

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:76
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013
IMPORT OF NATURAL RUBBER
Antony Shri Anto;Thomas Shri P. T.

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

- (a) whether there has been a fall in the price of natural rubber in both the domestic as well as in the international markets and if so, the details of the price of natural rubber both in the domestic as well as in the international markets during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether there has been a decline in the production of natural rubber in the recent past and if so, the reasons therefor along with the quantum of natural rubber produced, consumed, exported and imported during the said period, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received representations from any quarter to enhance the import duty of natural rubber and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to restrict the import of natural rubber and review the Tariff Rate Quota Scheme and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the specific steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the interests of the rubber growers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a): Annual average natural rubber (NR) prices increased in 2010-11 and 2011-12 in domestic and international markets. However, annual average NR prices declined in 2012-13 in domestic and international markets. The monthly average prices of NR gradually improved in the domestic market during April-July 2013.

Price of Natural Rubber (Rs/Kg)			
Domestic	Difference		
Year/Month	(RSS 4 Kottayam)	International (RSS 3 Bangkok)	(Domestic -International)
2009-10	114.98	111.13	3.85
2010 11	190.03	195.55	-5.52
2011-12	208.05	209.15	-1.10
2012-13	176.82	175.76	1.06
April 2013	162.38	154.63	7.75
May 2013	168.79	166.17	2.62
June 2013	174.24	164.44	9.80
July 2013	191.73	154.77	36.96

(b): Annual NR production had increased during the recent years. However, production of NR declined in June 2013 due to prolonged and excessive rains.

(Tonne)				
Year/Month	Production	Consumption	Export	Import
2009-10	831400	930565	25090	177130
2010 -11	861950	947715	29851	190692
2011-12	903700	964415	27145	214433
2012-13	913700	972705	30451	217364
April 2013	53000	82000	1538	14396
May 2013	59000	83000	185	20948
June 2013	38000	82000	165	22840

Country-wise export of NR (Quantity in Tonne)

Country 2012-13 2013-14

(April- June)

Malaysia	9934	0
China	5851	570
Sri Lanka	4982	84
Iran	2478	668
Italy	1361	0
Germany	1323	220
Egypt	647	0
Pakistan	605	0
Others	3270	346
Total	30451	1888

Country-wise import of NR (Quantity in Tonne) Country 2012-13 2013-14 (April- June) Indonesia 99051 32777 Vietnam 51273 7220 Thailand 39793 12363 Malaysia 6198 1235 Sri Lanka 4717 800 Nigeria 3750 40 Others 12582 3749 Total 217364 58184

(c) :The Government has received representations from Rubber Growers' Association to enhance import duty of dry form of rubber from 20% or Rs. 20 per kg whichever is lower. However, keeping in view the demand supply gap and Price trends in the domestic and international markets, the Government has decided not to disturb the present import duty structure.

(d) : No, Madam. There is no such proposal, at present, though a representation requesting for the measure has been received.

(e) : The Government is continuously monitoring the price trends for suitable interventions to be taken as and when required to protect the interests of the rubber growers. Besides, Rubber Board is implementing a number of schemes to assist rubber growers.