



**AN BILLE d'FHORCHUR DLEACHTANNA (ORDUITHE A
DHAINGNIU), 1972**
IMPOSITION OF DUTIES (CONFIRMATION OF ORDERS)
BILL, 1972

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Bill is to confirm the undermentioned Orders, made under the Imposition of Duties Act, 1957, and the Finance Act, 1962, during the year ended 31st December, 1971.

(1) *Imposition of Duties (No. 189) (Customs and Excise Duties and Form of Tariff) Order, 1971.*

In accordance with the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement this Order, which came into operation on 1st July, 1971, provided for the sixth reduction of 10% in the base rates of protective duties on goods of United Kingdom origin other than the goods excluded from the scope of the Agreement and for the sixth reduction of 10% in the protective elements in revenue duties on certain United Kingdom goods. This Order also provided for the elimination in one step of the protective element in other revenue duties on goods of United Kingdom origin and for the maintenance of the existing import duty preference in favour of certain goods of Northern Ireland origin. In addition the Order provided for a reduction in the import duty on unassembled motor cycles as a concession to domestic motor cycle assemblers and for a considerable number of changes in the Customs Tariff necessitated principally by amendments in the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature.

(2) *Imposition of Duties (No. 190) (Sugar Confectionery) Order, 1971.*

This Order which came into operation on 6th July, 1971, increased the specific rates of duty on sweets and toffee by £0.02 per lb. to £0.08 per lb. (full), £0.06 per lb. (preferential) £0.04 per lb. (special preferential) and £0.04 per lb. (U.K.). The Order simultaneously imposed an alternative *ad valorem* duty of 40% against imports of sweets and toffee from all sources.

The Irish manufacturers of sweets and toffee represented that the protection afforded by the specific duty had been eroded due to increased prices. The alternative *ad valorem* duty now imposed should provide a more lasting solution to this problem.

(3) *Imposition of Duties (No. 191) (Customs Duties and Form of Customs Tariff) Order, 1971.*

This Order, which came into operation on 1st July, 1971, gave effect to interim arrangements, following consultations between the Irish and British Governments in accordance with Article 1 (5) of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement, for postponement or modification in respect of certain goods of United Kingdom origin of the sixth reduction of 10% in protective duties due on that date. It was agreed between the two Governments that, pending the completion of the consultations, the tariff reductions due to take place on 1st July, 1971 should not be made in respect of certain iron and steel products, certain agricultural machinery, certain domestic electrical appliances, aluminium hollow-ware, blankets, mobile homes, joinery and leather footwear and should be at a rate lower than 10% in respect of furniture, ropes and cordage and brushes and brooms.

(4) *Imposition of Duties (No. 192) (Metal Badges and Footwear Heels) Order, 1971.*

This Order which came into operation on 27th July, 1971, restored the customs duties on certain metal badges and footwear heels. These items had inadvertently lost protection in the change-over to the Brussels Nomenclature form of Customs classification and the Irish manufacturers had represented that protection should be restored. The Order imposed duties at the pre-1963 level with appropriate reductions in U.K. rates under Article 1 of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement.

(5) *Imposition of Duties (No. 193) (Pneumatic Tyres) Order, 1971.*

This Order which came into operation on 25th November, 1971, increased the minimum specific duty on tyres of minimum dimensions 7.00 inches x 16 inches and of non U.K. origin from £3 to £15.

Following representations from the Irish tyre manufacturing industry, seeking increased protection of the truck tyre market from unreasonable competition from State trading and Far Eastern countries, the Government approved of the proposal by the Minister for Industry and Commerce for an increase in the minimum specific duty as set out above.

(6) *Imposition of Duties (No. 194) (Customs Duties and Form of Customs Tariff) Order, 1971.*

This Order, which came into operation on 1st January, 1972, provided for a considerable number of technical changes in the Customs Tariff necessitated by changes in the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature and for a number of other minor editorial changes in the Tariff.

(7) *Imposition of Duties (No. 195) (Customs Duties and Form of Customs Tariff) Order, 1971.*

This Order which came into operation on 1st January, 1972, reduced the customs duty on industrial products originating in and consigned from developing countries to 33 1/3% below the full rate of duty. Certain sensitive products, mainly in the textile and footwear sectors, were excluded from the scope of the Order. The list of countries and territories designated as developing countries for the purpose of the Order are specified in a Schedule to the Order.

The purpose of the Order was to give effect to Ireland's implementation of a resolution adopted unanimously by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, under which developed countries would grant tariff preferences to the developing countries.

(8) *Imposition of Duties (No. 196) (Miscellaneous Customs Duties) Order, 1971.*

This country operates quantitative controls on imports of fish (fresh, chilled and frozen) and ryegrass seed throughout the year; on imports of tomatoes (from mid April to end November); and on imports of apples except from the U.K. (from 7th July to the following February). These quantitative controls will have to be abolished following accession to the EEC and as the duty protection on these products was either non-existent or inadequate, it was agreed during the negotiations on accession to the EEC that special arrangements could be made to strengthen our duty protection and thus allow for a more gradual exposure of Irish producers to the full EEC conditions. The Order gave effect as from 1st January, 1972, to the measures agreed with the EEC for imposition of new and amended duties on fish, ryegrass seed, tomatoes and apples.

(9) *Imposition of Duties (No. 197) (Outer Garments) Order, 1971.*

This Order which came into operation on 1st January, 1972 increased customs duties from rates ranging from 9.6% to

16% to the levels which were in operation in the year 1969/70, i.e. 16% to 24% on certain garments in the outerwear category, of U.K. origin.

The duties were increased in order to alleviate difficulties in the textile and clothing industry which had resulted in unemployment in some sectors.

AN BILLE D'FHOIRCHUR DEACHTANNA (ORDUITHE A
DEIATINGNIU), 1972

An Roinn Tionscail agus Tráchtála, CONFIRMATION OF ORDERS)
Deireadh Fómhair, 1972. BILL, 1972

Mor a meastar a bheith rite ag dhá Theach in Oireachtas
As deemed to have been passed by both Houses of the Oireachtas

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Confirmation of Orders.

2. Short title.

SCHEDULE

