THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHA-

RIA): (a) The details are given below:

BASE : 1970-71-100

| Name of the commodity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Wholesale price index numbers |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | March | March | March | Ma |
| 1 | Sugar. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | $173 \cdot 2$ | 164.8 | 165.6 | $164 \cdot 7$ |
| 2 | Vanaspati | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 179.0 | 122.4 | 174.0 | 172.0 |
|  | Paper | , | , | - | - | - | - | - | 186.3 | 166.3 | $170 \cdot 4$ | $170 \cdot 4$ |

(b) In order to arrest the rising trend in the prices of open market sugar, the releases of non-levy sugar were raised from 85,000 tonnes in April, 1977 to 90,000 tonnes in May, 1977 and to $1,20,000$ tonnes in June, 1977. This is having a sobering impact on the prices and the availability position has become easy.

Adequate quantities of imported oil are being made available to the vanaspati industry to enable them to increase production. In April 1977, the vanaspati production amounted to 53,247 tonnes as compared to 47,347 tonnes in March, 1977 and 47,633 tonnes in April, 1976 The Vanaspati Manufacturers' Association has agreed to a voluntary price discipline. The Association'has asked the dealers and stockists to display prices and stocks of vanaspati. The Association has undertaken to "cancel dealership of those dealers who are found to overcharge or indulge in other malpractices.

The paper industry will continue to supply about 2 lakh tonnes per annum of white printing paper at a fixed price of Rs. 2,740 per tonne. More than half of this is supplied to' the educational sector for the manufacture of exercise books and publication of text books.

## Air service between Delhi and Kulu

57. SHRI KRISHNA KRIPALANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;
(a) whether Government propose to resume air service between Delhi and Kulu during the summer tourist season; and
(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?
THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines do not propose to resume during the current summer season air services between Delhi and Kulu as the aerodrome at Kulu is considered inadequate for any type of aircraft presently in the fleet of Indian Airlines.

