



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 1558

Mr S Thambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

Considering that the steel industry has been on a constant decline since 2005, a phenomenon that marks decades of de-industrialisation, and noting the heightened global tensions with nations such as the United States of America imposing import tariffs and sanctions against nations it deems hostile to it, what measures are being considered by his department to protect the steel industry in the Republic which is experiencing retrenchments and gradually approaching extinction? NW1757E

REPLY:

Since 2016 (where customs duties were raised from 0% to 10%), South Africa has raised tariffs on specific steel products in response to what has been 'chronic' oversupply globally, rising imports and trade diversion arising from the institution of protective measures in larger importer nations and regions. Indeed, the Member observes heightened global tensions, of which the tariffs by the United States of America are a part of, as a development which South Africa must respond to.

In this regard, the International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) on 19 March 2025 published for comment, a review of the import tariff structure, which among other things will consider an import surveillance mechanism, the inclusion of selected steel products under import control and other measures necessary to retain and protect existing capabilities and lay the basis for the advance and recovery of the steel sector.

the dtic and the IDC, in consultation with stakeholders, including AMSA, are investigating various interventions and initiatives to mitigate the impact on the steel industry and other affected sectors and protect jobs. These include - financial, strategic, operational and regulatory initiatives.

-END-