

new crop has led to the collapse in the market since September, 1986 and the price of rubber has slumped due to heavy imports almost double that of the previous year; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to make the country self-sufficient in rubber production ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) The representation of the United Planters Association of South India was received by the Government. Rubber prices in the domestic market started falling slightly below the given price band in the month of September, 1986 due to onset of peak production period and lesser demand from consumers. Import requirement for rubber is carefully assessed each year taking into consideration the supply and demand situation.

(b) With a view to stepping up the production of rubber and thereby reducing its imports and achieving self sufficiency, the Government is giving assistance in the form of cash subsidy, scientific and technical support, supply of high yielding planting materials and is undertaking research on all aspects of cultivation and production of rubber. Besides, a project for accelerated development of rubber in the North Eastern Region is under implementation.

Operation outside India by Tata Group

3562. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies of Tata group which have been given permission under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) for operations outside India;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there are a number of companies associated with the above group with operation outside India without necessary approvals required under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA); and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against them ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

[Translation]

Decline in export of sports goods

3563. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that export of sports goods has declined this year;

(b) the role played by the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Council did not utilise the funds allotted to it for research and development during the past few years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A lump sum provision included in the budget for 1985-86 for research and development could not be utilised because no specific proposal was received from the industry.

[English]

Detention of Indians in Singapore

3564. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indians detained in Singapore during the last one year;

(b) whether it is a fact that these persons of Indian origin are engaged in Singapore Mass Rapid Transit system as labourers; and

(c) the steps Government have taken up or propose to take up in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the house as early as possible.

Communal Violence

3565. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a considerable increase in incidents of communal violence

in various parts of the country during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) estimated loss of life and property; and

(d) steps being taken to prevent such violence in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). On the basis of available information, particulars of major communal riots which occurred in the country during the year 1986 are as under :

Place and date	No. of Persons Killed.	Loss of property (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
Bihar :		
Nawada (April 22)	10*	N.A.
*According to the Govt. of Bihar only 3 deaths can be attributed solely to communal violence.		
Gujarat :		
Ahmedabad :		
(Jan. 5-7)	9	7.73
(Jan. 22-24)	5	0.38
(March 26-30)	4	0.05
(July 9-17)	49	63.16
Veraval (March 26-27)	13	246.98
Nadiad (Aug. 9-16)	7	1.01