

of extra rupee realisations would leave a sufficient margin as a measure of incentive, both for exports of tea and for the development of the industry as a whole.

A number of representations have been received urging Government that the specific rate of duty of Rs. 2.00 per kilogram weighs heavily on the exports of low and medium price teas. After a careful examination of the position in all its aspects, it has been found that while lower-priced teas stand in need of some relief, higher price teas can bear a higher incidence of duty.

Although the imposition of an *ad valorem* duty would be the ideal course to adopt, such a course would, as I have already stated earlier on the floor of this House, be beset with administrative and other difficulties. It has, therefore, been decided to combine the advantages of both an *ad valorem* and a specific rate of duty

on tea. In this connection, I place on the table of the House a statement giving the details of the revised rates of duty which will take effect from tomorrow.

It will be observed that the duty has been fixed on a value-slab basis according to which teas of the value of upto Rs. 4.00 per kilogram will bear a specific duty of 80 paise per kilogram as against the present rate of Rs. 2.00 per kilogram. That is a substantial reduction. The duty will, however, progressively rise to the maximum rate of Rs. 3.00 per kilogram depending on the value of the tea exported. The amount of duty payable above the existing rate of Rs. 2.00 per kilogram but upto the maximum of Rs. 3.00 per kilogram will include only such teas as are valued at above Rs. 9.00 per kilogram.

It is hoped that the slab system will help in improving both the value and volume of tea exports.

STATEMENT

1. Tea, value of which does not exceed Rs. 4.00 per kg.	80 paise per kilogram
2. Tea, value of which exceeds Rs. 4.00 per kilogram but does not exceed Rs. 8.00 per kg.	80 paise per kilogram plus 10 paise per kilogram for every increase of 50 paise or part thereof in value in excess of Rs. 4.00 per kg.
3. Tea, value of which exceeds Rs. 8.00 per kilogram but does not exceed Rs. 12.00 per kg.	Rs. 1.60 per kilogram plus 15 paise per kilogram for every increase of 50 paise or part thereof per kilogram in value in excess of Rs. 8.00 per kg.
4. Where value exceeds Rs. 12.00 per kilogram.	Rs. 3.00 per kilogram.

15.32 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

NINETY-SEVENTH REPORT

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): I move:

"That this House agrees with the Ninety-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented

to the House on the 8th November, 1966.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Ninety-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 8th November, 1966."

The motion was adopted.