

constitute an inflow in the Capital Account and thus help finance the deficit in the Current Account. Investments of NRIs also

constitute an inflow in the Capital Account. (c): Foreign exchange reserves position is as given below:-

(Rs. Crores)

<i>Date</i>	<i>F.E. Reserves</i>	<i>Outstanding NRI Deposit Balances</i>
31.12.1989	5277	17,213
31.12.1990	2152	19,863
31.10.1991	6032	20,319

The FE Reserves depend on a number of factors like export earnings, inward remittances, NRI deposits, international aid flows, import expenditure debt repayments etc. These are all variable factors and it is not possible to assess the percentage of FE Reserves accounted for by any one factor.

Purchase of Rubber by STC

1558. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW:
SHRI KODIKKUNNIL
SURESH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber purchased and stocked by the State Trading Corporation this year;

(b) the quantity of rubber purchased by the Rubber Marketing Federation and other Agencies for and on behalf of State Trading Corporation;

(c) whether there is any dispute between the State Trading Corporation and these agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the dispute has been settled;

(e) the quantity of rubber released by State Trading Corporation during the last ten months; and

(f) whether the Government propose to direct State Trading Corporation to purchase and stock as much rubber as is required to ensure the floor price to growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) During 1991-92, STC has purchased 8684 metric tonnes of RMA-5 grade of natural rubber from the domestic market (as on 22nd November, 1991). Out of this, 1043 MTs of rubber has been sold and the balance quantity of 7641 metric tonnes of RMA-5 grade of rubber is lying in stock with STC.

(b) As on 22nd November, 1991, 8684 metric tonnes of RMA-5 grade of natural rubber have been procured by the following agencies:-

i) Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation (KSCRMF)	:	8298 met. tonnes
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ii)	M/s. Pamba Rubber	:	255 met. tonnes
(iii)	M/s. Periyar Rubber	:	78 met. tonnes
(iv)	M/s. Pazhassi Rubber	:	53 met. tonnes

8684 met. tonnes

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The rubber supplied by the Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation (KSCRMF) has been found to be of poor quality by the consuming industry. STC has lodged claims with the KSCRMF in the matter. The dispute has not been settled so far.

(e) During the last ten months, STC has released 7000 metric tonnes of natural rubber.

(f) Government has already directed the State Trading Corporation of India to purchase RMA-4 and RMA-5 grades of natural rubber from the domestic market. STC will continue its purchase operations till the 7-days moving average prices of these grades reach the desired level.

Purchase of Rubber by STC

1559. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently directed State Trading Corporation to purchase RMA V Grade rubber;

(b) if so, the quantity of rubber purchased by STC and kept in the buffer stock;

(c) whether the Government propose to direct STC to purchase more quantity of RMA V Grade and also ungraded rubber; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have directed the State Trading Corporation of India in the first week of October, 1991 to purchase RMA-5 grade of natural rubber from the domestic market. The STC has so far purchased about 984 met. tonnes of RMA-5 grade of natural rubber from the domestic market and kept in the stock maintained by them.

(c) and (d). The directions already given to the STC for purchase of RMA-5 grade of rubber does not indicate any limit with regard to quantity to be purchased. Subject to the quality specifications, STC will continue to purchase RMA-5 grade of rubber from the domestic market till the seven days moving average price of RMA-5 grade reaches the desired level. No instructions have been issued to STC to purchase upgraded rubber.

Stock Formula of Rubber

1560. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing stock formula of rubber;

(b) whether the Government have changed or propose to change the above formula;