

[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

Kindly leave it to the Government. Have some faith in the Government. *(Interruption)* We have to take into consideration so many other factors also, and see what steps we should take in the best interests of the country. Please leave it to the Government. If the Government is going to do something wrong, it is going to be accountable. You can raise your point about it later. We are subject to questioning. *(Interruption)*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Please say that the individuals will not be involved.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the Minister to move that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

15.35 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
APPROVAL OF NOTIFICATION
INCREASING EXPORT DUTY
LEVIABLE ON BLACK PEPPER

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANAR-
DHANA POOJARY) : I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 8, read with sub-section (3) of section 7 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. G.S.R. 403 (E), dated the 7th May, 1985, increasing the export duty leviable on black pepper to Rs. 3 per kilogram from the date of issue of the said notification".

15.36 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH in the Chair]

Black pepper is specified under Heading No. 2 of Export Tariff and the rate of export duty prescribed therefor has been Rs. 1.25 per kg. However, with effect from the 16th February, 1979, black pepper has been exempt from the whole of the customs duty leviable thereon. The F.O.B. unit realisation at that time was around Rs. 20 per kg.

International prices of pepper started going up by the end of 1983. The Government have been watching the trend of export prices for quite some time. The latest export value realisation of black pepper has been around Rs. 40 per kg. Accordingly, the exemption from export duty has been withdrawn and black pepper subjected to an export duty at the rate of Rs. 3 per kilogram. This measure is expected to bring an additional revenue of Rs. 7.5 crores in a year.

Sir, as you are aware, changes in export duties are made from time to time. As part of the current year's budget proposals, the rate of export duty on as many as 12 items was abolished, leaving only 4 items subject to export duty. Out of these 4 items, the rate of export duty on coffee was also reduced on 29th April, 1985 from Rs. 720 per quintal to Rs. 570 per quintal. The present one is yet another proposal to revive the export duty on our traditional items of export. In this revival of export duty care has also been taken to ensure that only a part of the gain arising from the rise in international prices is mopped up and that the levy does not adversely affect our exports.

I commend this resolution for consideration and passing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 8, read with sub-section (3) of section 7 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. G.S.R. 403(E), dated the 7th May, 1985' increasing the export duty leviable on black pepper to Rs. 3 per kilogram from the date of issue of the said notification."

The motion was adopted.