

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2035
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
PROCUREMENT OF RUBBER BY STC
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL);HARIBHAU MAHALE;SURESH KODIKUNNIL

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

- (a) whether the STC is procuring Natural Rubber from the open market;
- (b) if so, the total amount of natural rubber procured during the current year, till date;
- (c) the rate for per kilogram Natural Rubber paid by STC and actual price of natural rubber in the open market;
- (d) whether there is any surplus natural rubber is available in the open market;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of steps being taken by the Government to procure maximum Natural Rubber and to ensure reasonable prices for the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. STC has procured 11,087 MT of Natural Rubber till date during the current year. The Natural Rubber has been procured at the prevailing market prices.
- (d) & (e) The opening stock of Natural Rubber on 1.4.2000 was 1,93,000 tonnes and the production and consumption of Natural Rubber during 2000-01 is estimated at 6,45,000 tonnes and 6,59,000 tonnes respectively.
- (f) To ensure a remunerative price to rubber growers, Government of India through STC procured Natural Rubber on Government account. The STC has already procured 40,217 MT of Natural Rubber since August 1997 to date. To enhance the consumption of indigenous rubber Government has imposed a ban on import of Natural Rubber under the Advance Licence Scheme w.e.f. 20.2.1999. STC continues to procure Natural Rubber for supply to ALHs against indents placed by them with STC.