

DUTY RELIEF PROPOSED FOR HARLEY MOTORCYCLES AHEAD OF TRUMP VISIT

In a move that will benefit Harley-Davidson, India has proposed a new tariff classification for motorcycles with cylinder capacity exceeding 1,600 cc, imports of which will be taxed in single digits. The plan is part of ongoing trade talks with the US. India had previously reduced the duty on completely built units (CBUs) of motorcycles of all engine capacities to 50% from 100%.

India currently classifies motorcycles as those with engine capacities of 75 cc, 250 cc, 500 cc and 800 cc or above.

Every traded product is categorised under an HSN code (harmonised system of nomenclature) — the global systematic classification of goods. In the April-December period, India imported \$20.63 million of motorcycles with cylinder capacity above 800 cc.

India has also sought a reduction in the H-1B visa fee as part of ongoing trade negotiations with the US. Washington has proposed doubling the cost of such visas to \$3,000-4,000. Officials said India has pushed for a reduction in this cost.

India has also ruled out any tariff cuts for American milk but insisted on mandatory certification of dairy products by veterinary officials, specifying that the source animal was not raised on feed made of bovine extracts.

In medical devices, India is considering a trade margin approach and not a blanket price cap as that might lower the quality of the devices that come in.

Source: The Economic Times