



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TARIFF COMMISSION

**REPORT**  
ON  
**THE PRICE STRUCTURE OF  
CATGUTS**

**BOMBAY**  
1966

THE MANAGER GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS  
BY THE MANAGER OF PUBLICATIONS DELHI-8  
1967

Rs. 4-50 (Foreign) 10s. 6d. or \$1 62 Cents



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TARIFF COMMISSION**

**REPORT  
ON  
THE PRICE STRUCTURE OF  
CATGUTS**

**BOMBAY  
1966**

©

India, Tariff (——Commission)  
Report on the Price Structure  
of Catguts—1966.

**PERSONNEL OF THE COMMISSION**

SHRI M. P. PAI . . . . . *Chairman*  
DR. B. G. GHATE . . . . . *Member*  
SHRI M. ZAHEER . . . . . *Member*  
PROF. K. T. MERCHANT . . . . . *Member*

**PERSONNEL OF THE COMMISSION WHICH  
HEARD THE CASE**

SHRI M. P. PAI . . . . . *Chairman*  
SHRI M. ZAHEER . . . . . *Member*  
PROF. K. T. MERCHANT . . . . . *Member*

**SECRETARY**

**DR. P. V. GUNISHASTRI**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

*New Delhi, the 18th August, 1966.*

**RESOLUTION**

**No LEI(A)-16(5)/65.**—The Tariff Commission has submitted its Report on the price structure of Catguts on the basis of an inquiry undertaken by it under Section 12(d) of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. Its recommendations are as follows:

- (i) The domestic demand for catguts may be estimated at 243,000 dozen for 1966, 267,000 dozen for 1967 and 307,000 dozen for 1968.
- (ii) The product of Johnson & Johnson of India Ltd., is generally considered to be of satisfactory quality but improvement is desirable and possible as regards uniformity of gauge and sterility.
- (iii) The fair selling prices as given below may be fixed for the respective categories of sutures for the years 1966 and 1967. These prices are F.O.R. destination for orders valued at or more than Rs. 1,000 and exclude dealers' commission:—

Type of Sutures (With Code Nos.)	Commission's estimated fair selling (f.o.r. destination)
1	2
(i) SUTURES (PLAIN AND CHROMIC)	Rs. 23·76 per dozen
(ii) SUTURES 'A' (STRAIGHT NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 400, M 404 & M 405, M 407 to M 413 and M 590).	Rs. 25·59 „ „
(iii) SUTURES 'A' (CURVED NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 416, M 417, M 470, M510, M 582, M601, M640 and M641).	Rs. 30·18 „ „

(iii)

(iv)

1	2
(iv) SUTURES 'A' (½ CIRCLE NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 437, M 471 and M 549).	Rs. 33·12 Per dozen
(v) SUTURES 'B' (CURVED NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 420, M 421 and M 423 to M 426)	Rs. 31·23 „ „
(vi) SUTURES 'B' (½ CIRCLE NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 438, M 441, M 442 and M 334)	Rs. 34·19 „ „
(vii) SUTURES 'C' (½ CIRCLE NEEDLES) (Code Nos. M 445, M 446, M 449 and M 450)	Rs. 35·06 „ „

2. Government accept recommendation (1).

3. Government accept recommendation (2). To effect improvement in the quality, M/s. Johnson & Johnson of India Limited will be directed to submit samples from each batch of Catguts manufactured by them to the Assistant Drugs Controller, Bombay for getting them tested by the Central Drugs Laboratory.

4. Government accept recommendation (3) with a stipulation that the words 'for orders valued at or more than Rs. 1,000' appearing in the second sentence thereof may be omitted.

### ORDER

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

D. R. SUNDARAM,

*Joint Secretary to the Government of India.*

## CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH	PAGE
1. Reference to the Commission . . . . .	1
2. Scope of the inquiry . . . . .	2
3. Method of inquiry . . . . .	2
4. History of the industry . . . . .	3
5. Present position of the industry . . . . .	4
6. Capacity and production . . . . .	5
7. Process of manufacture . . . . .	7
8. Raw materials . . . . .	9
9. Domestic demand . . . . .	11
10. Quality and standards . . . . .	14
11. Import control policy, imports and exports . . . . .	17
12. Selling system . . . . .	19
13. Selling prices . . . . .	20
14. C. i. f. prices . . . . .	21
15. Price structure . . . . .	22
16. Cost of production and fair ex-works price . . . . .	23
17. Summary of conclusions and recommendations . . . . .	32
18. Acknowledgements . . . . .	33

## TABLES

No.	PAGE
1. Percentage increase in the rate of Johnson and Johnson over the rate for imported stores . . . . .	1
2. Labour employed by Johnson & Johnson of India Ltd., for the manufacture of sutures . . . . .	5
3. Statement showing production of different types and sizes of catguts from 1962 to 1965 (Jan.-Sept.) . . . . .	6
4. Apparent consumption of catguts . . . . .	12
5. Estimated demand of catguts (according to different classes of consumers) furnished by Johnson & Johnson . . . . .	13

No.	PAGE
6. Countrywise imports of catguts during the financial years 1961-62, 1962-63, 1963-64 and 1964-65 . . . . .	18
7. Prices charged by Johnson & Johnson for different types of catguts during 1963 to 1965 . . . . .	20
8. Estimated fair selling prices f.o.r. destination of various types of sutures . . . . .	29
9. Commission's estimated fair selling prices and retail prices at Company's rates of discount . . . . .	31

APPENDICES

I. Reference to the Tariff Commission for inquiry into the price structure of catguts (various sizes) . . . . .	35
II. List of firms, bodies and Government Departments to whom the Commission's questionnaires and letters were issued and from whom replies or memoranda were received . . . . .	36
III. List of persons who attended the Commission's public inquiry on 18-1-1966 . . . . .	42
IV. Visits of the Commission and its Officers to Johnson and Johnson of India Ltd., Bombay . . . . .	44
V. Names and addresses of the distributors appointed by Johnson and Johnson of India Ltd. . . . .	45
VI. Statement showing the latest prices of different types and sizes of ethicon catguts . . . . .	46
VII. Statement showing c.i.f. prices and landed costs of imported catguts . . . . .	50