

Production of Rubber

1111. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for the production of rubber during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the achievements made thereon so far;

(c) the production of rubber expected by the end of 1996-97 ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target fixed for the self-sufficiency in production of rubber ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) The production targets and achievements in respect of Natural Rubber during the 8th Five Year Plan period are as follows :

Year	(Qty. in Tonnes)	
	Production Target	Achievement
1992-93	4,05,000	393,490
1993-94	4,40,000	435,160
1994-95	4,75,000	471,815
1995-96	5,00,000	507,000*
1996-97	5,46,000 (Projects)	

* Provisional Estimate

(d) The Rubber Board is implementing various schemes to increase production and productivity of rubber, which include;

(i) Making available financial and technical assistance for newplanting and replanting with improved varieties;

(ii) production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers;

(iii) rendering advisory, extension and training services;

(iv) encouraging group processing and marketing among small holders;

(v) undertaking research on cultivation production and processing of rubber;

(vi) Special schemes for propagation of rubber cultivation in non-traditional areas; and

(viii) A World Bank Assisted project is under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and improve quality of natural rubber.

Production of Cotton

1112. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of cotton produced in Maharashtra during last three years;

(b) whether the proposed new plan of Cotton Corporation of India to increase productivity of cotton has been implemented;

(c) if so, the details of the enhanced production in comparison to the corresponding last years; and

(d) the estimated further increase in cotton production in next two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The total quantity of cotton produced in Maharashtra, as estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board during last three years was the following :

Year	Quantity
1992-93	20.50
1993-94	14.00
1994-95	16.00

(in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each)

(b) and (c). The Cotton Corporation of India, under its extension activities, has been aiming to improve productivity of cotton over the last few years. The contribution of CCI's projects towards increasing production of cotton has not been separately assessed. The production of cotton in the country during last five years, as per Cotton Advisory Board estimates, is as under :

(in lakh bales)

Year	Production
1990-91	117.00
1991-92	119.00
1992-93	138.00
1993-94	121.50
1994-95	138.50

(d) Production of cotton depends upon a variety of factors, including area sown, climatic conditions etc.