

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):**

(a) and (b). Internal prices of tea at auction centres started rising from January, 1977, and this trend continued till the first week of April. With a view to halt this trend, Government took prompt action by imposing an export duty on tea of Rs. 5/- per kg. and simultaneously withdrew the excise rebate available on export of bulk tea and drawback of duties on exports.

With a view to ensure that adequate quantities of tea are available for domestic consumption, tea producers have been asked to offer about 80 per cent of their produce at the auction. As a result of these steps the auction prices have registered a declining trend. Government is also in constant touch with major tea packers who have been persuaded to lower the prices of packed teas by about Rs. 2 per kg. w.e.f. 17-4-77.

Tea exports and internal prices are being kept under constant watch so as to ensure adequate availability for domestic consumption.

Vigorous efforts are also being made to augment tea production in the country, so as to meet the domestic and external demand.

नागर विमानन विभाग में कार्यरत विमान

889. श्री नबाब सिंह चौहान :  
क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय किस-किस श्रेणी के कितने-कितने विमान नागर विमानन विभाग में कार्यरत हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार वर्तमान विमानों की संख्या में वृद्धि करने का है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो कितनी और कब तक ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) देश में विभिन्न हवाई अड्डों पर स्थापित दिक्कालन उपकरणों / सुविधाओं के अनुसंधान (कैली-वैशन) के लिए तथा राडार परिचालन के लिए विमान यातायात नियंत्रण अधिकारियों के प्रशिक्षण के लिए नागर विमानन विभाग फिलहाल दो डीसी-3 विमानों का परिचालन कर रहा है ।

(ख) और (ग). नागर विमानन के महानिदेशक ने विमान ब्रेडे की वृद्धि के लिए दो एचएस-748 विमान खरीदें है तथा इन विमानों के 1977 के अंत तक प्राप्त हो जान की आशा है ।

**Excise Duty on Nylon Thread**

890. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increase in the duty on Nylon thread used in the fishermen's nets has affected the fishing trade; and

(b) if so, whether Government have made any survey of the fishermen laid off in the fishing industry?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):** (a) There has been no increase in excise duty on nylon thread for over 2 years.

(b) Does not arise.