

- (b) if so, the reasons for imposition of such a duty;
- (c) whether any representation has been received from the paper, film and foil converters' association.
- (d) if so, by when such a request was received by Government; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Yes sir, Anti-Dumping investigations were initiated on imports of BOPP film from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Oman, UAE, Singapore and Thailand on 30.05.2001. On the basis of sufficient evidence of dumping injury and a causal link between the two, provisional duties, were recommended on imports from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Oman, Singapore and Thailand in the preliminary findings issued by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties on 14.08.2001, which were imposed on 9.10.2001 by a Notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

(c) to (e) Representations were received from Paper Film and Foil Converters' Association *vide* their letters dated 17.09.2001 and 22.10.2001 *i.e.* after the preliminary findings. All the representations received from the interested parties will be duly examined during the course of investigations and before the final findings are issued by DGAD.

Production of Darjeeling tea

2904. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of Darjeeling tea during the last three years from 1998-99 to 2000-2001;

[18 December, 2001] RAJYA SABHA

(b) whether it is a fact that the cost of production of Darjeeling tea is increasing while the selling price is decreasing;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to protect the interests of tea growers, labourers and tea garden owners;

(d) whether it is also a fact that large scale mixing of unauthorized leaves is done with Darjeeling tea; and

(e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Production of Darjeeling tea during last three years from 1998-99 to 2000-01 is as follows:—

Year	Production (m.kgs)
1998-1999	10.02
1999-2000	9.21
2000-2001	10.09

(a) Yes, Sir. The cost of production of Darjeeling tea has increased over the last three years. The selling price of Darjeeling tea showed an increase of Rs.11.10 per kg. during 1999 over the previous year, however the prices showed a decline of Rs. 12.30 per kg in the year 2000 over 1999.

(c) Government/Tea Board has taken various steps to protect the interests of the Darjeeling tea industry as a whole. These steps include generating demand for Darjeeling tea in overseas markets, introduction of Darjeeling Logo as a speciality mark for teas grown in Darjeeling, launching of Darjeeling certification Trade Mark (CTM) to maintain the distinct identity of Darjeeling tea, creation of awareness amongst Darjeeling tea producers for exploring possibilities of reduction in the cost of production etc.

Besides, Government and Tea Board has taken various other steps which include implementation of various developmental schemes

under which financial assistance is provided by the Tea Board for encouraging extension planting, replanting, rejuvenation pruning, infilling, creation of irrigation facilities and drainage etc.

(d) and (e) Government/Tea Board is not aware of any information on large scale mixing of non-Darjeeling green tea leaves with Darjeeling tea leaves while manufacturing Darjeeling tea in the factory. However, Tea Board has requested district authorities of Darjeeling to take necessary steps in preventing entry of green tea leaves from Nepal in the factories of Darjeeling. Darjeeling Planters Association have also been requested to advise their member garden for manufacturing Darjeeling tea only from the green tea leaves plucked from the tea bushes of Darjeeling.

Meat export

2905. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of exports registered during 1997-98 to 2001-2002 in monetary terms, State-wise;

(b) the share of meat exports with reference to (a) above in terms of quantity and money from 1997-1998 to 2000-2001, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that meat export forms a meagre share in total exports of the country; and

(d) whether Government have any plan to accede to the request to ban meat exports considering the meagre share of meat exports and enviable foreign exchange position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI):