

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6189  
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000  
PRICES OF RUBBER  
PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) The agencies which are responsible for export and sale of rubber;
- (b) whether the prices of rubber have declined; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken to arrest the decline in the prices of rubber and to help the rubber farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a): Export of Natural Rubber is free under the EXIM Policy. Any person / agency can sell or dispose of or buy or acquire rubber after obtaining a licence from the Rubber Board.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. To ensure a remunerative price to the rubber growers, the Government of India through STC has made a market intervention to procure natural rubber on Government account. So far STC has procured 30,623 MT of natural rubber. The import of Natural Rubber by Advance Licence Holders has also been banned since February 1999 and STC continues to procure to meet the demands of this sector.