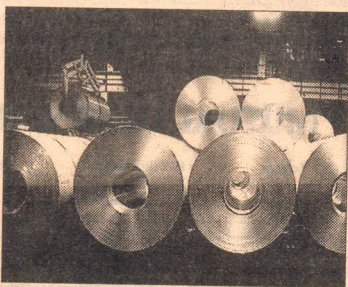


No need for safeguard duty on unwrought aluminium imports: DSG

New Delhi, Dec 14: Rejecting contention of Vedanta and Hindalco, the directorate general of safeguard (DSG) on Wednesday said there was no need to impose safeguard duty on the import of certain aluminium products as there is no threat of "serious injury" to the domestic industry due to the shipments.

The DGS, under the finance ministry, in its final findings on 'safeguard investigation' concerning imports of 'Unwrought Aluminium (Aluminium not alloyed and Aluminium alloys)' said data shows that import is decreasing whereas pro-



duction and sales of Domestic Industry (DI) has increased.

As LME prices have moved upwards from \$1,563 during April, 2016 to \$1,735 in November, 2016, domestic producers will get higher realisations. The depreciation of rupee is also working in their favour.

"There exists an injury to the DI but there exists no serious injury or threat of serious injury to the domestic industry...and hence no protection under the safeguard law is required," the DGS.

Moreover, the government has already provided relief to the DI, by increasing customs duty on the product from 5% to 7.5% from March and hence, safeguard duty on the product is "not recommended".

Vedanta, BALCO, and Hindalco had moved the DGS for imposition of safeguard duty.

PTI