltd., and Binani Commercial Private Ltd., Bombay.	Belgium	13-4-1954	Antimony Regulus 99.5%	127 6 0	40 2 0	0 9 0	168 1 0
	Do.	China	26-12-1955	Do.	110 6 0	34 12 3	0 9 0	145 11 3
	Do.	Do.	14-7-1955	Do.	113 12 0	35 13 4	0 9 0	150 2 4
	Do.	Do.	27-10-1955	Antimony Regulus 99.73 %purity.	115 15 0	36 8 4	0 9 0	153 0 4
5	Pragadas Mathurdas, Calcutta.	U.K.	29-12-53	Antimony 'C' brand 99.6%.	141 8 0	44 9 2	1 5 0	187 6
	Do.	China	10-4-56	Antimony 99.6%	109 3 6	34 6 6	1 10 0	145 4 0
6	Matal distributors Private Ltd., Calcutta	China	Dec. 1954	99.75% purity.	129 9 0	40 13 0	0 12 0	171 2 0
7	The Eyre Smelting Private Ltd., Calcutta	N.A.	1954	N.A.	130 7 0	41 1 5	2 0 0	173 8 5
8	Associated Battery Makers (Eastern) Ltd., Calcutta.	N.A.	6-9-1954	N.A.	130 5 6	41 0 11	1 8 0	172 14 5

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