

the price of tea include:

- (i) from the last week of September, 1989 sale of CTC varieties of tea at alternate public auctions have been restricted to domestic buyers.
- (ii) No withdrawal is permitted from the auction for domestic sale, thus enabling an increase in the availability of CTC teas to the domestic buyer.
- (iii) the producers have been supplying economy packs at a price of Rs. 40/- plus local taxes, through specified retail outlets. In addition loose tea traders have also introduced "Nagrik" variety of loose tea @Rs. 45/- per kg. plus local taxes.
- (iv) A Committee under the chairmanship of Special Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce reviews the price situation from time to time.
- (v) The leading tea producing companies have drawn up Action Plans for increased production of tea during 1990.

(c) and (d). The profits earned by tea companies are related to not only increase in the per unit price realisation, but also to increase in the cost of production due to various factors, such as increase in the wage of tea plantation workers, hike in the price of inputs, increase in the levy of taxes and duties etc.

Smuggling of Gold through Saurashtra Coast

5767. SHRI RAM PRASAD
CHAUDHARY:
SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of large scale smuggling of gold at Saurashtra Coast has been detected recently;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to check such cases of smuggling; and

(c) whether there is any plan for further strengthening the National Coast Guard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir. On 14th March, 1990, the Customs authorities seized 1296 foreign marked gold biscuits weighing 151 Kgs. worth approximately Rs. 5.12 crores from a truck at Bharuch. Investigations revealed that the gold had been clandestinely landed on the coast of Mangrol in Saurashtra.

(b) the anti-smuggling agencies remain vigilant against smuggling activities including those on the Saurashtra Coast. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies including the Coast Guard which are charged with the responsibility of detecting and preventing smuggling.

(c) A Five Year Development Plan for the period 1990-1995 for further strengthening the Coast Guard is under the scrutiny of Ministry of Defence.

[English]

Heroin Trafficking

5768. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI
AHER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the remedies United Nations has sought on India's stress upon the need for international trafficking of heroin, the build of which is smuggled into India from across the border with Pakistan; and.

(b) the details of International co-operation

tion framed by UN in this regard in its special session on drugs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The fact that India is facing a serious problem of transit traffic in drugs from its neighbouring countries has been recognised by the International Narcotics Control Board. The need for assistance to transit States has also been recognised in the U.N. Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, which has been acceded to by India in March, 1990.

In its 17th Special Session held in February, 1990, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a Political declaration and a Global Programme of Action. The Declaration inter-alia emphasised the need to expand the scope and increase the effectiveness of international cooperation against illicit drug traffic. The Global Programme of Action inter-alia calls for providing appropriate technical and financial support to transit States to enable them to strengthen their drug interdiction capabilities.

[*Translation*]

Revenue earned by customs collectorate, Patna

5769. SHRIHARISHANKERMAHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of revenue earned by the Customs Collectorate, Patna (Bihar) from September, 1986 to March, 1990 with year-wise breakup;

(b) the number of seizures registered by the above Collectorate;

(c) the number of persons arrested and action taken against them; and

(d) the quantity of narcotics seized?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The amount of revenue earned by the Customs (Preventive) Collectorate, Patna in Bihar during the period September 1986 to March, 1990 is given in the table below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Customs revenue earned</i>
1986 September to March, 1987	4.05
1987 April to March, 1988	14.04
1988 April to March, 1989	14.53
1989 April to March, 1990	24.42

(b) to (d). The number of cases booked, the number of persons arrested and the quantity of narcotic drugs seized by this

Collectorate during the past five years is given in the table below:—