

	Production (000 Tons) (1994)	Yield/Ha (KG)
India	472.0	1265
Malaysia	1100.6	1220*
Thailand	1722.4	1080
Sri Lanka	105.3	862
Indonesia	1360.8	746

(*Refers to 1991)

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Government proposes to increase production of natural rubber by :

(i) Expanding the area under rubber by undertaking new planting.

(ii) Replanting old and uneconomic plantations with high yielding clones.

(iii) Increasing productivity of rubber plantations.

(iv) Statewise details of area and production are (1994-95) are as under :-

	Area (in hectares)	Production (in tonnes)
Kerala	443,300 (85.98)*	442,830 (93.86)**
Tamil Nadu	17,430 (3.38)	15,065 (3.19)
Karnataka	14,955 (2.90)	9,700 (2.06)
Tripura	19,252 (4.08)	2,966 (0.60)
Assam	10,122 (1.96)	315
Meghalaya	4,550 (0.88)	167
Nagaland	1,450 (0.28)	11
Mizoram	979	57
Manipur	1,253 (0.24)	96
A&N Islands	960	462
Goa	936	120
Maharashtra	91	11
Orissa	219	Nil
Arunachal Pradesh	75	15
Total	515,572	471,815

* Percentage of the total area in the brackets.

** Percentage of the total production in brackets.

(e) and (f). Yes Sir. The details of incentives provided to the farmers as under :

(i) Making available financial and technical assistance for newplanting and replanting with improved varieties under rubber plantation development scheme.

(ii) Production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers.

(iii) Rendering advisory, extension and training services.

(g) A world Bank Assisted Rubber Project is now under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and upgrade quality of rubber both in traditional and non-traditional areas. For the non-traditional areas, the following specific schemes are being undertaken by the Rubber Board.

1) Special Scheme for economic settlement of tribals.

2.) Block Plantation Project for tribal at Tripura, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

3) Scheme of setting up of Nucleus Rubber Estates and Training Centre (NRETC), District Development Centres, Tappers, Training Schools and Regional Nurseries.

Rubber Cultivation in Tribal Area of Kerala

1076. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board has started any scheme for the development of rubber cultivation in tribal areas of Kerala;

(b) if so, the total area of land covered and the total fund spent under this scheme in the State so far;

(c) the actual benefit will be getting to tribal community ; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rubber Board has started implementing a separate economic settlement project for tribal beneficiaries in Kerala from 1988 onwards. The total area covered under this scheme is 703.30 ha. in Thiruvananthapuram, Kellam and Idukki districts. The total amount spent is Rs. 1.1. crores.