

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:153
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010
PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF NATURAL RUBBER
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

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

- (a) whether the production of natural rubber is continuously falling short of consumption in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Indian rubber industry is adversely affected due to the steep hike in natural rubber price in the country during the last one year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the imported Chinese rubber products available at cheaper rates are also adversely affecting the domestic rubber industry; and
- (f) if so, the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a)to f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 153 FOR ANSWER ON 8TH MARCH 2010 REGARDING "PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF NATURAL RUBBER"

(a)& (b): While the production of Natural Rubber (NR) was more than its consumption during the 2006-07, it fell short of consumption during 2007-08 and 2008-09. Production of NR had declined on account of adverse weather conditions, intense harvesting and growing of old stock of rubber plantations. Loss of mandays due to the widespread incidence of viral fever 'chikungunya' in 2007-08 also contributed to its decline. Details of production and domestic consumption of NR during the last three years are given below:

Year	Production (Tonnes)	Consumption (Tonnes)
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2006-07	852,895	820,305
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2007-08	825,345	861,455
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2008-09	864,500	871,720
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(c) & (d): There was no steep hike in the price of NR. The average price of RSS 4 grade of rubber for the period April 2009 to January 2010 was Rs. 109.33 per kg, as compared to Rs. 106.86 per kg during the corresponding period of previous fiscal year, thereby indicating a marginal increase of Rs. 2.47 per kg.

(e) & (f): The imported Chinese rubber products, especially tyres, has affected the domestic industry adversely. In order to curb the

surge in imports from China, anti-dumping duty has been imposed on the imports of Bus & Truck Radial Tyres.