

Mullika Asawawararakul 2009: The Effect of Australian Tax Reduction in Automobiles on the Import Value of Automobiles from Thailand. Master of Economics, Major Field: Economics, Department of Economics. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Chiraphan Kuladilok, M.Econ. 164 pages.

Automotive Industry is the principle industry for industry development and Thai economy development because Automotive industry leads to employment, technology development and automotive supporting industries. The production of automobiles for domestic sales and export has been increased continuously every year. Australia is the one interesting market because Australia is the important market that Thailand mostly has exported the automobiles. Furthermore, Australia and Thailand have agreed to sign Thailand-Australia Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA) which came into effect on January 1, 2005. Automotive industry would get the benefits from TAFTA because Australia eliminated tariffs to 0% of all 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars. These would increase competitiveness ability of Thai's Automobile Industry and would increase the automobiles' import value of Australia from Thailand as well.

The objectives of this study were 1) to study the important theme information of Thai's automotive industry and study automotive export from Thailand to Australia and analyze the rates of utilization of tariff preferences under TAFTA for Thai automotive industry 2) to analyze the factors affecting the import volume of 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars 1500-3000 CC of Australia from Thailand 3) to estimate the import value of 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars 1500-3000 CC of Australia from Thailand after Australian tax reduction.

The study showed that the overall rate of utilization of TAFTA by Thai automotive exporters are considerably high. For the factors have the affect on the import volume of both 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars 1500-3000 CC of Australia from Thailand were the import price of Australia from Japan and Australia real GDP per capita. For the effect of Australian tax reduction for 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars 1500-3000 CC affecting the import value of 1-ton commercial cars and passenger cars 1500-3000 CC of Australia from Thailand indicated that the import value of Australia from Thailand for the year 2005 had been increased. This study showed that Australian tax reduction effected on the import value of Thai's automobiles. Furthermore increasing Thai automotive competitiveness ability so the government should support and develop trade between Thailand and Australia.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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